

BOBP/MAG/18



A GUIDE TO OYSTER CULTURE IN MALAYSIA



BOBP

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BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME

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by

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This manual was prepared as part of a pilot project to transfer oyster culture technology to fisherfolk of the west coast of Peninsular Malaysia. The project was implemented by the Fisheries Research Institute of the Department of Fisheries, Penang, Malaysia. The Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) provided financial and technical support.

The objective of the project was to increase fisherfolk income through increased earnings from oyster farm production. The project started in 1988 and BOBP involvement, undertaken under GCP/RAS/118/MUL, ended in July 1993.

This is a practical manual which, it is hoped, will be of use to oyster farmers, government officials and investors. The manual describes various methods of oyster culture which have been found to be profitable during the course of the project.

Methods for spat collection from wild stocks, as well as the use of hatchery-produced spat are described. The best grow-out methods are explained and investment costs are given for different sized enterprises, using current prices.

Techniques for marketing oysters and the importance of depuration are explained.

The Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) is a multiagency regional fisheries programme which covers seven countries around the Bay of Bengal: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The Programme plays a catalytic and consultative role: it develops, demonstrates and promotes new technologies, methodologies and ideas to help improve the conditions of small-scale fisherfolk communities in member countries. The BOBP is sponsored by the governments of Denmark, Sweden and the United Kingdom, and also by UNDP (United Nations Development Programme). The main executing agency is the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations).

This manual is a technical document and has not been cleared by the Government concerned or the FAO.

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Plate 1 a : *Malaysian oyster species. from left to right. C. iredalei, C. becheri, Saccostrea spp. and O. folium*



Plate 1 b : *C. iredalei (above) and C. becheri (below), showing black muscle scar of C. iredalei*

