

Editorial

After two successful International Symposia (1990 in Guelph, Canada and 1994 in Rebild, Denmark), the increasing importance of marine aquaculture in the Mediterranean countries makes Portugal an ideal setting for the III International Symposium on Nutritional Strategies and Management of Aquaculture Waste (NSMAW).

The previous symposia defined the scope of the problem, provided some schemes designed to resolve it and reviewed government regulations, particularly Danish regulations. However, the increasingly stringent limits on levels of marine aquaculture waste that will be permitted in the near future render urgent the need for appropriate strategies to meet those standards and to gather information which will permit the establishment of models to predict the environmental impact of marine aquaculture.

Aquaculture waste originates mostly from the feed, thus the first challenge of managing aquaculture waste clearly lies in nutritional strategies of 'reduction at the source', namely improving the digestibility of feeds, balancing of nutrients and energy and optimizing feeding regimes.

It was therefore important and fully justified that industry, government decision makers and scientists meet again for a third time to exchange experimental data, ideas and views to achieve these common goals and to especially focus on marine aquaculture operations.

I am greatly indebted to many people without whose help the meeting would not have been the success it was. First and foremost are our Local Organizing Committee and Scientific Committee members (Drs E. Gomes, A. Gouveja, A. Oliva-Teles, A.M. Pimentel-Rodrigues, A. Fontainhas Fernandes, Portugal and Dr S.J. Kaushik, France), who did most of this hard work with a 'no problem!' philosophy. All participants appreciated the scientific support and hospitality of the Universidade de Tras-os-Montes e Alto Douro and Universidade do Porto, Portugal. It is most appropriate to publish the III Proceedings in the journal, Aquatic Living Resources, the mandate of which is captured by the Symposium logo.

The IV NSMAW Symposium will likely be held in the year 2000 in Japan and be organized by Prof. T. Watanabe, Tokyo University of Fisheries, who was an early initiator of nutritional strategies instead of the chemical and physical approach. If the Symposium can not be held in Japan, it is always welcome in Guelph, Canada!

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I and II NSMAW Symposium Proceedings

Cowey C.B., Cho C.Y. (Eds.), Nutritional Strategies and Aquaculture Waste, Proc. First International Symposium, 1990, University of Guelph-OMNR, Guelph, Ontario, Canada, 1991, 275 p. ISBN 0-88955-294-0.

Cowey C.B. (Ed.), Nutritional Strategies and Management of Aquaculture Waste, Proc. Second International Symposium, 1994, Rebild, Denmark, Water Science and Technology, vol. 3, n° 10, 1995, 262 p. ISSN 0273-1223.