

Overview OF DAAs past & present

FHS is now recognized as one of the most successful networks in Asia and the DAA events are much sought after by aquatic animal health researchers to showcase their research. What started in Bali, Indonesia in 1990 in a small way has moved through Phuket, Thailand (1993), Bangkok, Thailand (1996), Cebu, The Philippines (1999), Gold Coast, Australia (2002), Colombo, Sri Lanka (2005), Taipei, Taiwan (2008) and now Mangalore, India (2011).

The Eighth Symposium on “Diseases in Asian Aquaculture” (DAA8) was held at the Milagres Church Hall in Mangalore on 21-25 November, 2011. DAAs are held once in 3 years in a country in the Asian Pacific region. The DAA8 conference Secretariat was headed by Dr. Indrani Karunasagar and Dr K M Shankar with their team from College of Fisheries Mangalore, Karnataka Animal Science and Fisheries University, India. FHS Excom headed by Prof. Grace Lo and the International Scientific Program Committee headed by Dr C V Mohan coordinated various activities in the one year period leading up to the DAA8 in Mangalore.

The event was inaugurated by Joint Secretary of the Union Agriculture Ministry and graced by FHS Chairperson, NACA Director-General, FAO Director of Fisheries Policy Services, Vice Chancellor of Karnataka Veterinary, Animal & Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar and Dean (Fisheries) who is also Chairperson of DAA 8. An inaugural dinner was held in Hotel Mothi Mahal.

116 scientists from 22 countries and a total of 200 local fish health scientists, not counting the hundreds of post graduate students from India attended the 5-day symposium.



A blessing ceremony at the DAA8 opening



Appreciation of veteran, Prof. HPC Shetty, first Dean of the College of Fisheries, Mangalore

Cultural dance by children of the College of Fisheries staff members



One of the many sumptuous meals

Indian institutions such as Coastal Aquaculture Authority, CIFA Bhubaneswar, CIBA Chennai, CMFRI Cochin and NBFGR Lucknow exhibited their activities at booths during the symposium. Representatives from a good number of international companies involved in aquatic products such as GeneReach, PHARMAQ, Virbac India, Novus International and Intervet Singapore attended DAA8.

The theme of DAA 8 was “Fish Health for Food Security”. Over the 5 days, 4 thematic, 24 key note and 47 contributed papers were presented in 13 technical sessions covering disease, diagnostics, vaccines, genomics, disease preparedness and national plans. There were also 170 poster presentations.



Attendance going strong at Day 4 into DAA8



The exceptional quality of the oral presentations kept all minds engaged.



The poster sessions are equally well attended



A banquet was held at Taj Manjuran Hotel at the close of DAA8 on 24 Nov, and attended by 400 delegates. Awards were given for the best poster in separate categories during the closing conference dinner. Two cultural events and three sight-seeing visits to local temples, National parks and the famous Mangalore beach were enjoyed by participants during the week.



A tale told by the teacher and her group of students at the DAA8 banquet night to a captivated audience.