



PD/A CRSP SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

REGIONAL OUTREACH IN AFRICA

*Ninth Work Plan, Adoption and Diffusion Research 5 (9ADR5)
Progress Report*

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ABSTRACT

Personnel involved with PD/A CRSP research in Kenya attended a conference entitled "Shallow Water Bodies in the Tropics," held in Naivasha, Kenya, from April 12 to 16 1999. Four presentations were made, of which two were based on CRSP Eighth Work Plan feeds and fertilizers research ("Relative Contribution of Supplemental Feed and Inorganic Fertilizers in Semi-Intensive Tilapia Production"). Attendance is also planned for the 17th Conference and Silver Jubilee of the Soil Science Society of East Africa, to be held in Kampala, Uganda, 6 to 10 September 1999 and a conference on the Lake Victoria Basin, to be held in Jinja, Uganda, 23 to 26 November 1999. If possible, CRSP personnel will also attend meetings of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the Fisheries Society of Africa (FISA). Participation in these meetings is part of the CRSPs effort to promote communication and the establishment of linkages among aquaculture research and extension workers and to better understand the needs and constraints in Kenya and surrounding regions.

INTRODUCTION

The intent of this activity is to promote contact and communication among aquaculture research and extension personnel and organizations throughout the region. This is to be achieved mainly through participation at regional meetings, not only by presenting papers but also through participation in planning and organizing the meetings and in helping to develop and implement plans to increase participation in them. Through this effort, research results from current and previous CRSP activities can be shared, other African researchers can be met and encouraged, CRSP workers can learn about research and extension efforts in other parts of the region, and linkages for future collaboration can be established. Examples of regional meetings that might be included are annual meetings of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Inland Fisheries Sector Technical Coordination Unit and of the Fisheries Society of Africa (FISA), but other meeting opportunities will also be taken advantage of.

The objectives specifically listed for this effort are to:

- 1) Promote the dissemination of information emanating from PD/A CRSP research results;
- 2) Learn about fish culture practices and research priorities and activities in Kenya and neighboring countries in Africa; and
- 3) Encourage the establishment of regional linkages between research and extension programs in Africa.

This activity continues from a similar activity in the Eighth Work Plan.

PROGRESS TO DATE

Karen Veverica, three fisheries officers (Bethuel Omolo, Stephen Njao, and Felix Lagat), and four university students (Patricia Mwau, Paul Bilal, Daniel Oenga, and Wilson Gichuri) attended the conference entitled "Shallow Water Bodies in the Tropics," held in Naivasha, Kenya, 12 to 16 April 1999. Four presentations were made, of which three were based on CRSP Eighth Work Plan feeds and fertilizers research ("Relative Contribution of Supplemental Feed and Inorganic Fertilizers in Semi-Intensive Tilapia Production") and one on bass introductions in Kenya. The presentations made were as follows:

- 1) Nitrogen and phosphorus budgets in polyculture fish ponds. P.N. Mwau, K.M. Mavuti, P.I. Bilal, and K.L. Veverica
- 2) Plankton dynamics in tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) and catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) polyculture ponds in Central Kenya. P.I. Bilal, K.M. Mavuti, J.G. Omondi, and K.L. Veverica
- 3) The history of largemouth bass *Micropterus salmoides* introduction and transfers in East Africa. D. Oenga Nyanchiri, B. Wangila, M. Muchiri, and K.L. Veverica
- 4) Relative condition factors (K_n) for *Oreochromis niloticus* (Cichlidae) and *Clarias gariepinus* (Clariidae) in small managed ponds. W.M. Gichuri, J.G. Omondi, and K.L. Veverica

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) will print a one-page extended abstract of each presentation. Veverica was also able to hand out several publications (some from CRSP) of interest to researchers working in the area of aquatic ecology.

Bethuel Omolo attended the East African Environmental Network (EAEN) conference, 28 to 29 May 1999 in Nairobi.

Attendance is also planned for a conference on the Lake Victoria Basin to be held in Jinja, Uganda, 23 to 26 November 1999. Two abstracts for presentations to be given have been submitted. An abstract based on the first season of the pond effluent use for crop irrigation research (9ER1) was also sent to the 17th Conference and Silver Jubilee of the Soil Science Society of East Africa, to be held in Kampala, Uganda, 6 to 10 September 1999.

Karen Veverica maintains active contact with officers of the Fisheries Society of Africa (FISA), which is headquartered in Nairobi, and attended the FISA executive officers meeting on

22 April 1999. The CRSP will help by getting the NAGA subscription form out to all fisheries officers with encouragement to subscribe. Others present at the meeting included E. Okemwa, the president of FISA; N. Githonga, secretary; Randall Brummett, ICLARM/Africa; Mike Kittivo, Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority; and Betty Nyandat, District Fisheries Officer for Kiambu.

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS

Contact with researchers and extension personnel in Kenya and in other countries in the region will result in a better understanding of research needs and enhanced research-extension linkages. Extension services in Kenya and other African countries will benefit by being more closely linked with research institutions and African researchers will have an enhanced understanding of research needs. Ultimately, fish producers throughout the region will benefit, because these linkages will enable extension services not only to more easily convey farmers' needs to researchers, but also to extend new research results back to the farmers.