Aquaculture for food production – successes, constraints and future research requirements in salmon farming

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EAAP Stavanger 2011 Food security: policy perspectives for industry and research



Marine Harvest at a glance



- Turnover NOK 15.2 billion
- Salmon volume 296' tonnes (HOG)
- 4 800 employees
- Presence in 21 countries
- Global market share of ~25%
 - Farmed Atlantic Salmon
- Leading producer in:
 - Norway
 - Canada (West Coast)
 - Scotland
 - Ireland
- Extensive value adding processing of convenient, healthy, natural and fresh salmon and other species
 - Europe (MH VAP)
 - USA
 - Japan

2010 Sales breakdown



Atlantic Salmon – global volumes





Source: Kontali Analyse/MHG mid range estimate for 2010

Salmon is the No.1 farmed animal in Norway



- Annual salmon production 1 mill tonnes
- More than 3 times that of meat production
- Represents 5 billion meals/year
- 31.4 billion NOK in export value (4 billion €)
- Creates close to 20 000 jobs (including supplier industry). Most of them in rural areas on the coast
- Trend towards increased local processing (value adding)

Total production of meat and farmed fish in Norway (slaughter weight tonnes)* 2010





The world needs more food





Aquaculture - increased contribution to global food consumption



Fish use (million tonnes)



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Opinions on aquaculture

"... the fish farming industry must be able to document that the production is truly sustainable. Both the fishery and the fish farming industry must have <u>the</u> <u>perspective of eternity</u>. Industry and nature must go hand in hand" **Minister of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs Lisbeth Berg-Hansen**

«If Aquaculture did not exist we would have to invent it. ... the declining European fisheries stocks complicate the supply of fish. Aquaculture plays a significant role in offsetting this ever-increasing gap ...»

European Commissioner for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Maria Damanaki

"Farmed fish is an excellent source of protein and, when produced well, helps protect the environment. <u>I am totally convinced that aquaculture is the most</u> sustainable way to feed the world."

Director WWF Aquaculture Program Jose Viallon









Norway's success formula for salmon farming





- Long sheltered coastline with temperate water (Gulf Stream) and 90 000 km2 within the sea boundary
- Visionary, innovative, hard working and dedicated people
- Willingness to invest
- Political support
- Strong regulations
- Strong tradition for collaboration between research, regulators and industry
- Steady growth in market demand for salmon (5-10% annually)

40 years of technology development





Healthy fish are happy fish



• Low stocking densities



Optimal farm location



Vaccination=reduced antibiotics



 Sea lice: from medication to biological control



Trend towards larger integrated management zones with big production units





Modern cages are big





Challenges to further growth

- Marine raw materials in feed
 - Growth from a finite resource of forage fish
 - Preserving wild stocks
- Fish Health and Wild-Farmed interaction
 - Disease management
 - Genetic interaction between
 wild and farmed fish
 - Sea lice management
- Transparency and dialogue





Escapes and protecting wild salmon stocks





- All stock losses whether escapes or eaten by predatory seals or birds – are an unnecessary cost
- We have a zero target for escapes
- We are developing methods and equipment to minimise or eliminate escapes
- Wild salmon and farmed salmon are genetically similar. It is in our interest to maintain healthy diverse stocks of wild salmon for the future
- We are researching nontransgenic methods of farming sterile fish
- Obligatory tagging of all farmed salmon will be introduced in order to trace back to farm (DNA or physical tag)

So what do salmon eat?

Decreasing marine ingredients, but...

- Increased use of by-products from fish processing (trimmings)
- Cereals and plants such as soy

In certain territories only

- Land animal proteins
- Genetically modified soy



excellence in seafood

Salmon is a very efficient feed converter and has a favourable carbon footprint





The future of fish farming



Fish health challenges

 Toolbox of new approaches biological, mechanical, improved disease resistance through breeding, better understanding of natural processes

Feed improvements

- Increasing feed efficiency by reducing wastage
- Reduce dependency on wild marine ingredients
- Alternative sources to fish oil for omega 3 supply









More aquaculture research needed!



• The European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (EATIP) is developing strategic research agendas

EATIP Thematic areas

- 1. Product Quality, Consumer Safety & Health
- 2. Technology & Systems
- 3. Managing the Biological Lifecycle
- 4. Sustainable Feed Production
- 5. Integration with the Environment
- 6. Knowledge Management
- 7. Aquatic Animal Health & Welfare
- 8. Socio-Economics & Management



European Aquacultur



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Thank you!



For more information on sustainable salmon farming: <u>www.marineharvest.com</u>

