# LACQUA 19 CONFERENCE PLANNING UPDATE

## **DEADLINE FOR ABSTRACT** SUBMISSION EXTENDED

Abstracts for oral and poster presentations at LACQUA 19 can now be submitted until 1 September. Presentations on topics are invited that are related to the most cultivated species in the Latin America and Caribbean region, with special focus on tilapia, trout, native fish, shrimp and topics such as production systems, sustainable aquaculture,

health and diseases, physiology and genetics, nutrition and food, processing and economics, and socioeconomics of aquaculture. Oral presentations, posters and abstracts may be made in Spanish, Portuguese or English. Abstracts can be submitted online through the LACQUA 19 event page: https://www.was.org/meeting/code/ LACQUA19



The participation of two special guests in the opening plenary of LACQUA19 has been confirmed. Dr. Enric Gisbert Casas is a specialist in fish nutrition and physiology and responsible for the aquaculture program of the Agrifood Research and Technology Institute (IRTA) in Spain. He has published numerous scientific articles and has collaborated on research projects in Europe, America and Asia. He is coordinator of the Cyted LARVAplus Network (Strategies for development and improvement of fish larvae production in Ibero-America), consisting of researchers from 19 universities and research centers plus nine companies from Ibero-American countries, including three in Central America and the Caribbean.

Dr. Luís E.C. Conceição is an expert on fish nutrition and metabolism, has published a large number of scientific articles and collaborates in a large number of projects, including projects in Latin America. He has a master's and doctorate in aquaculture from the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands. For several years he has been head of research and development at SPAROS, a spin-off company of the Center for Marine Sciences at the University of Algarve, Portugal, which is dedicated to innovation for the development of new products, technologies and processes for feeding fish. He is coordinator of several national projects, the EC-FP6 SEACASE project and Vice-President of the COST Action Larvanet.

# **SHORT COURSE** PRIOR TO LACQUA 19

A theoretical and practical short course on Pathologies in Shrimp Cultivation will take place on November 18-19 at the National University Omar Dengo Heredia campus. Topics discussed will include diseases in farmed shrimp, diagnostic



techniques, clinical signs of disease, practice in sampling and biosecurity strategies. The course will be offered by Dr. Luis Fernando Aranguren Caro, who has a M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona and more than 20 years of professional experience working in aquaculture health in shrimp and marine fish, focused on diagnosis, health management and biosecurity. Information about this pre-conference

workshop can be found at: https://www.was.org/Meeting/pdf/ LacQua19ShrimpPathology%20.pdf

## Two Post-Conference Tours Available

Truchas Reales is located in San Gerardo de Dota. This company is mainly engaged in aquaculture production, positioning itself as one of the largest producers of trout in Central America. Its primary objective has always been to offer the consumer safe and high quality products. The product of the company Truchas Reales de Costa Rica S.A. has been awarded for its high standards of quality, texture, freshness and flavor. It is one of the largest trout projects in Central America. This tour lasts from 7 to 8 hours and includes transport, guide and typical lunch of the region. It will be held on November 19.

Martec is an open-sea farm located 8 miles offshore of the central Pacific Ocean coast of Costa Rica, near Quepos, approximately 3 hours from San Jose. The company has a 3 km × 5 km concession for snapper farming. The site has year-round clean and warm water with stable temperatures. This tour lasts 10 hours and includes transportation, guide, transfer by catamaran, snorkeling equipment and food. It will be held on November 23.

These tours are available through the company Top Tours and all the detailed information about costs and other recommendations can be found at the following link: https://www.was.org/meeting/pdf/ LACQUA19FarmTours.pdf or you can communicate directly to the mail info@crtoptours.com and ask for the packages that the company offers both tourist and farms.

#### ADDITIONAL TOURISM SERVICES

Costa Rica is a biodiverse country, full of incredible landscapes

to know. That is why within the services offered by Top Tours there are also several tourist plans for one day or several nights. Discover them all at the LACQUA 19 meeting website through was.org. There you can find excursions to rivers, mountains, beaches and tropical jungles. Also available are tours involving adventure sports.

