

..... Fisheries Bibliographies, Directories and Current Awareness.....

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Many library users start their search for material from the bottom—looking for references at the back of an article; seeking papers by a particular institution known to carry out relevant research, etc.

Usually, it is more constructive to work down from the top, checking through bibliographies, directories, news services and secondary sources that are produced to make life simpler for the searcher.

Here we have provided a guide to many such recent sources. There are doubtless more, and we would appreciate readers' additions which could form a future supplement.

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CURRENT AWARENESS

Contents Journals

- Current Contents: Agriculture, Biology and Environmental Sciences. Weekly journal, covering over 1,000 major journals in both pure and applied sciences. Institute for Scientific Information, 3501 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa, 19104 U.S.A.
- Freshwater and Aquaculture Contents Tables. Monthly journal. Fishery Information, Data and Statistics Service, Fisheries Dept., FAO, Rome.
- Index to Scientific and Technical Proceedings. Monthly journal. Covers some 3,000 proceedings, nearly 100,000 papers annually. Institute for Scientific Information, 3501 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa, 19104 U.S.A.
- Marine Science Contents Tables. Monthly journal covering both living and non-living resources. Fishery Information, Data and Statistics Service, Fisheries Dept., FAO Rome.

Database Services

- CARIS, Current Agricultural Research Information System, provides information on agricultural institutions, workers, programs and projects worldwide. Fisheries are included. Updated irregularly. CARIS Coordinating Centre, FAO, Rome, Italy.
- Retrieval System for Current Research in the Agricultural Sciences (Japan). Current research programs, including fisheries. 13,000 entries/year. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Research Council, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, 1-2-1 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan.
- SSIE CURRENT RESEARCH, the Smithsonian Science Information Exchange database gives information on, *inter alia* current fisheries and aquaculture research, mostly in America. Available via DIALOG.

News Services

- BIOTROP, SEAMEO Regional Center for Tropical Biology, collects some 600 press items/year, published half-yearly. Information from the Clearing House Manager, BIOTROP, P.O. Box 17, Bogor, Indonesia.
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Theses/Dissertations

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- Dissertations, theses and academic exercises 1947-1976. 3,200 items of post- and undergraduate research at the University of Singapore. 1977. University of Singapore Library, Singapore.
- Doctoral Dissertations on Asia. F.J. Shulman, Editor. Published six-monthly; contains abstracts of recent and in-progress dissertations, mostly studies from America. The Association for Asian Studies, 1 Lane Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, U.S.A.
- Other similar bibliographies of recent theses concerning Southeast Asia, China, Japan and Korea are forthcoming from the same editor.
- Philippine Theses and Dissertation Data Base. Records from all universities and colleges in the country. Technology Resource Center, Makati, Metro Manila, Philippines. **A**

SEAFDEC, established in December 1967 as an autonomous intergovernmental body for fisheries development in Southeast Asia, has collaborated closely with various international, regional and national agencies in order to accelerate fisheries development, which is considered an integral part of the economic and social development plans of all countries in the region. The Member Countries of SEAFDEC at present are Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. Membership of the Center is still open to other Southeast Asian countries. The policymaking body of SEAFDEC is the Council of Directors, while the executive arm of the Center is the Secretariat, located in Thailand.

SEAFDEC consists of three Departments, namely: The Training Department in Thailand which addresses marine capture fisheries training and research, the Marine Fisheries Research Department in Singapore which is conducting research on post-harvest technology, and the Aquaculture Department in the Philippines for aquaculture development in the region. All three Departments, as well as the Secretariat, arrange for the exchange and dissemination of information in the fields of marine capture fisheries, post-harvest technology and aquaculture.

.....SEAFDEC Information Services.....

Owing to the fact that the SEAFDEC Member Countries are now very active in the development of their aquatic resources, and while their activities necessitate the investigation of local conditions, they are also involved in the application of techniques and the transfer of appropriate technology developed elsewhere. The time is opportune for these countries to develop improved information services collectively in support of the ongoing development of their fisheries, i.e., to develop a regional information system on fisheries and aquaculture in Southeast Asia. Such a system should serve the various users in a way similar to the agricultural information services being provided by the Agricultural Information Bank of Asia (AIBA) for the Food and Agriculture Organization's AGRIS program.

Present Activities

SEAFDEC already has two specialized information components, the project activities of the Aquaculture Department in the Philippines, and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Information Service (SAFIS) of the Secretariat in Thailand which concentrates on fisheries extension literature to reach small-scale fishermen and fish farmers.

SAFIS

SAFIS commenced activities in January 1981. SAFIS is a project developed in



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response to a recommendation made at the Consultative Meeting on Fisheries Education and Training, organized by the SEAFDEC Training Department in Bangkok, and attended by government experts from South and Southeast Asia during May 1979.

The long-term objective of SAFIS is to enhance a close relationship between fishery extension officers and small-scale fishermen/fish farmers in the region and to foster the effective transfer of appropriate technology to improve their productivity and resultant income. The more immediate objectives include: collection and classification of fishery extension manuals, brochures, pamphlets and related aids which have proven useful for small-scale fisheries development in Southeast Asia; translations of selected literature to local languages, such as Bahasa Malaysia, Tagalog and Thai for distribution to various fisheries extension services in the region; preparation of new manuals as

requested, and translation of selected literature and additional dialects as required.

During 1981, SAFIS staff compiled and catalogued books, manuals and pamphlets in various languages to assess those which may be eventually translated into the languages of Southeast Asia. Some of the information will be used in 1982 to reach small-scale fishermen/fish farmers in their native tongues.

Contact personnel have also been identified to supply additional information in the fields of marine capture fisheries, post-harvest technology and aquaculture.

The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department Library

The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department Library serves as a center for aquaculture scientific literature in the Philippines and in Southeast Asia in general. Two major projects, the Aquaculture Documentation (AQUADOC) and the Aquaculture Scientific Literature Service (ASLS), are designed to locate, acquire and quickly disseminate relevant tropical aquaculture information. These projects are part of a comprehensive system being developed.

Documentation work is exemplified by the AQUADOC project. The project undertakes to locate, document and, where possible, photocopy relevant aquaculture information in universities, fisheries schools, research institutions and in the private collections of aquaculture scientists and development workers in the country.

From the AQUADOC project, three bibliographies have been prepared—*Freshwater Aquaculture*, *Aquaculture Nutrition*, and *Reproductive Physiology*. Three serial publications are also being produced—a monthly *Acquisitions List*, an annual *Catalog of the Library*, and a quarterly *Aquaculture Abstracts*.

ASLS is an outreach project for remote research institutions and development workers. An informal Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) project is also addressed to the research staff in the Tigbauan, Leganes, Binangonan and other stations of the Department. Approximately 5,000 pages of photocopies are sent out

each month through the ASLS and SDI services.

Acquisition is enhanced by an active exchange program. The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department Library collection now stands at 5,287 volumes of monographs, 2,385 pamphlets, 4,443 reprints, 883 SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department publications, 312 microfiche titles, and 16 reels of microfilms. There are 416 serial titles regularly received: 120 are by subscription and the rest are by gift/exchange arrangements.

The SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department is one of the Regional Lead Centers of the UNDP/FAO Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia and will take part in the FAO's AQUIS project (see article p. 9).

Regional System

Southeast Asian Fisheries Information System (SEAFIS)

The Southeast Asian Fisheries Information System (SEAFIS), coordinated by the SEAFDEC Secretariat, comprises both information services and library services

provided by the three Departments of SEAFDEC. The system has the following objectives:

- To provide a facility which would act as an impetus to decision-making and planning for fisheries development in the region and which would, in turn, accelerate the pace of economic development in Southeast Asia;

- To provide a facility which would make available, in a centralized location, data and information banks in related disciplines or technologies, and which would make possible analysis of such information in the implementation of specific development activities; and

- To encourage region-wide centralization of fisheries information which would also facilitate interregional exchanges of information.

In implementing this program, SEAFDEC will follow these five steps:

Stage I : Arrangements for closer cooperation among various libraries concerned with fisheries in Southeast Asia;

Stage II : Establishment of data files on

Southeast Asian fisheries by the Training Department, on post-harvest technology by the Marine Fisheries Research Department, and on aquaculture by the Aquaculture Department;

Stage III : Compilation of information on fisheries and aquaculture in Southeast Asia;

Stage IV : Dissemination of information through subject bibliographies and abstracts; and

Stage V : Publication of relevant background documents for fisheries development in Southeast Asia.

Throughout, the SEAFDEC Secretariat will cooperate with external agencies and institutions, as well as with national agencies and universities (both inside and outside the region), that have a special interest in the fisheries and aquaculture of Southeast Asia, in order to avoid possible duplication of effort in this matter.

It is hoped that SEAFIS may serve also as an effective way to enhance cooperation of all countries concerned. **A**

NEWSBRIEFS

Bangladesh: Technical Assistance Grant for Rural Development from ADB

THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK has approved a technical assistance grant for the preparation of a rural development project in northwestern Bangladesh.

The assistance, for a total of 34 man-months, focuses on crops, fisheries, livestock, rural industries and institutional development including cooperatives and support services. It will look at ways to increase agricultural production, employment and income distribution. (Source: ADB News Release, 11 February 1982)

China: More Fish Farms, More Freshwater Fishing

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA has programmed further developments of both

freshwater fish farming and fisheries, hoping to reduce marine fishing to protect her ocean's ecological balance. (See also "Towards economic management of fisheries in China," ICLARM Newsletter, July 1981).

China already leads the world in freshwater fish production. In 1980, it contributed 1.24 M t of the world's total production of 7.4 M t.

China's freshwater area is 16.7 M ha, with 5 M already rearing fish. The 800 state-owned freshwater fisheries are now operating at full capacity, with workers' morale at its highest. The State has helped 93 counties set up fish-raising industries and allocated about \$1,680/ha/pond as investment. While developing commune and brigade fisheries, the State has also encouraged individual families to raise fish. The state has also raised the purchase price of fish by 33%.

China has over 600 species of freshwater fish. The species of fish in the mar-

ket have increased from 20 to 70. The "big four" are herring, grass carp, chub and bighead.

The State is now looking at increasing yields per unit area by improving methods. At present, ponds yield only about 750 kg/ha, lakes 135 kg and reservoirs 90 kg. (See also "Capture and culture fisheries in Chinese lakes," ICLARM Newsletter, Oct. 1980.)

Aquatic products research institutes have been set up. There are about 2,400 scientists and technicians at provincial-level institutes and 528 popularization stations with 2,061 technicians. Over 20 senior middle school and institutions of higher learning specializing in aquatic products have been set up. (Sources: China Daily, 24 January 1982; Chen Xiaojun, China Reconstructs, September 1981)

India: Joint Fishery Venture with Thailand

THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT has proposed to the Thai Government a joint fishery