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***Canada Sets Strategy For Aquaculture; In
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Canada sets strategy for aquaculture

Canada: The importance of aquaculture to the economy has been recognized
by the govt

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ANTHONY PHELPS

Feedstuffs International Correspondent

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM -- Britain's Gummer left a meeting of the European Community agricultural ministers on June 18. He announced: "The battle that has been going on for 18 years. He announced: 'The battle has finally been taken that against foot and mouth disease currently practiced in eight of the member countries, will be discontinued throughout the Community by 1992.'"

that the main protection against foot and mouth disease would thereafter be by the slaughter of all animals in infected herds, as has been the case in the U.K. for many decades. "It is a major achievement to secure EC agreement on this area, and it is a big step toward establishing a single European market," Gummer said.

Gummer said that the possibility that foot and mouth disease could be spread to animals in the U.K. could be a risk from contact with stock imported from other member states. He said that the possibility of establishing the free movement of animals throughout the Community is a major achievement.

whose livestock are compulsorily slaughtered will be compensated, Gummer said. "Small print" details of funding for the new agreement were discussed at the meeting. Gummer said that among several significant decisions, one was to require that procedures be established to curb outbreaks of animal diseases, notably foot and mouth disease, notably foot and mouth disease, notably foot and mouth disease.

Canada sets strategy for aquaculture

By IAN ELLIOTT

Feedstuffs Canadian Correspondent

OTTAWA, ONT. — On June 11, Canada's Minister for Fisheries & Oceans, Bernard Valcourt, released here a new national strategy for the future development of aquaculture.

"The aquaculture strategy explicitly recognizes the importance of aquaculture in Canada's economy. It sets out the Department of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO) strategic approach to the shaping of the Canadian aquaculture industry's future," explained Valcourt at a press conference.

Canadian aquaculture was estimated to have a landed value of \$109 million at the end of 1988. DFO projections expect the industry to grow to reach annual values of between \$500 million and \$1 billion over the next 10 years.

Production is varied across Canada and located in most regions of the country.

On the West Coast, production focuses on salmon, trout, oysters and marine plants. On the Prairies, trout and recently arctic char are being produced. In Ontario and Quebec, where trout has long dominated, the aquaculture industry is starting to produce mussels, salmon and arctic char. In the Atlantic region, production is targeted at salmon, trout, Irish moss, mussels, oysters and scallops.

The department said in background documents released with the strategy that it expects aquaculture to grow and diversify in Canada in coming years

because of the number of advantages Canada enjoys. It projected that aquaculture production will account for 25% of the landed value of Canadian fisheries by the year 2000.

According to the strategy, these competitive advantages include good habitats with extensive fish stocks, climatic diversity across the country, a good scientific infrastructure, a network of hatchery and seed operations and good proximity to major markets in the U.S. and the Pacific Rim.

Valcourt said the DFO strategy is based on five goals.

First, the department will support industry with research and development.

Second, the strategy will see the Canadian government pushing industry to manage operations in an environmentally friendly manner.

Third, the government will develop a new inspection system.

Fourth, the department will provide market and commercial analysis to industry to allow firms to realize market opportunities.

Finally, the department will operate as an advocate of the industry within the federal government.

One area the government said it will look at with this strategy is how to cut the current high costs of feeds associated with the commercial production of fish.

"In 1988, growing competition for fish meal supplies pushed worldwide fish meal prices to new heights," noted DFO.

Fish feed comprises 40-60% of the

cost of producing salmon, and 50% of the cost of rearing trout.

The DFO said that unless alternatives are found to current feeding practices, that percentage is likely to increase.

Government and private sector researchers have been at work since the 1970s trying to develop new methods and formulas to reduce costs.

"Breakthroughs have already been made," noted the DFO strategy. "The researchers have identified seven classes of protein supplements: poultry by-product meal; soybean meal; full-fat soybean meal; meat and bone protein; canola meal; rapeseed protein concentrate, and processed fisheries byproducts."

Where these alternatives are available, the DFO said, aquaculture should be able to cut costs.

"These alternative protein sources are both abundant and significantly less costly. For instance, in British Columbia the cost of soybean and canola meals are presently half that of West Coast herring meal, which currently comprises 45% of practical salmonid diets," the report said.

The department said it will be several years before this research finds its way into commercial practices.

In releasing the strategy outlined in a document entitled, "Cultivating the Future: An Aquaculture Strategy for the '90s," the Canadian government did not state how much money it is willing to spend on the strategy. #

FGIS sunflower oil calibration found to be accurate

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) has reviewed its sunflower oil certification

PROGRAM PLANS

New horizons theme of AFIA meeting

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Feed Industry Assn. (AFIA) will hold its 16th annual Midwest Conven-

sions of the farm bill. Special emphasis will be placed on the positive and negative impacts of this legislation on all sectors of agribusiness.

The program is sponsored by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.