

INTRODUCTION

The successful development of aquaculture depends on the application of appropriate technologies and on the constructive interaction between aquaculturists, government authorities and research institutes using a common language and standard technical terminology. In this context, the Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations (FAO) pays particular attention to the standardization of terminology in order to facilitate and/or enhance information dissemination and exchange among users.

This aquaculture glossary was prepared by the Aquaculture Management and Conservation Service of the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Department and funded by the regular programme. This document aims (i) to facilitate communication among technical experts and scientists involved in aquaculture research and development; and (ii) to enhance communication between aquaculture research and development technicians and scientists, developers, consultants and users from other disciplines such as administrators, agriculturists, economists, engineers, environmentalists and policy-makers.

The glossary contains approximately 2 500 terms and includes definitions, information sources, synonyms and related terms when available. It has been compiled using existing textbooks and glossaries, in particular those already prepared by various services of the Organization, namely the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department and the Agriculture and Consumers Protection Department.

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, it has been necessary to limit the selection of terms 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 within which the multidisciplinary aspects of aquaculture have been regrouped (see Annex).

The glossary of aquaculture is available in five official languages of FAO (Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish) in hard copy, CD-ROM and online at the FAO Web site (<http://www.fao.org/fi/glossary/aquaculture/>).

This glossary will be revised continuously and updated with inputs from the users. Suggestions of new terms or definitions, comments on current terms and submission of new images are strongly encouraged. Submissions can be made simply by completing specific forms available on the Web site which are sent to the FAO-Glossary administrators for validation and then uploaded onto the online version.

Suggestions can also be sent:

by mail to FAO-FIMA-Chief, Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy
by e-mail to FIMA-Glossary@fao.org

HOW TO USE THE GLOSSARY

Terms

The glossary terms are outlined in alphabetical order and can be easily found by using the index, in any of the official languages, at the end of the document. Each term is indexed by an increasing number in order to facilitate the search. The enclosed CD-ROM contains a copy of the glossary as available on the Internet to allow users without Internet connection to access the glossary and its tools directly from their own computer (by using a common browser, e.g. Explorer, Netscape).

In the case of multiple-word English terms, the main term (from an aquaculture point of view) has been selected and placed first before being entered alphabetically in the list: for example “Catch basin” has been entered as “Basin, catch-”; the same terms (e.g. Basin) are thus regrouped together. British English has been adopted rather than American English. Any alternative spelling, unusual plural form (pl.), and/or generally accepted abbreviations/acronyms are given in parentheses, whenever required.

Definitions

The suggested definitions have been selected from already published information, however, priority has been given to definitions published by FAO. Multiple meanings of the same term is differentiated by placing (a), (b), (c), etc. either after the term [e.g. Bank (a), Bank (b)] or within the definition, such as for the term “Barrage”. The former is used when a term has a different meaning in other languages.

Related terms

Related terms are also included in the glossary. They comprise antonyms, terms of contrary meaning to another, such as “alkaline” as related to “acid”.

Synonyms

Synonyms are different terms with the same or similar meaning.

Information sources

The information source(s) from which every definition has been obtained is provided for each term (in the online and CD-ROM versions only).

Images

Whenever available, clickable images are presented in thumbnail format (in the online and CD-ROM versions only).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Crespi, V.; Coche, A. (comps)

Glossary of aquaculture/Glossaire d'aquaculture/Glosario de acuicultura.

Rome, FAO. 2008. 401p. (Multilingual version including Arabic and Chinese)

Includes a CD-ROM/Contient un CD-ROM/Contiene un CD-ROM.

Annex - AQUACULTURE SUBJECT AREAS

ASA NO.	AQUACULTURE SUBJECT AREA	MAIN SUBJECTS
1	AQUATIC ORGANISMS, GENERAL	Taxonomy, biology (except reproduction biology), ecology, ethology. For live foods production see Fertilization, feeding & nutrition.
2	ECONOMICS & INVESTMENT	Micro and macro economics, credit, loan, cost benefit analysis, development aid, and insurance.
3	ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS	Pollution, sewage (including treatment), toxicity, harmful algae, fouling, environmental protection/impact, conservation, biodiversity, pest control, natural productivity, aquatic weeds and their control.
4	FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT & ENGINEERING	Topography, land/water surveying, soils, site factors, hydraulics, erosion, design/construction of culture facilities, aquaculture equipment (except for specific hatchery – see 16 and water testing – see 20), recirculation systems, energy use, bioenergetics.
5	FERTILIZATION, FEEDING & NUTRITION	Fertilizers, liming, agricultural wastes, ingredients, feeds, diets, feed manufacture, nutritional aspects, live foods production.
6	GENETICS & SPECIES TRANSFER	Selection, hybridization, crossbreeding, inbreeding, genetic resources, biotechnology, introductions.
7	HARVESTING, PROCESSING & MARKETING	Fishing gears, harvesting, transport, processing, quality control, food safety, marketing, business management, partnerships.
8	HEALTH MANAGEMENT & DISEASES	Vaccines, parasites, pathogens, diagnosis, therapy, immunization, drugs, hygiene, disease control/prevention, microbiology.
9	INFORMATION, STATISTICS & GIS	Bibliographies, libraries, networking, Internet, information services/systems, databases, computers, statistical analysis, remote sensing, geographical information systems.
10	INSTITUTIONS & ORGANIZATIONS	Related to aquaculture and international.
11	INTEGRATED FARMING SYSTEMS	Agro-aquaculture, agro-forestry, hydroponics, sericulture, rice culture, animal husbandry, mixed farming, integrated farming, use of waste heat, sewage aquaculture.
12	LAND / WATER USE & IRRIGATION	Water bodies, wetlands, reefs, atolls, coastal/pelagic, reclamation, enhancements, water and watershed management, water cycle, groundwater, culture-based fisheries, ranching, irrigation.
13	LEGAL ASPECTS	Legislation, regulations, tariffs, licences.
14	POLICY & PLANNING	Development policies, sector planning, potential, feasibility studies, administration, planning surveys, rural appraisal, code of conduct.
15	PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY & TRENDS	Aquaculture technology (types of aquaculture except integrated- and culture-based fisheries), production/farming systems, polyculture, new local species, production status, trends, results.
16	REPRODUCTION BIOLOGY, SEED PRODUCTION & HATCHERIES	Development stages, reproduction, broodstock management, spawning, production of juveniles, hatcheries/nurseries (incl. their specific equipment and structures).
17	RESEARCH & METHODOLOGY	Research institutions, technology transfer, modelling, on-farm research, experimental testing, measurements.
18	SOCIOLOGICAL & CULTURAL ASPECTS	Community development, conflicts, cooperatives, poverty, food security, rural development, subsistence farming, households, women, employment, human health/nutrition.
19	TRAINING & EXTENSION	Training courses, education, audio-visual aids, extension methods.
20	WATER QUALITY	Physico-chemical aspects and their equipment/measurement.
21	MISCELLANEOUS	