



AQUACULTURE CRSP 22ND ANNUAL TECHNICAL REPORT

CROSS-SECTORAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXTENSION EXCHANGE AND LEARNING

*Eleventh Work Plan, Aquaculture and Human Health Impacts Research 1 (11AHHR1)
Final Abstract*

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ABSTRACT

Extension is a recognized vehicle to raise awareness, modify behavior and transfer technology, but it also represents one of the principal obstacles to developing and improving aquaculture in many part of the world. Long-term efforts have been made in Sinaloa, Mexico to establish a corps of extension agents to support the aquaculture sector and to work with other specialist to tackle cross-sectoral problems that affect aquaculture. Extension efforts are directed at implementing best management practices for the major form of aquaculture in the region (shrimp culture) and diversifying the industry through increasing production of freshwater finfish and native species of bivalves. Inclusion of neglected stakeholder groups such as women, youth, and the physically disadvantaged is also a goal. The CRSP Cross-Sectoral and International Extension Exchange and Learning Workshop builds on these efforts and extends them into new areas of learning to include sharing of experiences from other sectors such as public health, agriculture, gender equity efforts, and work with the physically challenged. A three day workshop was held in Mazatlan, Mexico on 14-16 June during which training was provided and sharing of experience occurred. Participants included aquaculture extension agents and NGO representatives from Mexico, representatives from other CRSP initiatives (Mexico, Peru, and Honduras) and project personnel from other innovative aquaculture extension efforts (UCA/Nicaragua and Ecocostas/Ecuador). An additional two days were spent reviewing the research and progress of the three case studies associated with this project. Course materials from the workshop are being compiled and will be distributed widely for the benefit of extension workers elsewhere.