



Fish Health Section

Asian Fisheries Society

Secretariat: SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Tigbauan 5021, Iloilo, Philippines
Tel: (63-33) 335-1009, 336-2965, 336-2937; Fax: (63-33) 511-9070
E-mail: afs_fhs@aqd.seafdec.org.ph; Website: <http://afs-fhs.seafdec.org.ph>



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FHS Electronic Newsletter (September 2003)

Upcoming Events (Regional and International Conferences, Workshops/Seminars – with relevant sessions on aquatic animal health)

September 2003

- 11th International Conference European Association of Fish Pathologists, 21-26 September, 2003 will also feature EAFP Histopathology Workshop (Malta 2003) on 'Fish tumours'; and a workshop on "trends in research on *Perkinsus* spp.". Contact Dr. Francesc Padrós, Lab. Biol. Anim. Fac. Veterinaria, Univ. Auton. de Barcelona, Bellaterra, 08193 Barcelona, Spain T: +349 3 5812817, F: +349 3 5812006, E-mail: Francesc.Padros@uab.es; <http://www.eafpmalta2003.com/>
- Sixth International Symposium on Fish Parasites, 22-26 September 2003, Bloemfontein, South Africa. More information at http://www.parsa.ac.za/fish_sym.htm
- Asian-Pacific Aquaculture 2003, 22-25 September 2003, Bangkok, Thailand. More information at http://www.enaca.org/WASBrochure/WAS_AP2003.pdf

October 2003

- 3rd World Conference on Ornamental Fish Culture 'Advanced Technology in Fish Aquaculture, 30 October – 1 November 2003. Detailed information at <http://www.aquarama.com.sg/conference.html>

November 2003

- Second Meeting of the Regional Advisory Group on Aquatic Animal Health, 10-12 November 2003, NACA Headquarters, Bangkok, Thailand. Details at <http://www.enaca.org>
- A Plenary Session on Epidemiology and Control of Diseases in Aquatic Organisms is included in the 10th International Symposium for Veterinary Epidemiology and Economics (ISVEE), November 17-21, 2003, Santiago, Chile. For more information please visit <http://www.isvee10.cl> or contact info@isvee10.com
- Second SEAFDEC Hands-on Training for Important Viral Diseases of Shrimp and Marine Fish in Collaboration with OIE and NACA, 05 Nov - 21 Nov 2003, Tigbauan, Iloilo. Information at <http://www.seafdec.org.ph/training/viraldiseases.php>
- 23th Conference of the OIE Regional Commission for Asia, the Far East and Oceania, 25 to 28 November 2003, Noumea, New Caledonia

March 2004

- Special Session on Aquaculture Biosecurity at the World Aquaculture Society 2004, February 29 - March 4, 2004, Honolulu, Hawaii. Contact: Conference Manager, Phone: 760/432-4270, Fax: 760/432-4275, Email: worldaqua@aol.com, Website: <http://www.was.org>
- Regional Workshop on 'Building capacity to combat invasive alien species and trans-boundary pathogens in aquaculture in the ASEAN region', March 2004 (tentative)

FHS/AFS Executive Committee (2002-2005)

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Secretary-Treasurer: P Walker (Peter.Walker@csiro.au, Australia)

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September 2004

- 6th International Symposium for Viruses of Lower Vertebrates (The 6th ISVLV), Hakodate, Japan, 20-22 September 2004, Contact Site : Co-organizer Assoc. Prof. Nishizawa, T. Graduate School of Fisheries Sciences, Hokkaido University, Hakodate, 041-8611, Japan E-mail: jjnishi@fish.hokudai.ac.jp

Member Updates

With deep regret, we inform the FHS members of the demise of two fellow aquatic animal health scientists:

- Prof. Barry Munday, of University of Tasmania, passed away last 16 May 2003 after battling with cancer.
- Dr. Roselyn Duremdez, an Associate Research Scientist at the Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research (KISR), and formerly of the Fish Health Section, SEAFDEC-AQD, passed away last 31 July from a fatal car accident.

Congratulations to the following:

- Dan Fegan, recently appointed as President of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society; Dr Mike Rimmer (Australia) as President-elect.
- Kishio Hatai, recently elected as President of Mycological Society of Japan beginning April 2003 until 2005.
- Pi Lek (Dr. Kamonporn Tonguthai) on her retirement from government service and currently in Vietnam to join her husband in a World Bank project since April 2003.
- C.V. Mohan was hired as NACA's new Aquatic Animal Health Specialist from March 2003.
- Barry Hill has recently been re-elected as member for OIE's Fish Disease Commission as Vice-President.
- 8 of 10-Member Regional Advisory Group on Aquatic Animal Health are FHS members (see also regional/global news) with Dr Supranee Chinabut as Chairperson.
- K. Muroga has recently moved from Hiroshima University to Tohoku University to lead the research team on shellfish immunology.

We are growing... a warm welcome to the following new members of the FHS/AFS:

- **Australia:** Chris Baldock, Peter Beers, Angus Cameron, Ingo Ernst, Judith Handlinger, Craig Hayward, Stephen Pyecroft, Coco Kokarni Soetrisno, Richard Whittington
- **Bangladesh:** Md. Habibur Rahman
- **China:** Min Wang, Ying-Geng Wand
- **Denmark:** Ellen Ariel
- **Ecuador:** Lachlan Harris
- **Hong Kong SAR China:** Chi Fai Aaron Leung
- **India:** Jai Gopal Sharma, Janakiram Pasupuleti
- **Indonesia:** Agus Sunarto, Antonius Suwanto
- **Iran:** Seyed Saeed Mirzargar
- **Italy:** Flavio Corsin (currently at North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, US)
- **Japan:** Asmi Citra Malina Ar Tassakka, Naoki Itoh, Tohsihiro Nakai, Panarat Phadee, Kunika Wakita
- **Korea RO:** Myoung-Ae Park

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- **Mexico:** Ana Roque
- **Netherlands:** Justinus Vlak
- **Philippines:** Wilma Chua, Arthur de Vera
- **Singapore:** Susan Gibson-Kueh
- **Sri Lanka:** Sunil Niranjan Siriwardena, Priyanjalie Kumari Mary Wijegoonawardane
- **Thailand:** Thammanoon Jaturapahu, Pongpun Prasankok, Amornchai Somjetlertcharoen, Sushila KC Rana
- **U.K.:** Kenton Morgan

Regional and Global Project Updates and News

Asia-Pacific

- **Regional Advisory Group on Aquatic Animal Health (AG).** A group of experts on aquatic animal health whose function is to provide high level technical advise to NACA member governments on important issues concerning health management in the region. Formed in 2001, the outcome of the First AG Meeting (AGM-1) can be found at http://www.enaca.org/Newsletter/Newsletter_Oct-Dec-2002.pdf.

The members of the Advisory Group are:

Supraneer Chinabut (Thailand) – Chairperson

Eva Maria Bernoth (Australia)– Vice-Chairperson

Members: Jiang Yulin (China), Celia Pitogo (Philippines), Luc Grisez (Singapore), Dan Fegan (Thailand), Rohana Subasinghe (FAO), and OIE-Tokyo Representative

Technical Secretary: C.V. Mohan replacing MB Reantas

- **On-going and Upcoming Health Projects.**

Two new aquatic animal health projects have been approved for FAO funding under FAO's Technical Cooperation Program and one project under ASEAN-US Cooperation

- **“Health Management in Freshwater Aquaculture** (November 2002 to April 2004)” for Indonesia, a follow-up support project from the suspected KHV outbreak. The objectives of the project, which are in line with the recommendations of the Task Force, are: (a) strengthen diagnostic and control capabilities within the responsible state agencies for major diseases of cultured freshwater fish, including koi and common carp; (b) improve capacity for vulnerable rural aqua-farmers to face future outbreaks in their culture systems; (c) enhance national regulatory frameworks and legislature, improve biosecurity measures, and strengthen national disease surveillance and reporting, to reduce the risk of movement of pathogens, both nationally and internationally, through movement of live aquatic animals; and (d) develop and implement Indonesia's National Strategy on Aquatic Animal Health Management.
- **“Shrimp Disease Control and Coastal Management”** for India, another follow-up support to NACA/MPEDA's on shrimp diseases. The project will commence this year.
- **“Building capacity to combat invasive alien species and trans-boundary pathogens in aquaculture in the ASEAN region”** – a Joint ASEAN-U.S. Project on Invasive Alien Species in Aquaculture. This Project will primarily address ‘health, pathogens and IAS’ of aquatic animals and the implications and risks of trade and movement (introduction and transfers) on environmental health, biosecurity, and the broader issue of biodiversity and exotic species movement. NACA has

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been contracted to implement the project through a regional workshop that will be organized in 2004.

Latin America

- The FAO/RTCP/0710 **“Assistance to Shrimp Health Management in Latin Americas”** was successfully completed during a Final Workshop held in Ecuador from 27-30 May 2003. FHS Member Victoria Alday was Regional Coordinator of this program and participated by representatives from 13 countries in Latin America as well as Asian experts. Outcomes of this project are: (a) preparation of ‘Technical Guidelines for the Management of Health and Maintenance of Biosecurity in White *Shrimp* (*Penaeus vannamei*) Hatcheries in Latin America, (b) a continuing regional communications network (AquahealthLAC-L@mailserv.fao.org) and (c) a proposed establishment of the Fish Health Society in Latin America. Those interested to join this list, please contact Rohana.Subasinghe@fao.org.

Asia and Americas

- The APEC FWG 01/2002 **“Capacity and awareness building on Import Risk Analysis (IRA) for Aquatic Animals”** was successfully completed with two training/workshops on IRA held in Bangkok, Thailand (April 2002) and Mazatlan, Mexico (August 2002). Representatives from some 40 countries in Asia-Pacific and Latin America including private sector representatives participated in this project. The Technical Report of the Workshop is in the final stages of completion and an IRA Manual for Aquatic Animal Movement is expected before end of the year. Examples of follow-up national level activities resulting from this project are the following: (a) in Singapore is carrying out an ornamental fish disease surveillance for important ornamental fish diseases such as SVCV, VHS, IPN and IHN and KHV for koi; an Epidemiology Unit within AVA will also be established to carry out IRA; (b) in Thailand, a project to conduct an IRA on Pacific white shrimp, *Penaeus vannamei* will be undertaken by AAHRI involving an intensive survey of farms/hatcheries from June to September 2003. The project is funded by Thailand’s National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS).
- APEC FWG recently approved a project to conduct a **‘A Feasibility Study on the Establishment of an Inter-Governmental Mechanism for the Development and Management of an Aquaculture Network in the Americas’**, a proposal drafted by the United States in response to tremendous support for a regional collaborative mechanism for sharing aquaculture technical expertise. This study will look specifically at the role of a new mechanism in promoting food safety and aquatic animal health. Project will be implemented in 2004 by FHS members MB Reantaso, MJ Phillips, RP Subasinghe and V Alday de Graindorge. Two APEC FWG funded health projects that this proposal extends or complements are: (a) Trans-boundary Aquatic Animal Pathogen Transfer and the Development of Harmonized Standards on Aquaculture Health Management (FWG 03/2000); and (b) Capacity and Awareness Building on Import Risk Analysis (IRA) for Aquatic Animals (FWG 01/2002)

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Global

- **Fish Disease Commission (FDC) of the OIE**, is one of four specialist commissions of the OIE whose mandate is to compile information on diseases of fish, molluscs and crustaceans, and on methods used to control these diseases. The FDC produces the International Aquatic Animal Health Code and Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases to fulfil its remit to propose the most appropriate diagnostic and disease prevention and control methods to ensure safe international trade or movement of aquatic animals. Three major areas of FDC activities are: (a) provision of advice and guidance; provision of information; and organization of scientific conferences on special themes. The new members of the FDC elected in May 2003 are:
 - President: Eva Maria Bernoth (Australia)
 - Vice-President: Barry Hill (United Kingdom)
 - Members: Ricardo Enriquez (Chile), Franck Berthe (France), and Eli Rwakishaya Katunguka (Uganda)
 - Permanent Observer: FAO represented by RP Subasinghe
- **MolluscanHealthOne List** (MolluscanHealthOne-L@mailserv.fao.org) was launched in December 2002 following successful completion of Phase II of the Asia-Pacific Molluscan Health Management Program held in conjunction with DAA5. An Aquaculture Health list (Aquahealthlac-l@mailserv.fao.org) has also been recently set up by FAO as a continuing regional network communication following completion of the FAO TCP on Shrimp Health Management in the Americas. Anybody interested to join may contact RP Subasinghe of FAO at Rohana.Subasinghe@fao.org
- An **Expert Consultation on 'Surveillance and Zoning for Aquatic Animal Diseases'** jointly organized by FAO, the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO-Canada) and OIE was held in October 2002 at the FAO Headquarters in Rome, Italy to determine what surveillance options can best support scientifically valid zonation frameworks. The objective of the Expert Consultation was to provide recommendations for surveillance and zonation that will be useful for designing national programmes aimed at reducing the risks of disease losses through live transfers of aquatic animals. These recommendations are aimed solely at providing scientific advice to member countries building national or regional aquatic animal health infrastructures. The Report of the Expert Consultation is in preparation.
- **AAPQIS – Aquatic Animal Pathogen and Information System**. One of major outcome of the FAO/NACA Regional Programme on Aquatic Animal Health Management – is currently being re-engineered with the following chapters: AAPQIS Asia- Pacific: NACA (Thailand); AAPQIS Latin America: Unidad Mazatlan de Ciad (Mexico); AAPQIS- Africa: World Fish Centre (Egypt); AAPQIS North America: Cooperative Oxford Laboratory (MD, USA)
- **A potentially good opportunity for FHS members to get involved! Aquaculture Compendium**, a new project being developed by CAB *International* and a number of partner organizations, is a versatile reference and problem solving resource which contains a taxonomic and systems-based framework, and displayed in an extremely user-friendly format to be available in CD-ROM format and also via the internet. The compendium, a comprehensive resource which hopes to offer quick and easy access to global information on aquaculture, will make use of existing databases and other aquaculture-related information. It includes a specific section that will help users to determine solutions for identifying, solving and preventing health problems in different production systems, including detailed coverage of pests and diseases. The compendium will be developed and funded through a consortium of donor

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agencies, technical bodies as well as private sector. Target audience are extension officers, commercial producers, feed and chemical industry, seed producers, aquatic health specialists, policy makers, planners, research scientists, quarantine officers, lecturers, students, processing and export industries. For more information and/or inquiry, please contact compnd@cabi.org.

Publications

Recent Publications:

- Atlas of histology and cytology of marine bivalve molluscs by H. Grizel (ed.), 202 p. Francasi-Anglais, 2003. <http://www.ifremer.fr>
- Primary Aquatic Animal Health Care in Rural, Small-scale Aquaculture Development. Available at <http://www.enaca.org/Health/Publications.htm>
- Asia-Pacific Quarterly Aquatic Animal Disease Reports (9 issues in pdf format). Available at <http://www.enaca.org/Health/Publications.htm>

Available via world wide web

- Documents from Asia Technical Cooperation Program on Aquatic Animal Health
 - <http://www.enaca.org/NACA-Publications/ADG-complete.pdf> (3.36 MB)
 - <http://www.enaca.org/NACA-Publications/AsiaRegionalTechnicalGuidelines.pdf> (420 kb)
 - <http://www.enaca.org/NACA-Publications/Manual-of-Procedures.pdf> (742 kb)
- APEC Health projects
 - Grouper diseases:
<http://www.enaca.org/Grouper/Publications/ResearchProgramOnGrouperVirus.pdf> (1.49 MB)
 - Puerto Vallarta: <http://www.enaca.org/Shrimp/Publications/Other1.pdf> (1.89 MB)
 - Development of a Regional Risk Management Framework for APEC Economies for Use in the Control and Prevention of Introduced Marine Pests at
http://crimp.marine.csiro.au/reports/APEC_Report.pdf
 - Health and Husbandry Management of Grouper
http://apecsun.apecsec.org.sg/download/pubs/FWG_HusbandryMgmtGper.pdf
- Shrimp Farming/Case Studies
 - Cebu Workshop: <http://www.enaca.org/Shrimp/Case/Global/CEBU/FinalCEBU.pdf>
 - NACA/MPEDA Project (India): http://www.enaca.org/Shrimp/Publications/NACA-MPEDA_Workshop_Summary.pdf
- OIE: <http://www.oie.org>
 - International Aquatic Animal Health Code
 - Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases
- ACIAR
 - Surveillance Toolbox for Aquatic Animal Diseases, authored by A Cameron, this monograph is aimed at people working in the area of aquatic animal diseases and production. Available at: [http://www.aciar.gov.au/web.nsf/doc/JFRN-5J46ZY/\\$file/MN94.pdf](http://www.aciar.gov.au/web.nsf/doc/JFRN-5J46ZY/$file/MN94.pdf)

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Aquatic Animal Health Opportunities

- **Post-Doctoral Opportunity on aquatic animal health in Korea RO**, please contact Dr Albert Choi at skchoi@cheju.cheju.ac.kr.
- **Veterinary Pathologist Fish Disease (Hong Kong)**. The Hong Kong Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation is seeking an experienced veterinary pathologist with a minimum of 7 years' post-graduate veterinary experience in veterinary diagnostic pathology in laboratories conducting testing on fish and livestock diseases; and (c) grade E or above in English Language (Syllabus B) the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination, or equivalent. Duties are to provide scientific and technical advice and input on animal health, disease diagnosis and detection in a NATA accredited diagnostic veterinary pathology laboratory servicing both land and water based animal production industries. He/She is required to lead, direct, and initiate diagnostic, investigative, monitoring, and clinical services for the local aquaculture/mariculture industries; to undertake veterinary diagnostic pathology in aquatic and terrestrial animals; to ensure that appropriate support is provided to the industries to control and prevent diseases; to maintain laboratory preparedness to investigate exotic and major endemic disease incidents; to promote public health; and to manage relevant administrative activities of the laboratory. Full details available from: <http://hkucsb.hku.hk:8080/csb/advertsys/ejob/jobdetail?id=4372&version=E>

Past Aquatic Animal Health Events

- Advanced Fish Medicine, March 23-29, 2003, Contact: Dr. Ruth Francis-Floyd, Phone: 352/392-9617 Fax: 352/392-3672, Email: rff@mail.ifas.ufl.edu, <http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fishmed>
- 3rd International Symposium on Fish Vaccinology, 9-11 April 2003, Bergen, Norway. More information at <http://www.veso.no/courses/fishvaccinology/index.html>
- 95th Meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association, April 13-17, 2003, New Orleans, Louisiana. More information at <http://www.shellfish.org>
- Fish Immunology Workshop II, 21-25 April 2003, Wageningen, The Netherlands. More information at <http://www.zod.wau.nl/cbi/CURSUSSEN/FISH%20VACCINATION/index.htm>
- 28th Annual Eastern Fish Health Workshop, April 21-25, 2003, Gettysburg, PA, USA. More information at <http://www.lsc.usgs.gov/fhb/workshops/28/28fhw.asp> or contact E-mail: rocco_cipriano@usgs.gov
- 9th International Congress of the International Society for Development and Comparative Immunology, 29 June to 4 July 2003, University of Saint Andrews, Scotland. More information at <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~seeb/ISDCI/home.htm>
- June 9–20—Shrimp Pathology Short Course: Disease Diagnosis and Control in Marine Shrimp Culture, Tucson, AZ. See <http://microvet.arizona.edu/research/aquapath/shortcou.htm>. Contact : Donald Lightner, wcm@uarizona.edu, 520/621-8414
- 6th International Conference on Sea Lice, July 2-5, 2003, St Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada. Contact: Dr Mark J Costello, The Huntsman Marine Science Centre, 1 Lower Campus Road, St Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada E5B 2L7. Fax: +1 506 529 1212, email: astevens@huntsmanmarine.ca
- Session on Animal and Ecosystem Health chaired by A Diamant (Israel) and R Stagg (UK) at the Aquaculture Europe 2003 Conference, August 8-11, 2003, Trondheim, Norway. Information at <http://easonline.org/agenda/en/AquaEuro2003/default.asp>

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- Shrimp Health Management Training Workshop, 18-23 August, Bangkok, Thailand organised by AAHRI and NACA. More information at <http://www.enaca.org>
- An on-line course 'Principles of Health Management in Aquaculture', 2 June to 12 September 2003, SEAFDEC-AQD, Tigbauan, Iloilo

FHS/AFS Executive Committee (2002-2005)

Chairperson: MB Reantaso (mreantaso@dnr.state.md.us, Philippines); **Vice-Chairperson:** T Aoki (aoki@tokyo-u-fish.ac.jp, Japan);

Secretary-Treasurer: P Walker (Peter.Walker@csiro.au, Australia)

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