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Title: Reporting Fishpond Yields to Farmers

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Abstract: (Excerpt from article)

The frustrations encountered when trying to compare technical reports in which fishpond yield figures are reported in a variety of units (e.g., kg/ha, kg/pond, lb/acre, etc.) are familiar to most aquaculturists. These frustrations become worse when, after digging through a desk drawer for a calculator to convert the yields to a standard unit of measure, the calculator's batteries are invariably dead. Because of this, strong efforts have been made to encourage researchers to use only kg/ha when reporting results. I agree with this standardization if other researchers are the audience. However, severe problems may develop when trying to communicate research results to other audiences if data are transformed to a hectare basis.

Through the marvelous power of hindsight, I will describe a lost opportunity for making a significant impact on the adoption rate of integrated aquaculture-agriculture farming technology. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, the ICLARM/Central Luzon State University Integrated Animal-Fish Farming Project at Munoz, Neuva Ecija, Phillipines, quantified several relationships between manure input and fish yields (Hopkins et al., 1981 and Hopkins and Cruz, 1982). We reported the yields using kg/ha and manure input using tonnes/ha. We also conducted a preliminary economic analysis which indicated that under conditions of limited supplies of manure as normally encountered on small farms, 67 pigs/ha would maximize profit for ponds with a pumped water system while 53 pigs/ha would maximize profit for ponds with gravity-fed water systems.

This paper has been accepted for publication in *Aquabyte*.

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