

Asian-Pacific Chapter sponsors participant in Larvi'05

The Asian-Pacific Chapter of WAS sponsored a regional participant in the 4th International Fish and Shellfish Larviculture Symposium (Larvi'05), held in Ghent, Belgium, on 5–8 September 2005. Dr Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy from the Aquaculture Technology Department of the Institute of Oceanography in Nha Trang, Vietnam, attended the symposium and presented her results on 'Immune responses and disease resistance against *Aeromonas hydrophila* in rohu (*Labeo rohita* Ham.) fingerlings fed on *Mentha piperita* (L.) extract mixed diet'. The sponsorship of Dr Thuy is one of the first such activities by the Asian-Pacific Chapter, and reflects the chapter's increasing capacity to support aquaculture development in the Asia-Pacific region by providing opportunities for regional researchers to exchange information and experience with other researchers.

The symposium was a great success, with over 400 participants representing more than 50 different countries. Participants were provided with 'state-of-the-art' information on larviculture technology, particularly from Europe. Most of the papers presented covered marine finfish larviculture, with relatively few on invertebrates. An emerging trend in larviculture research is the application of molecular techniques to many of the research approaches.

On behalf of the Asian-Pacific Chapter of WAS, I'd like to thank the Organising and Scientific Committees of Larvi'05 for supporting the chapter's participation in the symposium. It's also important to thank Mike Rimmer Immediate Past-President of APC for working on this project and keeping it on track.

It is important that aquaculture researchers and practitioners in the



Professor Patrick Sorgeloos (Chairman of the Organizing Committee of Larvi'05, Past President of WAS), Dr Nguyen Thi Thanh Thuy (Institute of Oceanography, Nha Trang, Vietnam) and Dr Mike Rimmer (Immediate Past President, Asian-Pacific Chapter of WAS) at Larvi'05.

Asia-Pacific region have access to the novel technology developments that are arising in Europe and regional participation in Larvi'05 assisted the development of linkages between Asian and European aquaculture. I'd like to particularly recognise the efforts of Patrick Sorgeloos, who, through Larvi conferences and other mechanisms, has been instrumental in developing effective linkages between aquaculture in Europe and in Asia-Pacific.

Next conference and elections

The APC board encourages WAS members with an interest in aquaculture in the Asian-Pacific region to join and become a member and support its activities. The chapter continues to

demonstrate its support for development of sustainable aquaculture in the region through activities such as this sponsorship, but we need your support to continue this work. We hope to see as many people as possible for the Asia Pacific Chapter in conference in AUSTRALASIAN AQUACULTURE 2006 Adelaide, South Australia, Aug 27, 2006 - Aug 30, 2006. At the conference there will be a full APC members meeting in which all members can meet the current and future board member and please give some thought to the APC elections coming up in early March 2006.

— Robert Bishop
President Asian Pacific Chapter
- World Aquaculture Society