The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Fisheries Department has published a multilingual Glossary of Aquaculture containing, at the time of publication, 2,958 terms with definitions, synonyms, related terms, information sources and images, when available.

The primary objectives of the glossary are to: (i) serve as a reference to fish farmers, consultants, administrators, policy makers, developers, engineers, agriculturists, economists, environmentalists and all those interested in aquaculture; and (ii) facilitate communication among experts and scientists involved in aquaculture research and development.

Aquaculture development involves many other disciplines such as agriculture, economics, engineering, food processing, genetics, irrigation, agriculture, legislation, marketing, pathology, planning, sociology, remote sensing, soil science and taxonomy. Therefore, the choice of terms has been limited to those directly related to world aquaculture practices and to the most commonly used terms pertaining to other disciplines. Twenty one broad aquaculture subject areas have been defined in which the multidisciplinary aspects of aquaculture have been tentatively regrouped.

The glossary has been compiled using existing textbooks and glossaries, in particular those already prepared within the various Services of the FAO Fisheries and Agriculture Departments. The information source(s) from which each definition has been obtained is always provided for each term.

The online glossary of aquaculture is available in the five official FAO languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish) and can be accessed at the following address:

http://www.fao.org/fi/glossary/aquaculture

The glossary is presented in the following format: terms, definitions, information sources aquaculture subject areas, synonyms, related terms and images.

Instant definitions and translations of the terms to and from Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish are available by clicking on the related language.

Terms can be searched through the search engine, by alphabetical order or by aquaculture subject area.

The FAO Glossary of Aquaculture will continuously be revised and updated through inputs from the users. Suggestions of new terms or definitions, comments on current terms and submission of new images are strongly encouraged. Inputs from end users are easy and can be done simply by using specific submission forms which are automatically submitted to the FAO-Glossary administrators. The administrators, through the Glossary Management System, can upload very quickly, after validation, the new items into the online glossary.

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