

## **B-48 Economic problems related to environment in different shrimp culture systems in Sri Lanka**

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During the 1985 - 1996 period shrimp culture had become one of the most rapidly expanding coastal commercial activity in the North-Western Province of Sri Lanka. The total farm area developed amounts to 2100 ha approximately and the total farm number is estimated at 925. The total annual foreign exchange earnings was Rs. 2153 million during the year 1995.

Unplanned rapid expansion in the industry has created several economic problems related to the environment. This study was carried out as a part of a regional study on aquaculture sustainability in the Asia-Pacific. The objective of this paper is to assess economic losses due to environmental problems in different shrimp farming systems in Sri Lanka.

Estimated national loss due to pollution related water quality problems amounts to Rs.1167 x 1000 x 50 while the loss due to problems related to soil quality amounts to Rs.150 x 1000 x 50. Although the losses due to problems related to soil quality was not significant, disease problems provoked by adverse water quality and soil quality conditions amounted to Rs.1082 x 1000 x 50.

Total annual losses in problems related to the environment were estimated at Rs.2399 x 1000 x 50.

Estimated National loss due to lack of seed was Rs.1466 x 1000 x 50 and the losses due to problems related to feed unavailability and bad feed quality amounted to Rs.180 x 1000 x 50.