

REPORT ON THE ADVANCED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON 'POST HARVEST TECHNIQUES FOR ORNAMENTAL FISH FOR EXPORT'

Shri N Ramesh, Director (Marketing), Marine Products Export Development Authority, Cochin on 30th August 2010 inaugurated the two day advanced training on 'Post Harvest Techniques for Ornamental fish for Export' at Integrated Rural Technology Center (IRTC), Mundur, Palakkad. The training was organized by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) in association with United Nations Conference on Trade And Development (UNCTAD) during 30th and 31st August. In his inaugural address Shri N Ramesh highlighted the role and assistance given by MPEDA in developing an export oriented ornamental fish sector in the country. He stressed the importance of ornamental fish culture in rural upliftment and women empowerment. The efforts taken by MPEDA in making the Indian ornamental fish sector to International Standards by implementing the scheme of Rainbow Revolution were also highlighted.



Shri N. Ramesh, Director (Marketing), MPEDA inaugurating the training programme. (from left to right – Smt. K M Veena, Joint Director, MPEDA, RO – Cochin; Shri N. Balakrishnan, President, Mundur Panchayat; Shri V K Dey, former Coordinator, INFOFISH; Prof. K Sreedharan, Director, IRTC)

The programme was presided over by Shri V K Dey, former coordinator INFOFISH. He gave a brief on the history of ornamental fish culture and its importance as a livelihood activity. Shri Dey mentioned the importance of mutual trust and information exchange between the stakeholders for the overall development of the industry. Felicitations were offered by Shri N. Balakrishnan, President, Mundur Panchayat and Prof. K Sreedharan, Director, IRTC

Earlier Smt. K M Veena, Joint Director, MPEDA, RO Cochin welcomed the gathering and the inaugural session concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Binu Varghese, Programme Manager (OFD). Thirty ornamental fish breeders mostly from Malabar region, who were beneficiaries of MPEDA scheme participated in the two day training programme.

The primary objective of the training was to provide the ornamental fish breeders with an opportunity to learn about the latest techniques in ornamental fish packing from the renowned experts in the field and to get updated on the latest post harvest techniques and market opportunities. Technical sessions included the key aspects of water quality and facility management, recent trends in packaging technologies and methodologies involved in export packaging of ornamental fishes and its major markets and export documentations. The participants were given hands-on training on modern techniques in ornamental fish packaging and the results of various types of packaging were also discussed.



Participants with distinguished guests and faculty members

Technical / Practical sessions – faculties and topics covered are indicated:



Shri V K Dey presented the Ornamental fish trade – Recent trends in Asia and gave an overview of the international ornamental fish trade emphasizing the role of Asian countries. The species demand and volume of trade in major markets were described in details. Various aspects of making Indian ornamental fish sector into international levels were also presented.



Dr. Anna Mercy



Shri. Sonnel



Dr Pramod P K



Shri Pushpangadhan K R

Dr. Anna Mercy, Professor, College of Fisheries, Kerala Agricultural University presented the topic on Water Quality Management practices with reference to transportation of ornamental fishes.

Dr. Binu Varghese, Programme Manager, Kerala gave introduction to post harvest techniques for ornamental fishes.

Dr. Pramod P K, Programme Manager, Karnataka presented the topic on Recent trends in Ornamental fish packaging and transport.

Shri Pushpangadhan, M/S Travancore Aquapets, Ernakulam gave lecture on Packaging of ornamental fish for export and export documentations

Shri Sonnel Noronha, M/S Pulimugham Hatcheries, Alappuzha gave lecture on Harvesting, holding, sorting/grading & conditioning of ornamental fishes. He also handled practical sessions on packaging of ornamental fishes.

Participants were grouped into four teams for conducting the practical sessions. The result of packaging and water quality were discussed in detail. Higher packing densities using various anesthetics and ammonia arresters were demonstrated.



Practical sessions on post harvest techniques for ornamental fishes