



United States
Department
of Agriculture



Agricultural
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Jeffrey Silverstein

Dr. Jeffrey Silverstein received his B.A. in Biology and East Asian Studies from Colgate University of Hamilton, New York, and his Ph.D. in Fisheries Genetics from the University of Washington, School of Fisheries at Seattle, Washington. He joined ARS in 1997, as a Research Geneticist at the Catfish Genetics Research Unit in Stoneville, Mississippi and was part of the research team that received the USDA, Agricultural Research Service Technology Transfer Award for transfer of improved catfish germplasm to industry. In 2001 Silverstein transferred to the National Center for Cool and Cold Water Aquaculture in Leetown, West Virginia to lead development of rainbow trout germplasm with improved performance for industry. Prior to 1997, he did post-doctoral research at University of Washington, School of Fisheries and the National Research Institute of Aquaculture in Japan. His research focused on physiology and selective breeding of finfish, particularly for improved growth, feed efficiency, use of alternative feeds and disease resistance. Dr. Silverstein currently holds the position of National Program Leader for Aquaculture with the USDA/Agricultural Research Service. The ARS Aquaculture program is represented by 61 scientists in 13 locations across the United States. As National Program Leader, Jeff leads analysis and development of the goals and outcomes of the aquaculture program. He serves as Executive Secretary to the Joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture (JSA, an Executive Branch coordinating group), co-chair of JSA Task Force on Science and Technology, and has been a lead of the USDA-NOAA (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration) Alternative Feeds for Aquaculture initiative since 2007. He recently completed a detail with US Agency for International Development working on the Feed the Future Initiative with the Bureau for Food Security and the Science and Technology group in the Policy Planning and Learning Division.

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