**TITLE:** Alternative Feeding Strategies and Feed Ingredients for Snakehead Farming in Cambodia and Vietnam

**Author(s):** Tran Thi Thanh Hien¹, Pham Minh Duc¹, Nen Phanna², Hap Navy², Chheng Phen², So Nam², Robert Pomeroy³ and David A. Bengtson⁴

1. College of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Can Tho University, Can Tho, Vietnam
2. Inland Fishery Research and Development Institute, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
3. University of Connecticut, Avery Point, Groton, CT, USA
4. University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI, USA

**Date:** 22 June 2018  
**Publication Number:** AquaFish Research Report 18-397

AquaFish will not be distributing this publication. Copies may be obtained by writing to the authors.

**Abstract:** Prior to 2006, the predominant method for culturing snakehead in Vietnam and Cambodia was to collect wild juveniles from natural sources like the Mekong River and Tonle Sap. Particularly in Cambodia, aquaculture farmers, who were also fishermen, would collect their own fingerling snakehead. They would then also collect “small fish” (also known as low-value fish or trash fish) from natural sources, chop them up and feed them to the snakehead in culture. A conflict existed between users of these fish: the aquaculture/fishing people and the remainder of the Cambodian population who rely on small fish (Fig. 1) for a variety of products, including fish sauce and prahok, that provide protein to the Cambodian people throughout the year. As a result, and to protect the nutrition of the Cambodian people, aquaculture of snakehead was banned in the country in 2004.

This abstract was excerpted from the original paper, which was in *World Aquaculture*. (2018), 49(2): 49-53.

---

**AQUAFISH RESEARCH REPORTS** are published as occasional papers by the Management Entity, AquaFish Innovation Lab, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-1643 USA. The AquaFish Innovation Lab is supported by the US Agency for International Development under Grant No. EPP-A-00-06-00012-00. See the website at <aquafishsp.oregonstate.edu>.