Welcome to this October 2013 edition of the FAO Aquaculture e-bulletin, covering our most recent news, publications, technical workshops and projects for the period February 2013 to September 2013. We hope that this information can be also useful to you in your own aquaculture work.

This newsletter presents just a selection of what we do and we encourage you to visit our website www.fao.org/food/aquaculture to find out more or to contact by e-mail the officers of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department’s Aquaculture Branch (FIRA) responsible for the various activities.

**Highlights**

- The Seventh Session of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) Sub-Committee on Aquaculture will be hosted by the Government of the Russian Federation in St. Petersburg 7-11 October. You are invited to visit COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture website www.fao.org/cofi/aq to find more information about this important biannual event. The Sub-Committee provides a forum for consultation and discussion on aquaculture emerging issues and advise COFI on technical and policy matters related to aquaculture and on the work to be performed by the Organization in this subject.
  Information: R. Subasinghe

- A new DVD containing all FAO aquaculture publications prepared during the period 1999-2012 has been recently produced by the Aquaculture Branch. More than six hundred publications related to aquaculture, including CD-ROMs, web-based products and newsletters have been published and distributed worldwide during that period, in both hard and electronic versions and in various FAO official languages. All these publications have been assembled on this DVD as Portable Document Format (PDF) files, in order to make them easily available, searchable and printable to all users.
  Information: V. Crespi

**Publications**


- FAO Aquaculture Newsletter 51 - FAN 51, June 2013. The 51st issue of FAN contains an editorial on fish in nutrition highlighting the importance of fish as an excellent source of high quality food. This issue has eight sections on: (i) global/regional aquaculture meetings (e.g. 7th session of COFI/SCA; 8th session of GFCM CAQ; and 4th annual meeting of ANAF; (ii) aquaculture strategies (e.g. for Bangladesh; sub-regional biosecurity strategy for countries of the Mozambique Channel); (iii) project updates/progress reports (e.g. in China, Indonesia, Namibia, Nepal, South Korea, Tonga, Viet Nam); (iv) thematic articles (e.g. on use of renewable energy in aquaculture; gender mainstreaming in fisheries and aquaculture; responsible use of veterinary medicines; world aquaculture performance indicators; aquaculture and fisheries in rice-based ecosystems); (v) training courses (on various subjects in Kyrgyz Republic, Morocco and Ethiopia); and the regular sections on new staff profile, tribute to staff and new publications.


Web-based products

- **Aquaculture Feed and Fertilizer Resources Information System (AFFRIS)**
  The Fisheries and Aquaculture Department is pleased to announce the launch of its new website "Aquaculture Feed and Fertilizer Resources Information System (AFFRIS)". AFFRIS is intended to provide the information on globally important aquaculture feed, feed ingredients, fertilizers and the nutrient resources and the guidelines to use this information to optimize on-farm feeding and feed management strategy including the dissemination of the information on nutritional profile of commercially important selected aquaculture species. The website can be accessed from [www.fao.org/fishery/affris](http://www.fao.org/fishery/affris)
  Information: M.R. Hasan

Projects

- **GCP/NAM/014/SPA** – The project entitled “Support to the South South Cooperation Technical Assistance Programme between Namibia and Viet Nam” aims at providing technical assistance in support to the aquaculture sector development in Namibia, through the deployment of aquaculture experts from Vietnam. Eight projects proposals are being implemented: (i) comparative assessment of the growth performance of three spotted tilapia *Oreochromis andersonii* fed on locally produced sinking and imported floating pellets; (ii) domestication of largemouth bass (*Microlepterus salmoides*), a potential candidate species for aquaculture in Namibia; (iii) establishment of a fish museum at Kamutjonga Inland Fisheries Institute (KIFI); (iv) acclimatization of African river prawn (*Macrobrachium vollenhovenii*) – a potential freshwater prawn species for aquaculture practices in Namibia; (v) selective breeding programme for indigenous three spotted tilapia *O. andersonii*; (vi) production of all male three spotted tilapia (*Oreochromis andersonii*) and Mozambique tilapia (*O. mosambicus*) through hormonal sex reversal techniques by
application 17 α-methyl testosterone (vii) Development of a national aquaculture extension strategy and aquaculture extension material; and (viii) development of the capacity to improve the existing practices on seed production with special reference to seed production of North African catfish.

Information: M.R. Hasan and V. Crespi

- **TCP/ALG/3402** – The government of Algeria has approached FAO to get technical support for the elaboration of a national plan for the sustainable development of aquaculture in desert and arid regions in Algeria. A ten days scoping mission is going to take place starting from 19th of October to assist the Algerian government in the elaboration of the national plan.
  Information: V. Crespi and C. Toueilib

  Information: M. Robson and M.R. Hasan

- **TCP/RER/3402** – Within the framework of the project entitled: "Assistance to Western Balkan countries for improving compliance to international standards on aquatic animal health" FAO is organizing a Regional workshop on "Improving capacity for diagnosis of disease of fish and molluscs" Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 20-24 October 2013.
  Information: M. Reantaso

### Aquaculture and Aquaculture-related Events (2013)

- The joint Government of Indonesia and FAO international workshop on **Seaweeds aquaculture, processing and trade: developments and prospects** has recently taken place in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 3 to 5 October 2013. Speakers from Indonesia, China, Tanzania, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Portugal, France and FAO delivered presentations covering production technology, socioeconomic, gender, governance, trade and market issues affecting the industry in Indonesia and globally. The workshop, attended by over 150 participants, discussed ways to further support the development of the seaweed industry through collaborative research and international cooperation and recommended collective actions to be implemented at local, regional and global level. The report of the workshop will be available later in the year.
  Information: A. Lovatelli

- **The third subregional workshop on aquaculture in the North African countries** will be organized and funded by the FAO’s subregional Office for North Africa (Tunis, Tunisia) and hosted by the Government of Algeria in Oran, Algeria in December 2013. The aim of the workshop is to revise the status of the aquaculture in the subregion, highlighting the technical, institutional, legal and financial strengths and weaknesses that characterize the
sector and to support cooperation among member countries of the subregion (Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco and Mauritania), through the identification of mechanisms for expertise exchange and for the development of appropriate regional policies to be used for the promotion of sustainable aquaculture development.

Information: C. Toueilib

- **The Fifth Aquaculture Network for Africa (ANAF) annual meeting** was held in the Ndiambour Hotel in Dakar, Senegal, 11-13 September 2013. The meeting was attended by representatives of ten ANAF member countries out of twelve, two representatives from NEPAD and AU-IBAR programmes. The meeting discussed the work plan for 2014 and defined further steps for ANAF to become an Inter Governmental Organization (IGO).

Information: V. Crespi

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