

AQUANEWS

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

VOLUME 2 • NUMBER 4

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

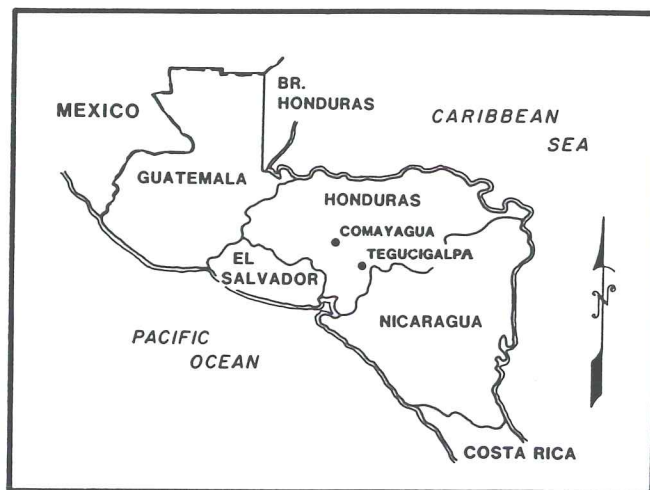
WINTER 1985

OVERVIEWS

As this issue of Aquanews goes to press, CRSP participants will be deeply involved in preparation for our Annual Meeting. This year's meeting is hosted by the University of Hawaii and will convene at the National Marine Fisheries Service facility on the U.H. campus.

This is our third annual meeting, and is especially significant because a portion of our first triennial review will be conducted concurrently with our annual technical program. Our CRSP External Evaluation Panel (EEP) will have completed their visits to our research project sites by this meeting. At the meeting they will have an opportunity for further discussions with all Program participants, including Program Management, the CRSP Executive Council and Technical Advisory Committee, and the U.S. and host country research teams. Following this meeting, the EEP will prepare their External Evaluation Report.

On the technical side, this year's meeting promises to be our most productive work session to date. We now have all six research locations on line, and are well on the way to completing our initial objective of establishing physical, chemical, and biological baselines on all our ponds. Thus the elements are in place to advance to our next objective of rigorous hypothesis testing on the nature of site specific variation. Our research teams are, without exception, enthusiastically preparing to move ahead. After all the planning and preparation, all the frustration of project implementation, and all the patient baseline data



MAINSTREAM

The CRSP Project in Honduras.

The CRSP project in Honduras is one of six research projects implemented in lesser developed countries to assist in the improvement of pond aquaculture systems. Research teams from U.S. universities work with researchers from each host country in conducting standardized experiments in the dynamics of pond aquaculture.

Aquaculture in Honduras consists mostly of small scale production of tilapia and carp in rural areas, intended for local consumption. These activities are encouraged by the assistance of the Dept. of Fisheries under the Director General of Renewable Natural Resources (RENARE), as well as other government and private programs. Shrimp and prawn culture is the major commercial scale aquaculture activity, with both Macrobrachium and Penaeus species produced.

(Continued on page 2) 1

(Continued on page 2)

(Overviews continued)

collection, they are on the threshold of substantial technical contribution.

The outcome of the EEP activities and meeting of the research teams will be featured in the next issue of this newsletter.

Jim Lannan
Program Manager ■

(Mainstream continued)

RENARE has several aquaculture stations devoted to the production of fingerlings for stocking farm ponds. The joint Auburn-RENARE CRSP project site is located at the largest of these stations, El Carao, approximately 131 km from Tegucigalpa in the Comayagua Valley. This station is one component of a large agriculture research station, and consists of offices, a water quality-limnology laboratory, a modest technical library, a storage building, and a complex of ponds. The latter includes twelve ponds of 500 square meters surface area, twelve 1000-square meter and twelve 2000-square meter ponds. Water is supplied by gravity to the ponds from a 4000 square meter reservoir fed by irrigation canals originating at the Selguapa River. Additional fish culture facilities include ten 20-square meter concrete tanks and eight 2-square meter concrete tanks.

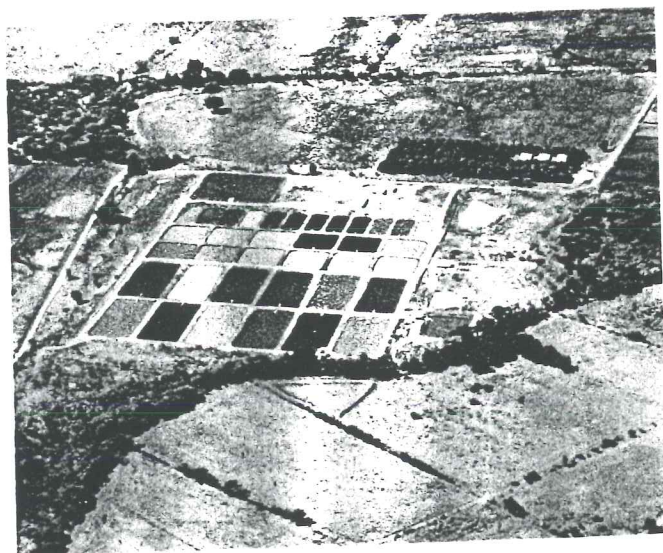
Each CRSP project is staffed by a U.S. Principal Investigator and Research Associate with counterparts in the host country. Dr. Ronald Phelps, Associate Professor of Fisheries, is the Auburn Co-Principal Investigator. His Research Associate, Mr. Bart Green, conducts the on-site research working with Honduran Co-Principal Investigator Lic. Jonathan Espinoza and Research Associate Hermes Alvarenga. Station Director Ivon Rodriguez and students of the National University assist in the program.

Twelve ponds at the El Carao station were reserved for CRSP field work in 1983. A laboratory was installed and staff trained to conduct

standard CRSP analyses. Tilapia nilotica fingerlings were brought to the station from Panama, and local suppliers of fertilizers and chemicals identified. In accordance with CRSP experimental protocol, dry and wet season phases of the first experimental cycle were initiated and completed in 1984. Fish production in the dry season first cycle was lower than expected, likely due to high pond turbidity. These low levels of production indicated necessary changes in pond management and practices. A wet season study using organic manures and feed in adjacent ponds encouraged phytoplankton growth, and turbidity was not a problem.

The production of tilapia fingerlings is a major priority of the RENARE aquaculture program. The CRSP project is supplementing this effort by evaluating several techniques for improving tilapia fingerling production. A dry season study showed limited success with hapa and tank spawning of tilapia. Below optimum water temperatures (20-25° C) during that season may have been the influencing factor.

The second cycle of experiments planned for 1985 include further studies on pond turbidity and its effects on fish production. Since the major portion of the Comayagua station is devoted to fingerling production, additional research will be conducted on tilapia spawning and improving the



An aerial view of the Honduras Station.



Station Director Ivon Rodriguez and Research Associate Hermes Alvarenga.

efficiency of the station in production of all male populations of tilapia.

The CRSP team has been instrumental in promoting aquaculture in Honduras. Bart Green spends approximately 15% of his time in service related activities. He has given lectures on different aspects of aquaculture to extension agents and RENARE staff. Mr. Green and Mr. Alvarenga participated in a Peace Corps fisheries program evaluation and planning meeting. Mr. Green also participated in an inter-ministerial meeting for coordinating aquaculture activities and developing a national plan. He supervises students from the National University conducting thesis research at the CRSP site, and assists in various station activities. This kind of participation on a local and national level is a good example of CRSP efforts to conduct worthwhile research, and use personnel resources to further aquaculture education and training. ■

CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE

Several Principal Investigators and Research Associates conducting research on-site have voiced a concern over a lack of current literature. While conditions may vary among sites, several are isolated and project personnel do not have access to library or university resources. The Program Management Office would like to help initiate a Current Awareness Service, hopefully in

cooperation with U.S. P.I.s. A questionnaire has been sent to P.I.s and R.A.s at project sites to determine specific needs. Once those needs are identified, we will investigate ways to initiate some basic services either from the Management Office or through the U.S. P.I.

We are aware that information printed in host country languages is also necessary, and will be including those kinds of resources where available. Possibilities for services include: copying contents pages of several identified journals monthly; establishing each project site on a mailing list for current awareness bibliographies and newsletters; establishing a core library at each site (where needed) of standard texts in both languages; and supplying each site with CRSP Reprint Request cards.

Any other suggestions or comments would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Nancy Brown in the Management Office. ■

NEW APPOINTMENT

The CRSP Management is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Nancy Brown as Assistant Program Manager. Nancy replaces Michele Leslie, who recently moved to Washington D.C. to take a new position as a policy analyst for the U.S. Department of Interior.

Nancy's principal role in CRSP management will be to facilitate communications and information exchange among and between CRSP participants, USAID, and the global aquaculture community. She is exceptionally well qualified to assume these responsibilities. She earned her Master of Library Science degree from the University of Oregon in 1969, and was subsequently employed as Health Sciences Librarian at Emanuel Hospital in Portland, Oregon. Initially she served as librarian for the School of Nursing, and ultimately was responsible for developing and administering a library to serve all the components of a large urban teaching hospital. Nancy has traveled extensively and brings a

(Appointment Continued)

global view of communication needs to our program.

The CRSP Management feels fortunate to have a person with Nancy's skills and experience join the program, and looks forward to her participation. Welcome aboard, Nancy!

BULLETINS

● Please remember to send news items to Aquanews which you feel may be of interest to other members of the CRSP.

● A brochure describing the Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture CRSP is now available from the Program Management Office, thanks to Michele Leslie. If you do not receive a copy in this mailing and would like one, please contact Carman McBride in the PMO.

● The Second International Symposium on Genetics in Aquaculture will be held in Davis, California, 23-28 June 1985. Contact: Dr. Graham Gall, Second Symposium, Dept. of Animal Science, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

● The International Symposium on Aquaculture in the Third World will be 21-25 October 1985 in Mexico. Contact: Secretariat, International Symposium on Aquaculture in the Third World, Apartado Postal 73-Cordemex, 97310 Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.

● The 17th Annual Meeting of the World Mariculture Society will be held 17-23 January 1986 at the MGM Grand Hotel in Reno, Nevada USA. Termed "Aquaculture Reno 86", the meeting will be part of the fourth combined Aquaculture Farmers Assoc., the Catfish Farmers of America, the U.S. Trout Farmers Assoc., and the Fish Culture Section of the American Fisheries Society. The deadline for submitting titles and abstracts for program consideration is August 15, 1985. Contact: William K. Hershberger, Program Chairman, World Mariculture Society, School of Fisheries WH-10, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195 USA.

● The Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture CRSP Third Annual Research Planning Meeting will be held 18-21 March 1985 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

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

Published quarterly by the Program Management Office, Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture Collaborative Research Support Program, Mark O. Hatfield Marine Science Center, Oregon State University, Newport, Oregon 97365.

The Pond Dynamics/Aquaculture Collaborative Research Support Program is supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development under CRSP Grant No.: DAN-4023-G-SS-2074-00.

OSU is an equal opportunity university.

AQUANEWS

Hatfield Marine Science Center
Oregon State University
Newport, OR 97365