

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN CHAPTER

As you read this issue of the *World Aquaculture* magazine, the LACC Board of Directors and the Steering Committee of LACQUA 2019 are working hard to finalize the organization of our next conference in Costa Rica. You can find it advertised on the WAS webpage with all information needed to register and submit abstracts.

Program chairs are also busy analyzing the abstracts already submitted to LACQUA 2019 and distributing them to the appropriate session chairs. Please do not wait for the last minute to submit your contributions because a much better conference can be organized if planning is made well ahead of time. Nevertheless, there is still time to volunteer to organize a different session. If you have a subject that is not among the themes listed on the abstract submission page, do not hesitate to contact the LACC secretariat at carolina@was.org. She will diligently forward your request to the Program Chairs and soon you will be able to discuss it with them.

This issue of *World Aquaculture* also includes a detailed article on aquaculture production in Costa Rica. Tilapia and shrimp are the main industries but rainbow trout, oysters, and marine fish farming are emerging and production has increased in recent years.

I have the pleasure to announce LACQUA 2019 will have three plenary speakers: Drs Marisol Izquierdo, Enric Gisbert, and Luis Conceição. Every morning you will enjoy a nice talk by one of these prominent scientists currently working in Spain (MI and EG) and Portugal (LC).



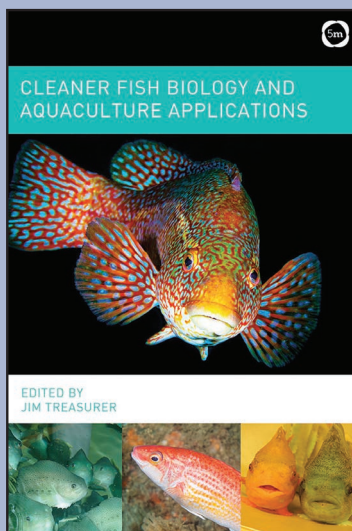
Those of you interested in shrimp farming should consider the pre-conference short course on Pathologies in Farmed Shrimp. Practical and theoretical classes will discuss the most important issues related to shrimp health. All information you need to register for this course is also on WAS webpage.

Two farm tours are also planned for LACQUA 2019. The pre-conference farm tour will visit the Truchas Reales trout farm in San Gerardo de Dota. The farm is located in the mountains, near Los Quetzales National Park, home to exotic wildlife species. Although a visit to the park is not included in the farm tour, you will be able to admire the beautiful mountain scenery from the bus. The post-conference farm tour will visit the Martec snapper farm near Quepos. You will go on board a nice catamaran to visit seabream cages in the Pacific Ocean. There will be opportunity for snorkeling and enjoying views of these magnificent fish in the cages.

Both farm tours will last a full day and will include transportation, the visit and lunch. Those visiting the trout farm should bring comfortable shoes and those visiting the seabass farm should bring a swimsuit and sunscreen (snorkeling gear will be provided).

I hope you can attend LACQUA 2019. We are working hard to organize the best LACC conference. After the conference, you can enjoy Costa Rica. It is a beautiful country, full of opportunities for exploring cities, mountains and both coasts — the Pacific on the West and the Caribbean on the East. You cannot go wrong with any of those destinations.

— *Luís André Sampaio, President*



NEW BOOK IN THE WAS ONLINE STORE

Cleaner Fish Biology and Aquaculture Applications edited by Jim Treasurer. Cleaner fish are increasingly being deployed in aquaculture as a means of biological control of parasitic sea lice, and consequently the farming of wrasse and lumpfish, the main cleaner fish species in current use in salmon farming, is now one of the fastest expanding aquaculture sectors with over 40 hatcheries in Norway alone. *Cleaner Fish Biology and Aquaculture Applications* reviews and presents new knowledge on the biology of the utilized cleaner fish species, and provides protocols in cleaner fish rearing, deployment, health and welfare. The latest knowledge is presented on specialist technical areas such as cleaner fish nutrition, genetics, health, immunology and vaccinology, welfare, transport and fisheries. Specific chapters detail cleaner fish developments in the main salmon-producing countries. The book comprehensively addresses the questions of sustainability of cleaner fish use in aquaculture, bottlenecks to the optimum production of cleaner fish, and improvements and best practice in on-farm deployment methods, for optimum survival and enhanced welfare of cleaner fish.