

USSEC Organizes U.S. Fish Disease Specialist Presentations in China Conference

Dr. John Hawke from Louisiana State University traveled to China to give technical presentations on fish disease diagnosis, treatment and fish health management in Guangzhou, Nanjing, Hefei and Beijing. Dr. Hawke's trip was sponsored by both USSEC's Soy in Aquaculture Program and USSEC aquaculture cooperators in China. Fish disease has been a very serious problem that hurts China's aquaculture development. Each year, the economic loss from disease is estimated at about RMB20 billion yuan (about \$300 million U.S). With the fast development, urbanization and the trend of higher and higher stocking densities due to the continuous increase of land-use cost, the disease problem is getting more and more serious, which also directly links to the unscientific use of drugs and chemicals that cause food safety problem. It is the intention of both USSEC and the China National Extension Center for Fisheries Technology Extension (NEC) that the training on fish disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and overall fish health management be given more priorities in the future. A total of about 200 participants in the four locations attended Dr. Hawke's recent presentations, which were welcomed and accepted by both the administrators and technical associates. The provincial fisheries extension directors in Guangdong, Jiangsu, Anhui and the director-general of the NEC, met with Dr. Hawke to discuss future workshop topics.



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