

## ***The Third International Symposium on Cage Aquaculture in Asia***



The Third International Symposium on Cage Aquaculture in Asia (CAA3) with the theme “**Securing the Future**” was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in conjunction with the Malaysian International Seafood Exposition (MISE) exposition.

The symposium was organised by the Asian Fisheries Society (AFS) and Malaysian Fisheries Society (MFS) in partnership with Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and the Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia. The Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-based Industries (MOA) and the Department of Fisheries Malaysia (DOF) hosted the event. The Gold sponsor of the symposium was Uni President Vietnam and the trade show sponsors came mostly from industries in Malaysia.

CAA3 was attended by some 326 participants from 24 countries. Majority were from industry members in Malaysia. There were 56 paper and 27 posters presentations.

The scope and scale of the CAA3 were similar to the CAA2 held in Hangzhou, China in 2009. The emphasis of the symposium is to provide updated and recent information in cage aquaculture and encourages networking between researchers, practitioners, law enforcement agencies and all other stakeholders. The symposium runs six concurrent sessions as given below:

1. Site selection and environmental management;
2. Production technologies and systems development;
3. Species selection;
4. Seed production;
5. Biosecurity and health management; and
6. Feeds and feeding.

The three day symposium ended with a half day Farmer’s Day which was attended by more than 250 participants comprising 200 local cage fish farmers. The session was sponsored by the Department of Fisheries Malaysia, private sector and symposium participants.

The highlight of CAA3 was the Plenary Lecture Session held on the first day of the meeting. Two special lectures were presented:

- Dr Michael Rimmer who discussed the role that aquaculture will play in meeting the global need for nutrition and food security in the future and
- Mr Ismail bin Abu Hassan, Deputy Director General (Development) from the Malaysian Department of Fisheries described the fast developing sub-sector of cage aquaculture In Malaysia that has increased by more than 10% per year over the past 3 years and has now reached 34,154 tonnes in 2010. He indicated that the industry is expected to maintain this encouraging growth and contribute significantly to meeting the increasing demand for fish protein by adopting the new government-lead approach called the Entry Point Projects (EPP) for integrated cage aquaculture (iCAGE).

Another highlight of CAA3 is the Trade Exhibition (TE). There were 14 booths under the umbrella of CAA3, including booths for the MFS, AFS and UPM.

A summary review of CAA3 covering both the special lectures and other activities of the symposium were reported in AFS e-Newsletter No 16.

**Below are snapshots of pictures taken during CAA3.**

The CAA3/MISE meeting was opened by the Hon Datuk Seri Noh bin Omar, Minister of Agriculture & Agro-based Industry (MOA), Malaysia.



Welcome address by the Minister of MOA.



Some CAA3 session participants





The Minister of MCA visits the TE accompanied by VIPs



Trade exhibition booth



AFS Executive office, Ms Jocyntha Joseph at the AFS booth

