

BOOK REVIEW

Species and System Selection for Sustainable Aquaculture

Edited by PingSun Leung, Cheng-Sheng Lee, Patricia J. O'Bryen

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Reviewed by:

Michael H. Schwarz, Ph.D.
Adjunct Assistant Professor
Department of Fishery and Wildlife Sciences
Aquaculture Specialist, Virginia Seafood Agricultural
Research and Extension Center
102 S. King Street
Hampton, VA 23669 USA

As the global demand for aquacultured products continues to rise, so does the need for social, economic, and environmental sustainability. As this expansion progresses, established species under production are augmented with new and emerging species providing some “perceived” enhanced value. Likewise, both established and new production systems and technologies are continually undergoing a process of review and optimization. Given the ongoing and predicted expansion of global aquaculture, sustainability in all its forms is of paramount concern.

This book is a synthesis from review papers presented at a NOAA-funded workshop held in October of 2005. This workshop was organized by the Aquaculture Interchange Program, and held at the Oceanic Institute in Hawaii. The book was published in cooperation with the United States Aquaculture Society. Focusing on socioeconomic perspectives, the book explores the ramifications of selecting both established and emerging aquaculture species, as well as the systems required for their production. The contributing authors and editors provide a breadth of experience and knowledge ranging from research and policy through industrial applications.

The book is divided into three parts: Principles, Practices, and Species-Specific Public Policies for Sustainable Development. Within *Principles*, sustainability is defined, followed by discussions on enabling regulatory policy, assessment, economic analysis, and farm modeling toward farm feasibility assessment. *Practices* focuses on examples of successes and failures and reviews relating to species and production system selection in aquaculture from various regions around the world as well as a discussion on the evolution of regulatory policy in the United States towards sustainable aquaculture development. Part 3 provides examples of species-specific public policy that promotes sustainable development around the world, along with several species-specific industry reviews.

Comprehensively, the book does a good job demonstrating differences between commercial production often associated with developed countries, rural production related more to developing countries, and the role of government in the development process. This book is a valuable reference for all stakeholders looking to advance sustainable aquaculture. This includes but is not limited to the production sector, economists, researchers, educators, and policy makers.