

What Species Can I Raise?

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Bringing Knowledge to Life



Getting Started in Aquaculture

- 1) Learn about the aquaculture industry Is Aquaculture for you?
- 2) Assess your goals and resources
- 3) Determine what system to use
- 4) Select your species
- 5) Construct your business plan
- 6) Conduct a pilot operation

Species Choices

Food Fish

- Yellow Perch
- Trout
- Tilapia
- Bluegill/Hybrids
- Largemouth Bass
- Hybrid Striped Bass
- Freshwater Prawn
- Paddlefish

Sportfish/Pond stocking

- Largemouth Bass
- Catfish
- Yellow Perch
- Trout
- Bluegill/Hybrids
- Striped Bass
- Baitfish
- Ornamentals
- Aquatic Plants



Yellow Perch

- Ponds, cages, RAS, aquaponics
- Fingerlings, pond stockers, food
- Takes 18 months to 8" market
- Optimum temp. 55 78 degrees F
- Stocking density 3000 lbs/acre
- High demand
- Gaps in production
 - Fingerling availability/price
 - Genetic selection (30-40% larger)
 - Sexual dimorphism
 - Nutrition
 - Year-round spawning



Bluegill/hybrids

- Ponds, cages, RAS, Aquaponics
- Sold as pond stockers, food, bait
- Great tasting fillet
- Gaps in Production
 - Low dress-out (30%)
 - Sexual dimorphism
 - All-male populations
 - Fingerling availability
 - Nutrition
 - Marketing



Freshwater Prawn (aka shrimp)

- Grown in ponds
- Sold for food (\$8.00 \$15.00/lb)
- 100-day growing period (Jun Sept)
- Must have good marketing
- Optimum temperature range is 77 90 degrees F
- Yields are 600 –1000 lbs/acre/year without substrate
- Gaps in production
 - Variable yields



Trout

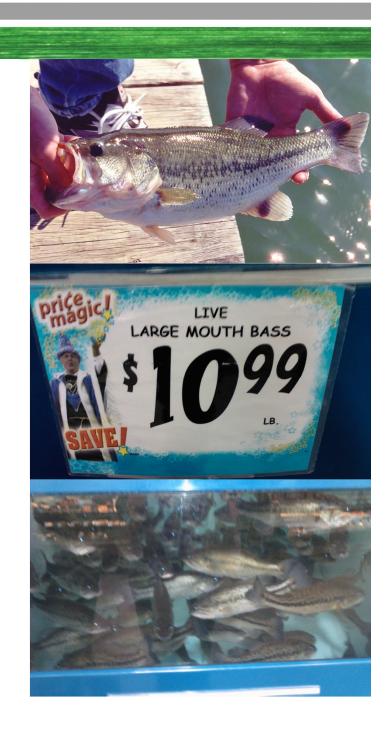
- Raceways, ponds, net pens, RAS
- Food and sport fish
- Optimum temp. 50 60 F
- Need lots of cold water
- Market size is from 0.5 to 1.5 lbs.





Largemouth Bass

- Ponds, RAS
- Food and pond stocker
- Popular in Asian market
- Three year grow out
- Optimum growing temp. 55 80 degrees F
- Market size is from 1.25 to 2.5 lbs
- Possible paylake market!



Tilapia

- RAS, cages, ponds
- Food Live ethnic markets
- Algae control
- Warm water 80 87 F
- Mortality below 55 F
- Market size is 1.25 2.0 lbs.
- Competes with imported processed product
- Popular for aquaponics
- Hardy
- Poor dress-out for fillets



Koi/Ornamentals

- Ponds, RAS, cages
- Goldfish 70 F, Koi 55 80 F
- Market size for goldfish is 1 6 inches, and koi 3 12 inches
- High value if you understand markings
- Backyard garden market follows economy





Baitfish

- Ponds, RAS
- Entertainment, pond stocking
- Product sold live
- Minnows- Fathead, Chubs, Bluntnose
- Shiners- Spotfin, Golden
- Crayfish



Catfish

- Ponds, cages
- Sold as pond stockers, food
- Warm water fish 80 85 F
- Market size 0.75 to 2.5 lbs
- Popular paylake fish
- Hard to compete with cheap catfish from the south



Striped Bass

- Ponds, cages, RAS
- Food, pond stocker
- A warm water fish that grow in 77 – 86 degree F water
- Market size from 1.5 3.5 lbs.
- Push for cage culture in Illinois
- Fingerlings from Arkansas



Walleye

- Ponds
- Popular food fish
- Popular pond stocker
- Mostly sold as fry or stocker size
- Grown in Minnesota and Wisconsin
- Hard to manage





Paddlefish

- Large bodies of water > 5 acres
- Passive aquaculture
- Fillets and caviar
- Fillets=3 years
- Caviar=5-7 years
- Reservoir ranching
- Polyculture



Aquatic Plants and Others

- Ornamental pond plants
- Frogs
- Tadpoles
- Snails





Marine Shrimp

- RAS
- Pilot scale operation in Michigan
- New in Las Vegas
- Multi-million dollar facilities
- Wonderful product
- Future?



Reality Check

- You must think about becoming vertically integrated (hatching to marketing)
- You must think about adding value
 - Niche markets
 - Processing
 - Agri-tainment
 - High value species



Business Planning

- Very important
- Five years for profitable business
- Several on-line business plans
- We can help you develop a business plan.

Contact Information

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