

AQUANEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE POND DYNAMICS/AQUACULTURE COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAM

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OVERVIEWS

It's time for grades to be issued at most universities. The CRSP also recently received its grades from USAID. The grades were all 'A's and 'B's; good enough that the Agency has elected to extend its support for the CRSP to 1990!

On the morning of December 16, 1985, the CRSP Board of Directors and I met with representatives of the AID Agriculture Sector Council and the Joint Committee on Agricultural Research and Development (JCARD) Committee on CRSPs to conclude the first Triennial review of CRSP performance. The discussions were candid and very positive. The meeting culminated in a recommendation to the JCARD to accept the CRSP proposal for a three year extension. On the afternoon of the same day, the fully assembled JCARD considered the recommendation and unanimously voted for the three year extension.

In summary, the triennial performance review has established that the CRSP has made good progress towards achieving its technical goals and objectives during the first three years. The idea of establishing a data base of observations of pond variables collected on a standard experimental plan from nearly 100 ponds at seven geographical locations is no longer a dream. It exists! There is still much to be done to synthesize these data and to describe the dynamic processes regulating the productivity of farm ponds, but we are clearly on course towards achieving this goal. The next three years promise to be very exciting indeed!

Jim Lannan
CRSP Director



OSU Fisheries & Wildlife graduate student Jim Bowman (left) and Data Synthesis Team member Dr. William Chang.

CRSP UPDATE

Data Management

The Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture CRSP Data Synthesis Team (DST) is 'off and running'. The recently selected team includes Dr. William Chang and Dr. Raul Piedrahita. Dr. Kevin Hopkins, recently hired as an Asst. Program Director in charge of Data Management, will supervise and coordinate data management activities from OSU. Kevin and OSU graduate student Jim Bowman have spent the past several months developing templates for data entry. The templates and instructions for their use are ready for distribution to CRSP projects. The program may be run on either Visicalc (Advanced Version) for the Apple IIe or Lotus for IBM PCs. Other spreadsheets may also be used.

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The Data Synthesis Team met for the first time at Oregon State University in Corvallis November 14-15 to become acquainted and to define a strategy for CRSP data management. Although widely scattered, team members plan to communicate frequently through conference calls, and will possibly meet at least once again before the annual meeting in March. By then, the team hope to:

- 1) have all backlog data entered, and
- 2) have a set of descriptive statistics on the data by experiment, by cycle and by station.

The CRSP database system uses spreadsheets to input data from the seven project sites, and then consolidates the spreadsheet files at the CRSP office using RBASE 5000, a commercial database program. Data entry and preliminary analyses and data manipulation are done on microcomputers, while operations involving the whole data set are done on mainframe computers. This database will provide researchers with a tool which has not been available previously - a standardized quantitative data set which will become more complete with time.

A paper describing the CRSP Data Base Management System will be presented by Kevin Hopkins at the World Mariculture Society meeting in January. A copy of the manuscript will be sent to all participants, and a folio with listings of data already entered into the main data base will be presented to each project at the annual meeting. Team members also plan to have both an IBM PC and an Apple IIe at the meeting to provide demonstrations and an opportunity for hands-on use by project members.

Those using the programs between now and March should note any questions or problems for discussion with the DST. Immediate problems may of course be handled by contacting the team through Kevin Hopkins. Team members are looking forward to the meeting and a discussion of the system and will welcome suggestions for improvement from project members.



Dr. William Chang received his Ph.D. in Ecology at Indiana University with a minor in mathematics and statistics. Since 1980 he has been an Assistant Research Scientist at the Great Lakes Research Division, University of Michigan. In 1984-85 he received a National Academy of Science Research Fellowship for collaborative research in the People's Republic of China. He was a coordinator for the "Aquaculture Workshop for Strengthening of S.E. Asian Aquaculture Institutions" in Bangkok, Thailand in 1983, and is co-editor of the book series Techniques in Environmental Science. He has authored and co-authored numerous publications on marine ecology and modelling, and is an experienced water quality analyst.



Dr. Raul Piedrahita received his Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering at the University of California, Davis. His dissertation was on "The Development of a Computer Model of the Aquaculture Pond Ecosystem". He has been at Davis since 1980 as an Adjunct Lecturer and Visiting Assistant, and for the past year has been

an Assistant Professor in Aquacultural Engineering. Before his move to Davis he spent several years at the University of British Columbia where he received his Bachelors and Masters of Science and worked as a Research Assistant. He received several scholarships while at the University of British Columbia, and received Graduate Fellowships in 1977-78 and 1978-79. He has an active interest in pond ecosystem modelling and has developed a mechanistic model designed to simulate 22 state variables.



Dr. Kevin Hopkins received his Ph.D. from Auburn University in Fisheries in 1979. He is currently a half-time Assistant Program Director in charge of design and management of the CRSP aquaculture data base system. He also is employed half-time for the Consortium for International Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (CIFAD) involved in the development and management of other international fisheries projects and training programs. Before coming to OSU, he was an Associate Research Scientist and Project Leader for ICLARM at the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research where he managed a tilapia mariculture project. He also has overseas experience in the Philippines, where he was a Rockefeller Foundation Post-doctoral Fellow from 1979-1981. He was a project co-leader of an Integrated Animal-Fish Farming Project and also taught fisheries biology at the College of Fisheries, Central Luzon State University. While in the Peace Corps in the Philippines from 1972-1975 he designed a fisheries extension program and renovations for three fish farms and hatcheries. He is author or co-author of seven papers in international journals and symposium proceedings, a book chapter, and several other technical reports.

CRSP members are traveling this fall, as Dr. Ron Phelps traveled to Honduras and Panama in September to review the progress of research there. Congratulations to Ron on his recent marriage to Silvia Delgado, a Peruvian native.

Dr. Ted Batterson traveled to Indonesia in November to help wrap up current research, and to help begin preparations for the third cycle experiments.

Dr. Richard Tubb and his new Co-Principal Investigator, Wayne Seim spent most of December in Rwanda to review the progress of research there and to familiarize Mr. Seim with the operations of the CRSP.

The CRSP Board of Directors traveled to Bodega Bay, California, October 18-19 to a meeting hosted by Wally Clark. Topics of discussion included U.S. special topic research, and data management and synthesis. To help keep CRSP members more informed on policy decisions, it was decided to send a copy of Board meeting minutes to Principal Investigators.

Program Director James Lannan traveled to Washington D.C. on 15 December to attend the AID Triennial Review of the CRSP. The Triennial Report completed for the review includes a three year summary, the External Evaluation Panel (EEP) Report, and the Continuation Proposal. CRSP members will be receiving a copy of the report soon. Jim was accompanied by the CRSP Board of Directors.

Welcome to Dr. Christopher F. Knud-Hansen, recently hired as the new U.S. Research Associate for the Michigan State University/Indonesia CRSP. He will be traveling to Indonesia early in January to begin residence in Bogor and conduct CRSP research. He has several years experience working overseas in Central America, both as a Peace Corps volunteer and conducting research. His specialities include aquatic chemistry, nutrient cycling, computer simulation modeling and tropical ecosystems.

Dr. James Avault, Professor of Aquaculture at Louisiana State University, recently resigned as a member of the External Evaluation Panel. Dr. Avault's participation on the panel and time spent in the recent Triennial Review was very much appreciated.

The Consortium for International Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (CIFAD) has undergone reorganization in an effort to expand and improve its ability to respond to requests for assistance in international fisheries and aquaculture. A major part of the reorganization involved transferring administrative functions to Oregon State University's Office of International Agriculture (OIA). OIA currently provides logistical and administrative support for agricultural development projects in several countries, including Yemen, Tunisia, Tanzania, and Sri Lanka. OIA's involvement with CIFAD will increase the time available to CIFAD management for project development and technical matters.

There have also been changes in CIFAD personnel. Mr. Harvey Moore has retired from his position as Executive Director and has been succeeded by Dr. Richard Tubb. Dr. Kevin Hopkins assists in the management of CIFAD projects in addition to his work with the Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture CRSP.

"Symposium on Selection, Hybridization and Genetic Engineering in Aquaculture of Fish and Shellfish for Consumption and Stocking", 27-30 May 1986, France (location undecided). For information contact: Dr. A. G. Coche, EIFAC Tech. Secretary (Aquaculture), FAO/FIRI-F235, Via delle Terme di Caracalla, 1-00-11 Rome, Italy.



The Program Management Staff wishes everyone involved with the Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture CRSP a Happy New Year. Congratulations on a job well done for 1985, and best wishes for continued good work in 1986!

CRSP CALENDAR

March 16-20, 1986 - Annual Meeting - Lake Arrowhead, California

Program Manager James E. Lannan
Assistant Program Manager
and Newsletter Editor Nancy Brown

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