

2013

Aquaculture Boot Camp

My Aquatic Journey



Personal Profile

My daily job as a CNC Machinist is actually one of my passions.

I enjoy the challenge of creating something out of nothing.

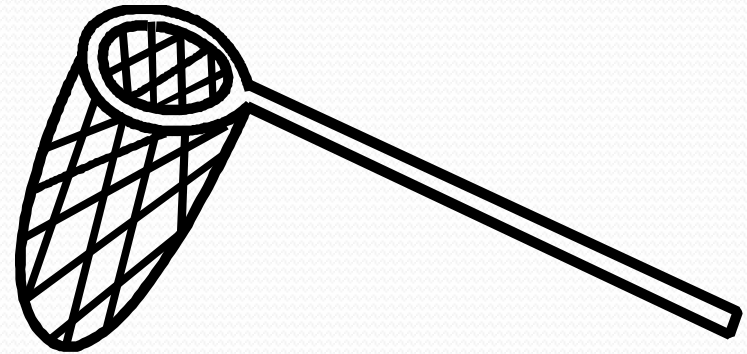
My love of the outdoors comes from hunting and fishing which stemmed my interest in

Aquaculture! I am planning on raising baitfish and several species for pond stocking!



Why Boot Camp was for Me

- Being an avid fisherman, my biggest dream was always to have my own pond or lake. I have always had a love for fishing. I Grew up wading through cold creeks in hopes just to catch a bucket full of bait for a day of fishing! I live on a old Emu Farm and have always dreamed of raising fish on the farm.



What I Have Learned



- There is so much more diversity in Fish Farming than I ever knew. I see the need for more great programs as ABC to supply the knowledge to help the need for a sustainable replacement for wild caught seafood
- There are endless resources and information at our fingertips such as other universities and organizations!
- Research and planning will be constant and never ending to be successful!
- DEDICATION and TIME need to be abundant!

What am I doing Now?

Currently Still establishing a water source!

Working on a 3 acre reservoir to give water access for whichever direction I finally lead.
Establishing water access to our 2 current greenhouses!

I plan on building my first aquaponics system come spring time in our greenhouse.

My current project is two aquariums with Blue Tilapia breeder colonies.



Dirt Work

Stripping the Top Soil



Key Way For the Dam



Training my Future Helpers



My Aquaculture Future Plans

- I plan on growing out several species to stock the current pond we are digging.
- Have a very high interest in building Two half- acre ponds for Freshwater Prawns, where I hope to experiment with poly-culture, growing out some tilapia in cages above the prawns!
- Would like to stay involved with remaining ABC groups in hopes to continue my learning and the great experiences that came with this opportunity!
- Wish I could do it all Again!