

Aquaculture news alert (sent by email 8 March 2017)

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

ACIG meeting. Wednesday 5 April 2017 at Friends House.

- **10.40 - 11.15.** Policy development incl: General Seafish Domestic Aquaculture update; Progress of the Seafood Industry Expert Working Group.
- **11.15 - 12.10. Seafish-funded projects incl:** Brixham Fisheries and Aquaculture Centre Feasibility Study (SIP project); Sustainable Aquaculture in Tidal lagoons.
- **12.10 - 12.45. Development of the BBSRC-NERC Aquaculture Network initiative ARCH-UK.**
- **1.30 - 2.45. Fishmeal/fish oil and alternatives incl:** fishmeal and fish oil production; the impact of EL Nino on fish oil supply; Algae - the original source of marine Omega-3's.
- **2.45 - 3.30. Research and funding opportunities incl:** UK Aquaculture Initiative and other Research Council and Innovate UK activity; Blue New Deal Action Plan.

Consultations/reviews/funding opportunities

[Welsh Government call for project ideas for aquaculture under EMFF. 1 March 2017.](#)

The Welsh Government is holding a call for aquaculture project ideas with the potential to submit EMFF applications aligning strongly with EMFF and Welsh Government priorities. The EMFF offers support for projects and investments relating to:

- stimulating innovation in aquaculture
- supporting productive investments and driving growth in aquaculture, including through increasing production, modernisation, diversification, increasing resource efficiency and promoting closed recirculation systems
- the setting-up of sustainable small and micro aquaculture enterprises by new aquaculture farmers
- participation in ex-situ conservation and reproduction of aquatic animals.

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate that good and sustainable market prospects exist for their product. The amount of grant offered would relate to individual circumstances and would always be the minimum amount necessary to allow the project to go ahead, subject to a minimum of £2,400. There are three strands.

- For shellfish production projects initial ideas must be submitted by 12 April 2017.
- For finfish production projects initial ideas must be submitted between 27 March and 12 May 2017.
- For algae and seaweed aquaculture projects initial ideas must be submitted between 8 May and 16 June 2017.

Certification

[The ASC and MSC open public consultation for the joint Seaweed Standard. 2 March 2017.](#)

The MSC and ASC have just launched a second 60-day public consultation on the joint Seaweed standard. Interested parties are invited to view the proposed Seaweed Standard and share their expertise and feedback through an online consultation open until 30 April 2016. The standard will allow certification from both wild harvest and farmed seaweed, regardless of the scale or location of the operation. The assessment of seaweed farms and fisheries will be guided by five core principles: sustainable populations; minimising environmental impacts; effective management; social responsibility; and community relations and interactions.

[FEDEACUA, Colombia To Pilot Draft Biosecurity Area Management Standard. March 2017.](#)

The Global Aquaculture Alliance and Federación Colombiana De Acuicultores (FEDEACUA) have announced the first pilot of the draft Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) Biosecurity Area Management Standard. FEDEACUA has asked that Reservoir Betania tilapia farmers undergo the pilot and implement the draft standards. The standard lays out how farmers and other entities within a defined productive aquaculture area can best work together to prevent or mitigate threats from disease. Click [here](#) to read the draft standard. The public comment period for the draft Biosecurity Area Management standard closed on 12 February. Piloting the standard is the next step to give the necessary valuable feedback from actually implementing it on the ground. Further pilots are expected to be launched across different species and regions.

Reports/brochures/web sites/presentations

[Report: Scottish aquaculture: a view towards 2030' An innovation roadmap and sector needs study conducted by Imani Development and SRSL, on behalf of the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.](#)

This follows a six-month scoping study into the innovation needs of the sector. The study used a combination of desk research, data from two key industry events, and targeted interviews with industry leaders and regulators to inform an innovation roadmap that sets out the needs of the sector according to urgency and impact, and recommends a pathway of actions through to 2030. Addressing these actions will, in turn, help achieve the recommendations of the industry-led 'Aquaculture Growth to 2030' strategic plan that was published in 2016.

[FAO Expert Workshop to Develop a Compliance Manual Series to Support Small-Scale Aquaculture Certification, 3-5 March 2017, Manila, Philippines.](#)

Aquaculture is an industry still dominated by small-scale farmers. Although nearly 70% percent of the global aquaculture production originates from small-scale farming sector, almost no small-scale farmers or farming systems are currently certified. Certification of small-scale aquaculture has been an issue, mainly due to the unbearable cost of certification as well as difficulties in complying to the required certification standards. Improving the knowledge of small-scale aquafarmers on how to comply with certification standards, as well as to identify national policy and regulatory gaps supporting small-scale aquaculture certification, is becoming necessary. The FAO Technical Guidelines on Aquaculture Certification, developed after a transparent and exhaustive consultative process, was approved by FAO Committee on Fisheries in 2011. A small group of experts on small-scale aquaculture, aquaculture certification and aquatic animal health are currently discussing a format and framework to develop a compliance manual series

Aquaculture Feb news alert issued 8 March 2017.

to advise small-scale aquaculture farmers, how to comply with the FAO technical guidelines on aquaculture certification.

[ASEAN fish production to rise Policies and technology needed to ensure sustainability](#) . 16 February 2017.

A new report from WorldFish projects that fish production in ASEAN countries will reach 24% of global output by 2030. "Fish to 2050 in the ASEAN Region" says that policies to promote sustainable aquaculture expansion and law enforcement in fisheries management are critical to ensuring sustainable growth in both sectors. For ASEAN countries fish is a hugely important source of nutrition, also providing income, opening up employment opportunities and alleviating poverty. By volume, fish production is four times that of poultry and 20 times that of cattle in the ASEAN region. Fish trade represents an important source of foreign currency earnings for many developing countries. The report shows that aquaculture is expected to supply more than half of the fish for consumption in the region.

General news

[Growing Together – The Future of Aquaculture in the UK](#). 28 February 2017.

Following the success of the Aquaculture UK Exhibition in 2016, 5m Publishing has announced plans for an innovative Aquaculture UK Conference to be held in Stirling, Scotland from June 14-15, 2017. Day 1 will focus on the keystones for the development of the industry – Innovation, Breeding and Genetics, Health and Welfare and the core economic traits that will drive the industry forward. On Day 2 attention will move to the practical deployment of those underpinnings of the industry as we open the floor and discuss how we can work together. Book your place before Friday 10 March and enjoy and early bird rate of £319. Click [here](#) to register.

[NOAA releases report on threats to protected species from farm gear as aquaculture expands](#). 28 February 2017.

A new report on the effects of aquaculture on protected species takes a close look at how increasingly widespread gear may interact with native marine life such as sea turtles, whales and sea birds that are protected under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The new study by NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) pointed to some concerns with aquaculture gear, but also concluded that "risk can be minimized through proper siting, consistent monitoring, and best management practices."

[First Aquaculture Industry Leadership Group meeting in Inverness](#). 27 February 2017.

Rural Economy Secretary Fergus Ewing attended the first meeting of a landmark leadership group to oversee the future of Scotland's aquaculture industry. The inaugural meeting of the Aquaculture Industry Leadership Group (AILG) discussed challenges and opportunities for the sector, looking at how the sector can grow sustainably over the long-term to 2030. AILG members examined opportunities to help sustain growth, particularly in rural and coastal areas, boost long-term employment and foster industry growth. It focussed on subjects ranging from marketing to regulation, skills, innovation and industry financing.

Aquaculture Feb news alert issued 8 March 2017.

Events

- 7-9 March 2017** [12th North Atlantic Seafood Forum \(NASF\)](#), Bergen Norway
- 19-21 March 2017** [Seafood Expo North America/Seafood Processing North America](#), Boston USA
- 24 March 2017**
Sanya Bay, China [4th IFFO/JCI Fishmeal and Fish Oil Conference](#), Wyndham
- 25-27 April 2017** [Seafood Expo Global / Seafood Processing Global](#), Brussels, Belgium
- 23-24 May 2017** [Shellfish Association of Great Britain Annual Conference](#). London
- 5-7 June 2017** [SeaWeb Seafood Summit](#), Seattle, Washington, USA
- 13-15 June 2017** [Aquaculture UK Conference](#), University of Stirling, Scotland
- 27-30 June 2017** [World Aquaculture 2017](#), Cape Town, South Africa
- 15-18 August 2017** [Aqua Nor](#), Trondheim, Norway
- 10-13 Sept 2017** [World Seafood Congress 2017](#), Reykjavik, Iceland
- 3-6 October 2017** [Global Outlook on Aquaculture Leadership \(GOAL\) 2017](#), Dublin, Ireland
- 17-20 October 2017** [Aquaculture Europe 2017](#), Dubrovnik, Croatia
- 23-25 October 2017** [IFFO Annual Conference](#), Washington DC, USA
- 26-27 October 2017** [Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers Annual Conference](#), Venue TBC, Scotland

Monthly fishmeal news alert

There is also a monthly Seafish fishmeal industry news e-alert covering news items, legislation and reports. To be added to the mailing list email **E:** k_green@seafish.co.uk

Seafood Ethics Common Language Group (Seafood Ethics CLG)

Seafish has set up a seafood ethics group to keep track of ethical issues affecting the seafood supply chain and to encourage dialogue and collaborative action across the UK supply chain. The main outputs will be communicated but if you would like to be added to this mailing list for news updates **E:** k_green@seafish.co.uk

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>

Aquaculture Feb news alert issued 8 March 2017.

- **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.