



# Fish Health Section



The official link to the FHS website is: <http://www.fisheries.org/units/fhs>

## FHS NEWS

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### **RESULTS OF POLL : SPECIFIC AQUATIC ANIMAL HEALTH TOPIC MODULES**

A total of 35 people responded to the survey (**THANK YOU**):

1. Are you a member of the Fish Health Section?

94% yes

2. Do you support this approach to FHS continuing education? 94% Yes

3. Would you pay a nominal fee to support administration of proficiency portion?  
94% Yes

Tempting to say that FHS members supported the proposal 100%  
A pilot module on QPCR confirmation will be the first goal in 2011.

Proposal:

- Each module would be in a standard format (web, DVD, workbook), focused on a single AAH laboratory topic (e.g. molecular confirmation techniques, normal fish tissue histology, fish cell culture), designed to complement the latest AFS – OIE methodology and current literature.
- To obtain a module certification, the applicant must pass a written test ( $\geq 75\%$ ) and for some modules complete a proficiency practical (e.g. isolate and identify several unknowns).

In the future, completion of these modules and a basic education prerequisite could be used to qualify an individual for FHS's two certificates (Aq. Animal Health Inspector and Fish Pathologist).

**MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS - FOR INFORMATION ON THESE AND OTHER UPCOMING MEETINGS GO TO THE WEBSITE:**

<http://www.fisheries.org/units/fhs/meeting.php>

**JOBS**

<http://www.fisheries.org/units/fhs/employment.php>

**RESOURCES**

**AADAP Newsletter**

The latest issue of the (Vol 6-3) is now available to view or download for printing. To view click on the following link and click on the pdf version link to download.

<http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/aadap/newsletter.htm>

As always, please contact us if you have any questions or comments on recent changes, or anything else related to the Newsletter or AADAP's website. Don't forget to pass this on to others that you feel may benefit from the information within the Newsletter.

And in addition:

Please find below a link to the AADAP-published 2010 Aquaculture Drug Updates. On this webpage you will find a link to the newest Aquaculture Drug Update, which was published today Thursday, 21 October 2010.

<http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/aadap/2010%20Updates.htm>

For those of you that manage a listserve or other such similar email list, we appreciate your willingness to distribute this to your members/subscribers. For everyone else, please feel free to distribute this to anyone who you feel will benefit from the information. Please be sure to include the entire Update, including links.

In addition to the Update being available via the above noted link, below is the entire text to the Update (without active links). Active links to those noted in the Update are:

On-line order form:

[http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/aadap/contact\\_vaccine\\_poster.htm](http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/aadap/contact_vaccine_poster.htm)

Email address for Niccole Wandelelear: [niccole\\_wandelelear@fws.gov](mailto:niccole_wandelelear@fws.gov)

Download webpage:

[http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/aadap/vaccine\\_download\\_page\\_Oct2010.html](http://www.fws.gov/fisheries/aadap/vaccine_download_page_Oct2010.html)

## NEWS

**PASSING - I apologize this is somewhat delayed, it was sent from Rocco and I wanted to pass it on – dated Oct 26.**

Dear Friends,

Today I received the sad news from Scotland, that Dr. Anthony "Tony" Ellis died at an age of 63 last Sunday (October 24) following his 2-3 year struggle with cancer. Tony graduated in Zoology at Queen's College and did his PhD in fish immunology at Aberdeen's Marine Laboratory, where he spent most of his career as a highly productive and very respected researcher. He became head of the Immunology/Vaccines group at the Marine Lab and he had published over 180 papers on pathogenic mechanisms, virulence factors and fish immunology. He was the founding editor of Fish and Shellfish Immunology.

Tony is survived by his wife Charlotte and their five children. Our profession shall miss this excellent colleague. Those of us who knew him well will truly miss his friendship and engaging discussions.

You can use his e-mail address [tellis@thepond2000.myzen.co.uk](mailto:tellis@thepond2000.myzen.co.uk) if you would like to send a message to his wife, Charlotte.

## **CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!**

Cornell researcher Paul Bowser and Dave MacNeill, New York Sea Grant (NYSG) fisheries specialist, are the recipients of the first Sea Grant Association's Research to Application Award for the successful and continued real-world application of a Sea Grant-funded research project over the past 20 years.

Bowser, professor of microbiology and immunology in Cornell's College of Veterinary Medicine, and MacNeill were recognized at Sea Grant Week in New Orleans last week for their work on viral hemorrhagic septicemia virus (VHSV) -- which has caused significant mortality events in a wide array of fish species as well as restrictions on the movement of live fish in the Great Lakes Basin -- and applying it in nonacademic settings.

In New York, the non-treatable viral fish pathogen poses a potential threat to the sport-fishing industry, which contributes \$1.4 billion annually to the state's economy. While the virus has not been found in fish culture facilities, the adverse impact of VHSV in aquaculture could be significant.

VHSV research by Bowser and the members of the Aquatic Animal Health Program at Cornell have provided detailed information about the virus, its spread and its effects on Great Lakes fisheries, as well as sensitive detection methods. This information has been used by MacNeill and others to inform the fishing community and other important stakeholders of methods to limit virus spread and minimize its impact. In 2009 and 2010, NYSG partnered with Lake Champlain and Pennsylvania Sea Grant programs to run, respectively, regional aquaculture workshops in Albany, N.Y., and Lamar, Pa.

## **MAINE DEPT OF MARINE RESOURCES - NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULE-MAKING**

Chapter 24.10(D)(6) Maine – Restricted area for American oyster

This emergency rulemaking adds the territorial waters between Ocean Point, Linekin Neck, Boothbay to Pemaquid Point, Bristol to the list of restricted areas for the movement of the American oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) when the size of the oyster is greater than 3 mm due to the confirmed presence of MSX. Members of the Damariscotta river area shellfish aquaculture industry have requested this emergency rulemaking and the Department found that emergency rulemaking is appropriate and necessary to prevent the spread of this disease. Separate regular rulemaking will be forthcoming to address the long term impact of this situation. A public hearing will be held in the affected area if requested of the Commissioner in writing by 5 persons. The hearing will be held within 30 days of the Commissioner receiving the written requests. For more information see online information listed or contact below.

Effective Date: October 11, 2010

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON: Laurice Churchill (207-633-9584)

For more information: Online the web link for a copy of the rule is:  
<http://www.maine.gov/dmr/rulemaking/>

Or, to obtain a hardcopy by US mail write: Dept. of Marine Resources, attn: L. Churchill, PO Box 8, West Boothbay Harbor, ME 04575-0008 TEL: 207-633-9584, or EMAIL: [laurice.churchill@maine.gov](mailto:laurice.churchill@maine.gov) FAX: (207) 633-9579 or TTY: (207) 633-9500

**FISH FARMING NEWS – FOCUS ON AQUAVET – see attached Fish Health\_FFN\_4\_10.pdf**