

# RDM Aquaculture LLC Shrimp Division

Raising Clean Shrimp 600 Miles from the Ocean!

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2014 North Central Aquaculture Conference



## RDM Aquaculture Farm



## Founders of RDM Aquaculture LLC

Russell Brown  
1930-2009



Darryl Brown  
1964 -



## 600 Miles from Saltwater



## Located Between Soybeans & Corn

Soybeans



Corn



## Why?

- \* Moved to raise hogs. Prices dropped so we got out of the hog business.
- \* Wanted to raise livestock.
- \* Aquaculture looked interesting.
- \* Looked at raising tilapia but thought shrimp looked more interesting and it was more cost effective.
- \* First thought of raising shrimp is they are easier to clean than a fish and taste much better.
- \* The system we chose is very eco friendly with virtually no waste.

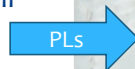
## Our System

- \* We use a zero exchange aerobic heterotrophic system (ZEAH)
- \* Heterotrophic means there is a bacteria that takes care of our waste.
- \* This water is as close to their natural environment without the contaminants.
- \* We were the 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 6 heterotrophic salt water shrimp farms in the United States. (3 of these are universities)
- \* There are now 18 indoor shrimp facilities in the US
- \* 8 shrimp farms in Indiana



## First Stage

- \* We start with PLS (Post Larval) that are 11 days old.
- \* They are shipped from a hatchery in Florida
- \* The PLs come in are about the size of your eyelash and the only thing you see is feed in their bellies.
- \* We do 9 test daily in the nursery



## Nursery for the PLs



## I Tanks

From Nursery into I tanks



## I Tanks

- \* 100,000 pls (post larval) every 25 days
- \* From nursery we move them to I barn for 2 weeks
- \* 7 I tanks
- \* When 50 days old we move them to other shrimp farms to get them started. (feeder pig operation)
- \* At 50 days old we move our percentage of shrimp to our grow out tanks.

## Grower Tanks





## Grower Tanks

- \* 3 tanks holding 4400 gallons of salt water.
- \* 4 tanks holding 2200 gallons of salt water.
- \* Larger tanks produce 250 # every 3 months.
- \* Smaller tanks produce 150# every 3 months
- \* Tank temperature is constant 86 degrees.
- \* Room temperature is 82 degrees
- \* Nets are put on tanks for shrimp protection and ours.
- \* We use automatic feeders.
- \* We heat tanks using radiant heat through the floor.

## Harvesting

- \* Old fashion way. Netting
- \* Sort according to size. Throw smaller ones back in tank and haul larger ones for sale.
- \* Harvest only when customer order shrimps.
- \* Sell them live (niche market)
- \* Guaranteed a fresh product

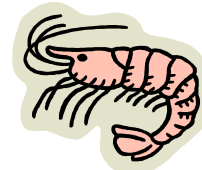


## Visitors

- \* As far away as Chengdu China , Egypt, India, Taiwan, Vietnam, Switzerland and, Ontario Canada
- \* From Michigan, Oregon, Iowa, California, Kentucky, Texas, Minnesota, North Carolina, Virginia, Ohio and Illinois.
- \* There are new farms just like ours in Oregon, Minnesota, Ohio, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York , Mass. and Iowa. Hopefully by the end of this year there will be 9 shrimp farms in Indiana
- \* Would like to see Indiana become the shrimp capital of the world. (No Harm in dreaming)

## Little known facts about Shrimp

- \* 2% of seafood is inspected that comes into the US.
- \* 60% of it is rejected.
- \* Taiwan Shrimp and Thailand shrimp have no regulations as to how they are grown.
- \* There shrimp are grown outdoors in ponds. Anything and everything can run off into these waters. Shrimp absorb their environment.
- \* 97% of all shrimp is imported into this country.
- \* This has got to change.
- \* Why not us do the changing.
- \* It wont happen over night.





## Why Shrimp?

- \* Favorite Seafood
- \* Party favorite
- \* Health benefits
- \* Many ways to prepare



## Fun Facts

Shrimp have 18g of protein and 1 g of fat.(Good fat)  
Shrimp has only 80 calories for 4 oz



# Indiana Aquaculture

- \* Indiana produces roughly 1.5 million pounds of fish per year from about 40 farmers estimated at a value of \$15 million.



## Shrimp Farming is it for you?

- \* You have to have a commitment to it.
- \* 7 days a week 365 days a year
- \* 3 hours a day
- \* Dedication to water quality
- \* No aquaculture skills needed to start a farm.
- \* Must have attention to detail.

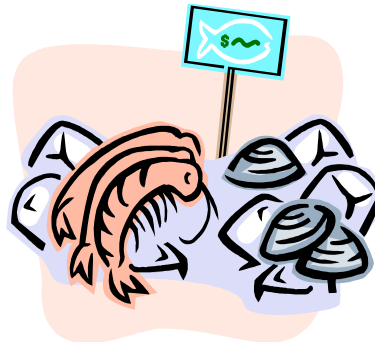
## Start Small

- \* Start small
- \* Expand after one year
- \* Smaller investment
- \* Apple & Google started small.



## Marketing

- \* Sell Live
- \* Locally Grown
- \* High End Restaurants
- \* Distributors
- \* Retail Sales
- \* Caterers
- \* Grocery Stores
- \* Live Markets



## Financing ?

- \* Start up
- \* Not needing as much



## Questions??



THANK YOU,  
KARLANEA BROWN  
CO-OWNER RDM AQUACULTURE  
LLC

