Development of cost-effective alternative feeds for small-scale farming of snakeheads:

• The replacement of fishmeal by soy protein concentrate can be done at level of 40% in diet for snakehead. The increase level of SPC in diet above 40% significantly affected on the fish growth, economic efficiency, digestibility and trypsin and chymotrypsin activities though fish chemical composition unlikely affected.

• Supplementation of mannan-oligosaccharides in the diets for snakehead (Channa striata) at level of 0.2% improved the survival rate, growth rate and immune response.

• On-farm trials for women in An Giang province to apply the optimal formulated feed for snakehead culture from the CTU trials under actual farm conditions with participation of six small-scale snakehead farms. After 5-6 months, snakehead were harvested with total production of 380-500 kg in plastic lining tanks (15 m²) and 360-500 kg in hapa (24 m²). The weight varied from 350-450 g/fish. The FCR was around 1.3. Production cost was about 1.3 USD/kg. Net income ranged 200-400 USD/farm/crop.

• Women was trained on small-scale farming of snakehead using formulated feed.

AquAFish Innovation Lab


Investigation 2: Improved feeds and processing for snakehead, entitled “Alternative feeds and processing for freshwater aquaculture species”

This focuses on the development of cost-effective alternative feeds for small-scale farming of snakeheads; and to improve the processing activities for added value of cultured snakehead products, particularly for women.

1. Diet trial to see if soy protein concentrate (SPC) can replace most or all of the FM in diets for snakehead and the use of immuno-stimulant products (MOS).
2. Woman in An Giang province are trained on small-scale farming of snakeheads using formulated feed.
3. On-farm trials for the small-scale farming of snakeheads done by the women in An Giang province.