

REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SHELLFISH CULTURE AND SANITATION

Human Health Impacts of Aquaculture/ Activity/ 07HH104UH

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ABSTRACT

A regional workshop was held in Culiacan, Sinaloa on September 28-29, 2009 for thirty-six participants including small-scale farmers, government officials, NGO's, researchers and extension agents. The purpose of the workshop was to increase technical capacity in the areas of bivalve culture and sanitation, and provide a venue for development of collaborative opportunities. The workshop audience drew upon the principal bivalve aquaculture stakeholders in the Pacific Region of Mexico (North Baja California, South Baja California, Sonora, Sinaloa and Nayarit). This was the second regional event sponsored by CRSP.

INTRODUCTION

Bivalve mollusk culture is a priority for aquaculture development throughout LAC. In the case of Mexico, state governments (e.g. North Baja California, South Baja California, Nayarit, Sinaloa, Sonora) and the federal government have prioritized shellfish culture for development for nearly ten years. The Autonomous University of Sinaloa and its numerous partners in aquaculture development have recently worked together in an integrated effort to accelerate development of the shellfish industry with long-term support from CRSP/USAID. This workshop was the second in a series of regional workshops sponsored by CRSP that have provided a venue for exchanging knowledge and lessons learned related to shellfish culture and sanitation. Additionally, the topic of increasing extension capacity is addressed in these workshops. An important aspect of the regional workshops is to provide an opportunity for an exchange of lessons learned between the various stakeholders groups.

The objectives of this training workshop were to:

- Present the results of research and development efforts by stakeholders from the Northern/Central Pacific Coast of Mexico;
- Increase technical capacity among farmers, researchers, NGO's and government officials both within Mexico and with international colleagues;
- Increase extension capacity and partnerships;
- Provide a net working opportunities for regional stakeholders; and
- Develop strategies for current and future collaborative efforts.

METHODS

The workshop was designed and planned as a collaborative effort between HC institutions (UAS, CESASIN, CIAD) and U.S. Universities (LSU and UHH). The workshop was held on September 28-30, 2009. The first two days were dedicated to presentations and discussion sessions. On the third day, a field tour was held in which the participants visited a shellfish polyculture project in Navolato, Sinaloa. The workshop was opened with remarks from the UAS Rector, two university department heads and five distinguished government officials from the major institutions with an interest in aquaculture and sanitation.

Presentations included:

- Experiences of shellfish producers in Sonora (producers and extension agents)
- Experiences of shellfish producers in Nayarit (producers and extension agents)
- Experiences of shellfish producers in South Baja California (producers and extension agents)
- Experiences of shellfish producers in Baja California (producers and extension agents)
- Experiences of shellfish producers in Sinaloa (producers and extension agents)
- Possible risks to shellfish sanitation by agrochemicals (Guadalupes Llanes Ocana, School of Physical Mathematics, UAS)
- Traceability in bivalve mollusk culture (Dr. Omar Calvario Martinez, CIAD)
- Mollusks as biotoxin vectors in the coastal zone (Rosalba Alonso Rodriguez, UNAM)
- The importance of mollusks as bioindicators of environmental alterations (Celia Vazquez Boucard, CIBNOR)
- Trends in bivalve consumer preferences in Sinaloa and implications for sanitation (Dr. Francisco Javier Martinez, CIAD)
- The importance of bivalve mollusk sanitation from the nutritional perspective (Marcela Vegara Jimenez, Nutrition/UAS)
- Habitat impact on the sanitary quality of oysters: experiences from the central region of Sinaloa (Magdalena de Jesus Uribe Beltran, UAS)
- Presence of coliforms and *E. coli* in water and oyster tissue in Nayarit and Sinaloa (Guillermo Rodriguez, FACIMAR/UAS)
- Culture trials with the Japanese Oyster, *Crassostrea gigas* in Navolato, Sinaloa (Dr. Andres M. Gongora Gomez, CIIDRI-IPN)

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION

Thirty-nine stakeholders participated in the workshop. The workshop was also video-taped and DVD's with the video and powerpoint presentations were delivered to the participants after conclusion of the workshop.

BENEFITS

There was a high level of satisfaction among the trainees and several have since put the acquired knowledge and skills to use.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The LSU, UHH, UAS and UCA teams are grateful to the Aquaculture and Fisheries CRSP which provided funding and support for this effort, as well as to CESASIN for their long-term collaboration with the CRSP efforts.