

Physiological Insights Towards Improving Fish Culture

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The Triennial Aquaculture Meeting “Aquaculture 2007,” one of the largest aquaculture meetings in the world, cosponsored by the World Aquaculture Society, National Shellfish Association, and American Fisheries Society (AFS) Fish Culture Section, was held February 26 through March 2, 2007, in San Antonio, Texas. At this meeting, the AFS Fish Culture and Fish Physiology Sections co-organized a symposium entitled “Physiological Insights Towards Improving Fish Culture.”

The symposium goals included providing a forum that would allow fish physiologists and aquaculturists to exchange scientific ideas, establish research collaborations, and work to improve finfish production using recent developments in basic and applied research. The symposium focused on four primary aspects of fish physiology and aquaculture: growth, reproduction, stress and immunology, and analgesia and anesthesia.

Fifty presentations covered a diversity of species reared in a variety of production systems. The symposium was very well attended and was widely considered a success, as evidenced in part by the collection of articles published in this issue of the North American Journal of Aquaculture. It is clear that physiologists and aquaculturists working together can solve many of the key problems currently constraining the sustainable growth of world aquaculture.

We wish to thank the symposium sponsors (Yellow Springs Instruments, Inc., and Aquatic Eco-Systems), the AFS Fish Culture and Fish Physiology Sections, and all of the scientists who participated in this inaugural symposium. The AFS Fish Culture and Fish Physiology Sections intend to host this symposium at all future Triennial Aquaculture Meetings, and we invite you to join us in San Diego in 2010.

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Received August 23, 2007; accepted August 23, 2007
Published online March 27, 2008