

Program Information

Name of Program: Aquaculture in Minnesota

Brief Program Description:

This program provides potential fish farmers with the information that they need to determine if aquaculture is a viable option and will meet their expectations. This program will also focus on enhancing baitfish production through aquaculture. Written materials will be provided directly to potential fish farmers or educators. The current status and opportunities in baitfish aquaculture in the North Central U.S. is available in a PowerPoint presentation. Adaptation of *Fin Pack* to fish farm decision-making is being explored.

Program Website:

<http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/aqua/index.html>

Audience for Program:

Rural property owners considering aquaculture; existing fish farmers that want to expand their operations; baitfish producers.

Need/Issue Addressed by Program:

Many rural Minnesotans have heard that aquaculture is the fastest growing segment of the agriculture industry and want to explore aquaculture. Unfortunately, there have been a number of failed aquaculture investments because investors have not adequately assessed the risks. Many opportunities exist for successful aquaculture, but potential investors need to understand all aspects of a successful fish farm including markets and marketing; water quality/chemistry; fish biology, behavior, and health; effluent management; bird predation; and others.

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