

Aquaculture news alert (sent by email 3 February 2014)

This Seafish aquaculture industry news e-alert covers news items, legislation and reports.

The next meeting of the Aquaculture Common Issues Group will be on Wednesday 9 April at Fishmongers' Hall. Please let me know if there are any particular topics that you would like on the agenda. E: k_green@seafish.co.uk

Consultations/legislation

SARF Call for proposals - PROJECT SARFSP007 Fish Oil / Fishmeal / Marine Ingredients / Plant Oil / Lap Issues. 6-9 month project to start May/June 2014.

To inform the ongoing debate on the future supply of farmed salmon into international markets, SARF requires a desk-based review of the nutritional, ethical, marketing and sustainability issues surrounding a reduction in our reliance on high levels of marine ingredients and the substitution of high quality terrestrial or other ingredients. The project will include: review all aspects of salmon nutrition and the different sources and types of feed ingredients available currently and in the future (including health and production characteristics of the salmon in Scottish farming systems and the composition of farmed salmon in relation to its beneficial effects on human consumers); and review current trends in / understanding of human nutrition in so far as it relates to farmed salmon as an element of diet. Assist in the preparation of short pamphlet/leaflet for dissemination to lay audiences. Deadline for applications is 21 March 2014. Contact:

Richard Slaski E: r.slaski@sarf.org.uk T: 01738 479486

John Webster E: jwebster@scottishsalmon.co.uk T: 01738 587000

Certification

GSSI Update. January 2014.

The GSSI has installed three Expert Working Groups on Aquaculture, Fishery and Processes, each of which has started their work with regular meetings starting in October 2013. The GSSI website <http://www.ourGSSI.org> is now live as a central communication channel to provide interested stakeholders with relevant and up-to-date information. Planning for the Annual GSSI Conference has begun, and is scheduled to follow the Boston Seafood Show on the 18 March 2014. The Chair of the Aquaculture EWG is Iain Shone, Lyons Seafood; Anton Immink, Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP is the Vice Chair; Matthew Thompson, New England Aquarium and Piers Hart, Aquaculture Policy Officer, WWF are expert consultants.

GAA - Draft of BAP Hatchery Standards Available for Public Comment. 28 January 2014.

A draft of the Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) hatchery and nursery standards for finfish, crustaceans and mollusks is now available for public comment for 60 days. The BAP hatchery standards for finfish, crustaceans and mollusks apply to all species for which BAP farm standards exist, including shrimp, salmon, tilapia, catfish, Pangasius and mussels.

<http://www.gaalliance.org/newsroom/news.php?Draft-Of-BAP-Hatchery-Standards-Available-For-Public-Comment-145>

GAA Signs MoU With Australasian Organization. January 2014.

The Global Aquaculture Alliance (GAA) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Seafood Importers Association of Australasia (SIAA), in which the two organizations will work collaboratively to advance responsible aquaculture.

<http://www.gaalliance.org/newsroom/news.php?BAP-Program-Experiences-Robust-Growth-in-2013-144>

BAP Program Experiences Robust Growth in 2013. January 2014.

The Global Aquaculture Alliance's (GAA) Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) third-party certification program had a fruitful 2013, experiencing robust growth in terms of the number of BAP-certified facilities and the volume of product from BAP-certified facilities available in the marketplace. This included a 31% increase in the number of facilities certified, a 29% increase in the volume of product originating from BAP-certified processing plants and a 57% increase in the volume of product originating from BAP-certified farms. Progress also came in standards development in 2013. In April, new BAP finfish and crustacean farm standards were completed, opening up the BAP program to a number of species not previously covered, including sea bass, sea bream, cobia, trout and barramundi.

<http://www.gaalliance.org/newsroom/news.php?BAP-Program-Experiences-Robust-Growth-In-2013-144>

ASC - First salmon farm achieves ASC certification. 9 January 2014.

The Villa Arctic AS Jarfjord Farm in Norway is the first salmon farm to be awarded Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) certification.

<http://www.asc-aqua.org/index.cfm?act=update.detail&uid=182&lng=1>

Reports/brochures/web sites/presentations

Globefish reports

Shrimp January 2014

<http://www.globefish.org/shrimp-january-2014.html>

United Kingdom aquaculture market reached value of £660mn in 2013. 24 January 2014.

The aquaculture market in the United Kingdom is highly cyclical. Scottish-farmed salmon generates more than 90% of industry revenue. Salmon production is very responsive to changes in global salmon prices, which are, in turn, susceptible to changes in global demand and supply conditions. This has been in evidence during the past five years, as the industry has enjoyed strong but volatile growth. The industry leapt back to growth of 14.6% in 2012-13, as global salmon prices rebounded sharply and export demand soared. Strong growth of 5.4% is estimated for 2013-14 as salmon prices ease. During the five years through 2013-14, revenue is estimated to grow at a compound annual rate of 5.5% to £660.1 million. Price of report is £495.

<http://www.companiesandmarkets.com/Market/Agriculture-Farming-Raw-Materials/Market-Research/Aquaculture-in-the-UK-Industry-Market-Research-Report/RPT1212690?aCode=e7702a5b-ad88-47dd-bb7a-a58072d4bda2>

General news

Vietnam shrimp: Are you getting what you paid for? 3 February 2014.

One to watch - industry watchers have reported rampant and illegal use of agar-agar to increase weights in farmed shrimp in Vietnam. Injected in the head and the body of shrimp -- particularly black tigers -- agar-agar, a plant-based gelatin that can be bought in supermarkets and health stores across Asia, is allegedly used to increase weight <http://www.intrafish.com/news/article1385157.ece> For a copy of the article E: k_green@seafish.co.uk

How to Achieve Good Health and Welfare of Farmed Fish. 30 January 2014.

Dr Peter Southgate, Fish Vet Group, talks about how farmers can achieve good health and welfare management and what diseases are currently causing problems around the world.

<http://www.thefishsite.com/fishnews/22334/how-to-achieve-good-health-and-welfare-of-farmed-fish#sthash.mksHYbno.dpuf>

EU Project to Promote Organic Aquaculture. 17 January 2014.

A new EU project aims to identify obstacles in regulations and rules that must be changed to increase the production of organic fish. The objective is to pave the way for increased organic aquaculture in Europe. The project title is "OrAqua – European Organic Aquaculture – Science based recommendations for further development of the EU regulatory framework and to underpin future growth in the sector".

<http://www.nofima.no/en/nyhet/2014/01/eu-project-on-organic-aquaculture-started>

EJF report: Impossibly Cheap: Abuse and Injustice in Bangladesh's Shrimp Industry. 16 January 2014.

In a new report, the Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF) has revealed evidence of human rights and labour abuses taking place in the Bangladesh shrimp industry. The supply chain is plagued with economic, labour and social issues and workers face exploitative working conditions. Featuring testimonies recorded during investigations in 2012 the report documents examples of hazardous working conditions, the use of child labour, bonded labour, withholding of pay, excessively low wages, health and safety violations, restricted union activities, verbal abuse and excessive hours.

<http://ejfoundation.org/shrimp/impossiblycheapreport>

IFFO letter to The Independent re article: '[First nutrient-enriched GM crops could be grown in the UK within months](#)'. 24 January 2014.

I read with interest the announcement that Rothamsted Research has developed genetically modified plants to produce oils normally found in fish. One of the justifications given for the research was the threat of overfishing which, although a concern, is not unavoidable. Your readers will be interested to know that approximately 40% of the world's production of fish oil comes from sources that have been assessed against an independent standard.....Increasing amounts of marine protein and oil now come from recycled trimmings and offcuts from fish processing...Furthermore, major animal feed companies, through their support for fish oil, are incentivising fishery improvement programs.... Another developing market which should not be ignored is the culture of non-genetically modified marine algae....Finally, it is important to remember that farmed fish are given Omega 3 oils partly for their own health but mainly as an important way to provide the human consumer with these essential nutrients. Marine ingredients have an essential role to play in human health and the farming of fish and other animals to feed our growing population. <http://www.iffonet.net/node/536>

Developments at EWOS. January 2014.

EWOS has developed sophisticated health feeds that support farmed salmon through recovery from inflammatory diseases like pancreas disease (PD), heart skeletal muscle inflammation (HSML) and cardio-myopathy syndrome (CMS). The results are improved growth and survival. This has led to the successful development of the combined clinical diet, EWOS alpha. The scientific investigation has been conducted with leading, independent research institutes and five PhD programmes have also been associated with the EWOS alpha development. The results will be presented at a Tri-Nations meeting in Trondheim on 4 February.

<http://www.ewos.com/wps/wcm/connect/ewos-content-group/ewos-group/news/latest-news/ewos+presents+documentation+for+combined+health+feed+approach>

Forthcoming aquaculture events in 2014

28 March **IFFO/JCI Fishmeal and Fish Oil forum**, Xiamen, Fujian Province, China

<http://www.iffonet/event-calendar> and <http://www.icichina.com/company/icizh/>

1-3 May **IFFO Members meeting**, London <http://www.iffonet>

6-8 May **European Seafood Exposition**, Brussels, Belgium
<http://www.euroseafood.com/>

20-21 May **SAGB Shellfish Conference**, Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge
<http://www.shellfish.org.uk>

28-29 May **Aquaculture UK 2014**, Aviemore, Scotland
<http://www.aquacultureuk.com/index.php?c=home>

7-11 June **World Aquaculture 2014**, Adelaide Australia
<http://www.aquaculture.org.au/>

16-18 June **Aquavision 2014**, Stavanger, Norway
<http://aquavision.org/>

3-7 August **International Congress on the Biology of Fish**, Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh. <http://icbf2014.sls.hw.ac.uk/>

17-18 September **Humber Seafood summit**, Grimsby
<http://www.seafish.org/about-seafish/news-and-events/events/humber-seafood-summit--sept-2014>

7-10 October **Global Aquaculture Alliance's annual GOAL conference**, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
<http://www.gaalliance.org/GOAL2014/index.php>

14-17 October **Aquaculture Europe 2014**, San Sebastian, Spain
http://www.marevent.com/AE14_SanSebastian/AE14SanSebastianInvite.pdf

26-28 October **2014 IFFO Annual Conference**, Vancouver, Canada
<http://www.iffonet/event-calendar>

Useful reference: <http://aquafind.com/info/calendar.php>

See:

- **Seafish aquaculture web page:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture>
- **For guides and information see:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/guides-and-information>
- **For the Aquaculture Common Issues Group minutes and presentations see:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-groups/aquaculture-common-issues-group>
- **Fishmeal news:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/fishmeal-and-fishoil>

This is an information service provided by Seafish for industry and key stakeholders. The views expressed are not necessarily the views of Seafish.