



Hoosier Fish Tales

Mission Statement: The IAAI (Indiana Aquaculture Association, Incorporated) enables aquaculture producers by promoting, marketing, educating, and nurturing aquaculture and aquaculture research in Indiana.



One of Glynn Barber's (IAAI VP) Aquaponic Systems Work In Progress
Photo courtesy of Glynn Barber

In this edition

President's Letter
.....Page 2

Why not consider aquaponics?Page 2

Course in Michigan for RAS & Aquaponic Systems
.....Pages 3

Quick Quiz Answer
.....Page 3

Buy And Sell Aquaculture EquipmentPage 4

Aquaponics Nation & The Global Aquaculture Advocate.....Page 4

IAAI Aquaculture Workshop October 5, 2013Page 5

List of IAAI Officers and Executive Board Members
.....Pages 6-7



Photo by Cecil Baird

Quick Quiz

Which of the three methods of aquaponics culture does this photo show?

- A.) Media based
- B.) Nutrient Film Technique (NFT)
- C.) Raft Culture

Answer on page 3

The IAAI Newsletter is produced 4 times a year and is available at <http://www.indianaaquaculture.com>

IAAI is grateful for the generous support of the our sponsors.





President's Letter

Ladies and Gentleman,

Fall is just around the corner and it's almost time for our fall meeting. As you can see it's in a different part of the state, which as I indicated in a previous newsletter IAAI will be moving around the state to bring in new members by making our meetings more accessible to all parts of the state. As past president of a different trade organization, we found that this not only made our annual meeting more accessible, but it was a real shot in the arm when it came to new membership. Of course some didn't want to make the drive once it was not in their area, but those people weren't that committed anyway.

We'll be covering: "Why aquaculture?" "The economic impact of the aquaculture industry," "Who do you talk to," and "What does one need to do before start up." Also things like, "Can I use my pond, barn?" etc.

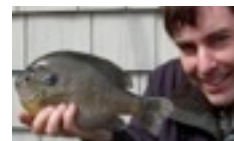
I'm excited to have folks in the industry for a panel discussion on growing fish in ponds, recirculating systems, cages, and aquaponics.

We'll also discuss what marketing practices really work and the financial/risk and considerations.

Please stay tuned for a more details as we are still waiting for commitments from more sponsors, which effects the order of the schedule. We hope to have several vendors in booths at the show also.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Scottsburg that came to Shippshewanna last spring along with a lot of new faces!

Sincerely,
Cecil D. Baird



Why Not Consider Aquaponics?

by Cecil Baird

If you have an interest in recirculating aquaculture but haven't investigated how integrating plant production into your proposed system can add profits and benefit your fish, you may be short changing yourself. Why not investigate the possibility before you get locked in and your facility is less flexible?

Why should you consider it? Well, for one thing, in many cases plants are a more lucrative market than the

fish in an aquaponic system. Yes that's right. Many aquaponics systems are tilted toward plant production with the fish a bonus side product that provides the nutrients the fish need. The fish and their wastes in conjunction with biological nitrification -- whether it be with a biofilter or the bacteria growing on the plant roots and containers -- or both, are the catalyst for the plant production. That said there is no reason why a producer can't have his cake and eat it too.

So what are the specific reasons for integrating plant production into a recirculating system?

1. Increased profit as in another product to sell to increase the bottom line and justify the capital expense that is the downside to the set up of a commercial aquaculture recirculation system.

2. The plant roots, media (in the case of media based system), and containment units provide surface area for nitrification which is integral in oxidizing ammonia to nitrites and nitrites to nitrates. In many



UVI (University of Virgin Islands) system



Aquaponics (continued)

cases aquaponic systems don't need a separate biofilter unit.

3. Although nitrates, which are the final product of nitrification cycle, are allegedly benign to many fish species vs. ammonia and nitrites, one of the reasons for water changes is to reduce their concentration. The use of plants to uptake these nitrates is a win/win for the fish and the plants, and can reduce the need for water changes. Additionally new research is showing nitrates may not be as benign as we once thought, especially with species such as trout.

4. Media based aquaponics systems also remove solid wastes which can alleviate the need for repeated mechanical waste disposal.

DOWNSIDERS OF AQUAPONICS VS. STRAIGHT RECIRCULATING SYSTEMS

With everything there is a downside. In the case of planning aquaponics more square footage, containment units, and lighting is needed for indoor aquaponics for the plants. One has to decide if it's worth the expense. Even if one determines the additional capital outlay will pay for itself in a prescribed amount of time, one has to decide if he wants to make that capital outlay.

Additionally plants like any other crop will add more labor hours to plant and harvest.

Course in Michigan for RAS & Aquaponic Systems

Aqua Growers is excited to announce the 2nd **Engineering Design of Commercial RAS & Aquaponic Systems** Seminar in Michigan through Cornell University. The course is being taught by Dr. Michael Timmons and Dr. James Ebeling and will be held at Cabela's in Dundee, Michigan on October 31st through November 2nd, 2013. It will be 3 full days of packed information for those wanting to learn more about RAS Recirculating Systems.

The Course:

A three day course that provides in-depth training on design, operation, and management of recirculating systems (RAS) for culturing fish species and practical training in the design and development of sustainable Aquaponic systems which is a combination of aquaculture (fish) and hydroponics (plants). Topics cover design criteria and system construction, water reconditioning and management of water quality, solids removal, disinfection, biofiltration, hydraulics, pump selection and aeration. Provides practical engineering based design criteria for successful commercial Aquaculture and Aquaponic systems. At the conclusion of the workshop, individuals will have the essential information necessary to design, construct and manage their own RAS systems and have a fundamental knowledge of the principles influencing the numerous design options. In addition, a tour of an Aquaponics Facility (educational venue) in Livonia, MI that is in full operation will be for further educational value.

Interesting Article Courtesy of YSI (The Yellow Springs Instrument Company)

Is Chronic Exposure to Nitrate Nitrogen a Hidden Danger to Trout in Recirculating Aquaculture Systems?

Click on this link to read the article.

<http://www.ysi.com/media/pdfs/A597-Chronic-Exposure-to-Nitrate-Nitrogen-on-Rainbow-Trout.pdf>

Quick Quiz Answer

Answer: C.) Raft Culture

Raft culture utilizes a flow through system whereby nutrient rich water originates in the fish tank, and by the process of nitrification -- and minerals, elements, and compounds in the water -- promotes the growth of the plants. The plants typically start as seedlings in net pots imbedded in a floating foam board producing extensive root growth into the water column.





Want to buy/sell aquaculture equipment and help the IAAI?

by Rob Wibbeler

Looking to buy or sell aquaculture equipment?

In addition to listservs offered by Ohio and Indiana aquaculture associations the board of directors recently approved IAAI to become a participating organization of AgList.org.



About AgList.org

AgList.org is an online classified listings source for agriculture products, services, employment opportunities, and the like, with proceeds from items listed used to protect and promote agriculture. The organization was founded in the spring of 2013 by prominent members of California's agriculture industry with the goal of supporting local farmers and the farming community. AgList.org stands far above other classified listing sources by serving users, offering a forum for visitors to buy and sell new and used agriculture products and services, while also serving to protect and promote the agriculture industry by donating proceeds from item listing fees to participating, industry-representing Associations nationwide.

How It Works

Proceeds from listing fees on AgList.org are donated to the Association of the seller's choice and are used to protect and promote agriculture and the agriculture industry.

When someone posts a new classified, the majority of the listing fee is donated. The 85% is correct, but is subject to change up or down and something the board would be appraised of.

Here's a little more detail:

Let's say I want to sell an item, I simply Register or Log In then click the Post New link at the top of the page to post a new ad.

Then I fill out the appropriate fields in the listing process. (Please note: To Feature an ad on the home page of AgList.org an additional fee will apply.)

During this listing process, I will be asked to select the organization that I would like my listing fee to be donated to.

At the end of each fiscal quarter AgList.org then sends the allocated donations to the appropriate organization(s) chosen by the seller(s).

That's it! So by simply listing your product on AgList.org you are helping promote and protect our agriculture industry.



Aquaponics Nation is website forum for aquaponic enthusiasts. Its a great site for finding answers and asking questions about aquaponics.

The site was originally called Aquaponics Headquarters but had a name change and also need to change their website address. The current address is:

<http://aquaponicsnation.com/forums/>



The Advocate, the magazine for the Global Aquaculture Alliance now offers the ability to search for articles on their website. The database contains 13 years of articles. Quite a wealth of information for aquaculturists.

To search the magazine database, go to:

<http://www.gaalliance.org/magazine/searcharticles.php>



Save the date Aquaculture Workshop October 5, 2013



Aquaculture is growing, is it for you?

Thinking of starting an aquaculture business?
Wanting to expand your farming business?

Learn about the business of aquaculture and the significance of this growing industry. Did you know that 91% of seafood consumed in the US is imported? Why not grow locally? Want to learn more?

Register today for this informative workshop!
Go to www.indianaaquaculture.com or call (317) 417-0090.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Why aquaculture?
 - Economic impact of the aquaculture industry.
- Who can I talk to?
 - What do I need to do before start up?
- Can I use my pond? My barn?
 - Panel discussions on best practices for growing in ponds, cages, recirculating systems.
- What marketing practices really work? Really?
- What are some of the financial/risk considerations?
- How about aquaponics?

Reservations for this workshop are requested as seating is limited.

IAAI members - \$40, visitors - \$60.

Call (317) 417-0090 today to receive early registration discount and save \$10.

Saturday October 5, 2013

9am-4pm

Mid-America Science Park

Scottsburg, IN 47170



This event is sponsored by generous donations from:





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Comment on bylaw changes discussion at the fall meeting

Don't forget we will be discussing proposed changes to the bylaws, and if no one objects we will vote on those changes at the meeting! You should all have received a copy of those proposed changes and the original bylaws.

Thank you!
Cecil Baird - IAAI President