

USDA Aquaculture Catfish Stakeholder Listening Session

July 25, 2018

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm EDT

Notes

Co-Hosts:

- Gene Kim, USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture, National Program Leader, Aquaculture
- Caird Rexroad, III, USDA Agricultural Research Service, National Program Leader, Aquaculture

Guest Speaker, Jimmy Avery, Director, Southern Regional Aquaculture Center

30 attendees: producers, industry, academia, federal, and ARS scientists

Genetics, Breeding and Broodstock:

- Genetics in channel catfish to reduce or prevent egg production in females.

Fish Health:

- Disease prevention.
- Aeromonas and Enteric Septicemia of Catfish - genetic research on channel breed disease resistance.
- Reduce *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis* (Ich).
- Interested in biologics as disease therapeutants for catfish.

Nutrition:

- Organoleptic and nutritional differences between channel and hybrids.
- Feed formulations and additives to enhance production performance and functional including disease resistance.
- Feed production to enhance performance and yield.

Quality:

- Sellable protein yield - more protein and less fat.
- Can increase omega three fatty acids; to be more in line with other wild fish species.
- Processing - how to automate trimming. Like to see partnership with industry.
- Recent recalls have been devastating on catfish industry as a whole - what is source of dietary compounds that cause recalls. Recall big issue in public perception.
- Big fish fillets and value added in general - Need marketing research - how to reach millennials. Focus on things important to millennials - nutrition, health - what are they looking for?
- Big fish is a problem - lack of market. Need more ways to use big fish.
- Improve fresh and frozen shelf life that result from new government transportation regulations.

Additional Priorities:

- Improve value-added processing, how to monetize waste products (better than fishmeal and fish oil).
- Non-lethal methods for prevention of bird depredation, possibly drones.
- Fish welfare, handling techniques, practices etc... how Europe is handling this issue. Need to evaluate what other Countries are doing and look at those practices to see if we can adapt

processes. Need to verify that what we are doing is the best process. We need to be ready to educate consumer that this is the best, most efficient, least stressful way to handle fish.

- Canada is developing a training program for fish welfare; there is a need for on-farm employees to understand how to handle fish properly.
- Need more work on the demand side of the industry. Need generate more data – marketing studies.
- Need projects that will help increase demand for catfish projects.
- Procure retail scanner data to give insight on purchasing.

LIST OF WEBINAR ATTENDEES

Name	Affiliation
Andrew Richard	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Ben Beck	USDA Agricultural Research Service
Ben LaFrentz	USDA Agricultural Research Service
Brittanie Gloyd	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Catherine Purcell	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Charlie Culpepper	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Cheng Lee	Hawaii Pacific University
Dave Straus	USDA Agricultural Research Service
David Scarfe	Aquatic Veterinary Associates International, LLC
Dehai Xu	USDA Agricultural Research Service
Erik Withalm	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ganesh Kumar	Mississippi State University
Graham Young	Western Regional Aquaculture Center
Jessica Fox	RALCO
Joe Morris	Iowa State University
John Bland	USDA Agricultural Research Service
Julie Hahn	Western Regional Aquaculture Center
Kasha Cox	Merck Animal Health
Kathleen Hartman	USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Katie Haman	Syndel
Kevin Schrader	USDA Agricultural Research Service
Les Torrans	USDA Agricultural Research Service
Margaret Parker	USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Maggie Ma	Hawaii Pacific University
Max Mayeaux	USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
Miles lange	USDA Agricultural Research Service
Portia Sapp	Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Rod Getchell	Cornell University
Russ McPherson	Harvest Select
Warren Hess	American Veterinary Medical Association