

NASAC RAMBLINGS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JANUARY 2008

NASAC made some significant strides last year that I think need to be recognized. Here are a few of the items that highlight not just what we did in 2007 but what our group is about and where we are going. Thank you ALL for being involved with NASAC.

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Thanks chiefly to the efforts of Scott Leach, NASAC developed a website following the May meeting in Orange Beach, Alabama. The site, www.nasac.net, has lots of useful information but we would appreciate any suggestions on additions to it. Please consider linking your state association or department websites to ours. Since we are into a new year, this would be a great time to check out the easy to complete membership application that is there.

This summer, Debra Sloan put in a lot of work to compile the Aquatic Animal Health Contacts Directory. It lists the aquaculture coordinator, competent authority, and aquatic animal health contact for each state. Thank you to those who helped Debra in her effort. The list was first published in October and was updated in December. It has been circulated via electronic mailing lists and is on the NASAC website. I have found it to be a very helpful tool and am glad for it.

Aquatic Nuisance Species are an issue that is here to stay and I appreciate Paul Zajicek helping NASAC with the issues surrounding them. This summer, Paul came to Kansas City and addressed the Mississippi River Basin Panel (MRBP) and did a great job. I'm glad I could be there to see him in action. (If you aren't on the mailing list for your Regional Panel, you really need to go to www.anstaskforce.gov to learn more.) Much of what he shared is available in an article that appeared in the November issue of *Fisheries* magazine (<http://fisheries.org/afs/publications/fisheriesmag/3211.pdf>). For some time, Paul also has represented the aquaculture industry before the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (ANSTF). The November meeting in Arlington, Virginia was significant because 1) the MRBP pushed the ANSTF to redefine ANS to include viral hemorrhagic septicemia and 2) NASAC covered Paul's travel expenses. On these two points, I need to thank the NASAC Board for acting quickly to draft a position statement and get Paul there.

In November, I was able to see NASAC in action at a meeting concerning VHS and interstate movement of fish. First, there were at least six (IA, KS, MO, OH, PA, WI) aquaculture coordinators there. Second, one concern of many fish producers was that it is difficult to know who to contact in order to ship fish interstate. It was great to be able to share Debra's list with them since it had just been finished and posted at www.nasac.net.

NASAC ANNUAL MEETING

I am really looking forward to hosting the NASAC annual meeting this year and have some details to share with you. The meeting will be Tuesday - Friday, April 29-May 2 in Springfield, Missouri. We have worked hard to make travel convenient and also to keep the meeting cost as low as possible. I hope you can join us.

Transportation

The Springfield-Branson Regional Airport (SGF) <http://www.sgf-branson-airport.com/> should work well for us. It has a good number of flights but is small enough to be easy to navigate. Rental cars are available there but most people won't need one since the meeting location is only 7 miles away and a hotel shuttle is available. To help the hotel schedule the shuttle, I need you to send me your arrival and departure times so I can compile a list.

Lodging

The meeting will be at the Oasis Hotel & Convention Center <http://springfieldoasis.com/>. The hotel has a restaurant and there are lots of dining and entertainment options nearby. The "National Association of State Aquaculture Coordinators" block of rooms will be held until Tuesday, April 8. Standard king or double/double rooms are \$74.00. Poolside king rooms are adjacent to the pool as the name suggests but are also slightly larger and are \$84.00. Reservations can be made by calling 417-866-5253.

LYNNE CANTER, Editor
nasac@nasac.net

Agenda

In response to coordinator requests, this year the meeting will be one day longer than past NASAC meetings. Tuesday and Saturday will be travel days. Tuesday evening, the hospitality suite will be open but otherwise the day will be free. Wednesday through Friday, we will have presentations each morning with tours in the afternoon. There will be sessions on VHS, the National Aquatic Animal Health Plan, regulations, catfish sustainability standards, and organic production. In addition, I am planning for every coordinator to give an update and will include them on the agenda. I am only expecting people to talk 5-10 minutes and no slides are necessary. I think it will surprise most people when they see the issues being faced in each state and how much experience is contained within the membership of NASAC. Please send a talk title, time estimate, and available dates.

If you will be at Aquaculture America in Orlando, please join Debra Sloan, Betsy Hart, and myself in Yucatan 1 Sunday, February 10, 5:00-6:00 pm. I think this will be a great opportunity for coordinators to learn more about what NAA and NASAC are doing. I look forward to seeing you there. Come prepared with questions and suggestions. Thank you again for making NASAC the organization that it is.

Bart
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AQUACULTURE NEWS

Debra Sloan
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Message from WNC ...

What a President's Message, I am not sure there is much more to say, Bart thoroughly covered NASAC's 2007 activities!

First, I want to thank Bart for his tireless efforts to keep NASAC active and the members informed on the numerous matters in US aquaculture. We are very fortunate to have Bart at the helm as we face the issues that await us in 2008!

The NASAC-APHIS AAH Contacts Directory is a *living document* and will be updated quarterly to keep it as current as possible. We need your assistance to make this doable, so please look over your state's contacts information for accuracy and let us know if changes need to be made. The next update is in March.

Networking is essential, that is my focus for 2008, networking! Each state has its unique challenges in aquaculture yet there are some common threads which all of us face on a local and national level: aquatic animal health, interstate transport of live aquatic animals, resource management and water quality, profits and losses ... what is happening in your state? The NASAC Annual Meeting in Springfield, MO in April will be a great opportunity for our coordinators to share their state's aquaculture events, and invite dialogue among your colleagues. Challenges are much easier to overcome when many minds are working together!

Paul Zajicek
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
zajicep@doacs.state.fl.us
Phone: 850-488-4033 Fax: 850-410-0893

EPA's Report on Climate Change, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and Management and Research: December 2007, the EPA's report entitled, "*Effects of Climate Change on Aquatic Invasive Species and Implications for Management and Research*" has been posted on the EPA website. This draft report assesses the state of the science of climate change effects on AIS and examines state level AIS management activities. You can find the report at: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/cfm/recordisplay.cfm?deid=180043>



**USDA
Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
and Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service (CSREES)
Aquaculture
Program Planning Workshop
Airport Hilton Hotel
Kansas City, Missouri
April 15-17, 2008
(17th USDA only)**

USDA ARS and CSREES announce the 2008 Aquaculture Program Planning Workshop focusing on research, technology transfer, and integrated research-extension programs, and linkages with key partners. The workshop will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, from **April 15-16th, 2008**, for stakeholder input and interactions; and **April 17, 2008** will be the USDA post-workshop session devoted to action plan development. This workshop is designed to provide stakeholders, customers, and partners with the opportunity to participate in planning the direction of public investments in USDA aquaculture programs for the next five years.

The agenda:

- April 15: Morning introductions and reports; Afternoon simultaneous breakout sessions.
- April 16: Simultaneous breakout sessions continued with summaries.
- April 17: USDA ARS and CSREES post-workshop sessions.

Who should attend April 15-16: Aquaculture farmers and their representatives, manufacturers of aquacultural products and technology developers, veterinarians, researchers from federal, commercial and university laboratories and experiment stations, extension specialists, and anyone having problems that can be addressed by USDA-funded aquaculture programs. This is also a great opportunity to make new professional contacts and to further understand the diversity of aquaculture programs administered by ARS and CSREES.

What is provided: The workshop will include breakfasts, snacks, and lunches on Tuesday and Wednesday, plus a reception on Tuesday evening. We hope you can attend and will make many new professional contacts at this meeting.

Why convene the workshop: We need public and professional input in forming the objectives and directions of our aquaculture program support of U.S. agriculture for the next five years.

If you are interested in attending this workshop, or to request more information, please contact Rosemary Callahan at: Rosemary.Callahan@ars.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Silverstein, Ph.D.
USDA-Agricultural Research Service
National Program Leader, Aquaculture

Gary L. Jensen
USDA-Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension Service
National Program Leader, Aquaculture

Rosalie (Roz) Schnick
National Coordinator for Aquaculture New Animal Drug Applications
Michigan State University
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Web: <http://aquanic.org/jsa/aquadrugs/index.htm>

NEWS RELEASE: MAJOR AQUACULTURE DRUG APPROVAL FOR AQUAFLO[®]
(http://www.fda.gov/cvm/CVM_Updates/AquaflorUpdate.htm)

GREAT NEWS!!! FLORFENICOL (AQUAFLO[®]) WAS APPROVED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR CONTROL OF MORTALITY IN FRESHWATER-REARED SALMONIDS DUE TO FURUNCULOSIS ASSOCIATED WITH *AEROMONAS SALMONICIDA* (OCTOBER 26, 2007)

The sponsor, Schering-Plough Animal Health Corporation (=SPA^H, Union, New Jersey; www.schering-plough.com), is to be again congratulated for this success and for investing in this approval. This is a very important approval because it is:

- **The first antimicrobial approved for controlling mortality due to furunculosis outbreaks in 20 years**
- **The third label claim approved for Aquaflor[®], the first new antimicrobial approved for aquatic species in more than two decades**
- **The third label claim for Aquaflor[®] to gain designation under the Minor Use and Minor Species Animal Health Act which entitles SPA^H to seven years of exclusivity for marketing rights**
- **The third label claim approval for Aquaflor[®], a drug that is classified as a Veterinary Feed Directive drug**

This approval will greatly benefit the commercial salmonid industry and public production of any salmonid reared in fresh water. Furunculosis is a serious pathogen that causes significant losses of hatchery-reared salmonids, including losses at state and federal hatcheries producing fish for native salmonid restoration programs.

The approval of Aquaflor[®] for controlling mortality due to furunculosis in freshwater-reared salmonids is the result of a cooperative effort among the sponsor, **Schering-Plough Animal Health Corporation** (=SPA^H, Union, New Jersey), federal researchers, and the National Coordinator for Aquaculture New Animal Drug Applications. **Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership Program** (=AADAP, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bozeman, Montana) conducted and coordinated the pivotal and supportive efficacy studies. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's **Makah National Fish Hatchery** aided AADAP in conducting the effectiveness studies. The **Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center** (=UMESC, U.S. Geological Survey, La Crosse, Wisconsin) supported the effectiveness studies by providing feed analyses. SPA^H used the UMESC effluent survey to support the environmental assessment for continuous-flow systems. AADAP and UMESC developed the data with financial support through base funds and the Federal-State Aquaculture Drug Approval Partnership Project that was under the auspices of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. The **National Coordinator for Aquaculture New Animal Drug Applications** provided coordination of the research efforts with all involved partners including the Center for Veterinary Medicine.

SPA^H previously recognized AADAP, UMESC, and the National Coordinator for Aquaculture New Animal Drug Applications for their contributions to the approval of Aquaflor[®] for the control of mortality due to enteric septicemia in catfish at Aquaculture America 2006.

*News Release prepared December 13, 2007 by Rosalie (Roz) Schnick
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NASAC DUES

Don't forget to pay your NASAC dues for the upcoming fiscal year. Membership in NASAC is important. The stronger our association is the louder our voice will be heard when testifying or commenting on aquaculture issues. Dues are good from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. A form for membership is included with this newsletter. If you have questions concerning dues contact Karl Roscher, Maryland Department of Agriculture, 50 Harry S Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401, 410-841-5724, or email roschekr@mda.state.md.us

DIRECTORY OF STATE AQUACULTURE COORDINATORS

As changes occur (**retirement, resignation, etc**) please send the new information to Lynne Canter, nasac@nasac.net

It is very important to keep your state's information current. Without the correct email or address your State will not receive the quarterly newsletter or important information disseminated concerning aquaculture issues. You can get an up to date copy of the Directory of State Aquaculture Coordinators from the NASAC website: www.nasac.net

2007-2008 NASAC OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Bart Hawcroft, MO
VICE PRES: Debra Sloan, NC
SEC./TREAS.: Karl Roscher, MD

NORTHEAST BOARD MEMBERS

Linda O'Dierno, NJ
 Charlie Conklin, PA

SOUTHERN BOARD MEMBERS

Robins Buck, VA
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MIDWEST BOARD MEMBERS

Angela Caporelli, KY
 Ron Johnson, WI

WESTERN BOARD MEMBERS

Leonard Young, HI
 Sen. Dan Swecker, WA

PAST PRESIDENT: Jimmy Carlisle, AL

!!!CHECK OUT NASAC'S NEW WEBSITE!!!

NASAC now has a website: www.nasac.net thanks to Scott Leach, Aquaculture/CWD Program Manager, from the Colorado Department of Agriculture, Animal Industry Division, Lakewood, CO. For input or suggestions please contact Scott Leach at (w) 303-239-4295, (cell) 303-807-2598, or email: scott.leach@ag.state.co.us

THE NEXT ISSUE OF RAMBLINGS WILL BE OUT IN APRIL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
STATE AQUACULTURE COORDINATORS
(NASAC)
www.nasac.net

**INVOICE/MEMBERSHIP FORM
DUES 2007/2008**

(Please print or type)

NAME _____

TITLE _____

Agency/Institution _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business phone _____

FAX number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Type of Membership (check one)	Total
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Member \$100 (State, Province, Territory Coordinators)	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member \$ 50 (Industry, Federal agencies, others)	_____

NASAC's Federal Employer Identification Number: 54-1589538

Please remit annual membership dues for **fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008**.
Please remit payment by the end of the first quarter, September 30, 2007. **MAKE CHECKS**
payable to NASAC and remit to:

Karl Roscher
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50 Harry S Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-5724
(410) 841-5970 FAX
roschekr@mda.state.md.us