

**AQUACULTURE IMMERSION EXCURSION: A TEACHER
WORKSHOP SERIES FOR INTEGRATING AQUACULTURE
EDUCATION INTO THE CLASSROOM**

**- Quarterly Report –
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Submitted to:
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BRIEF PROJECT OVERVIEW

The goal of this project is to create and host two *Aquaculture Immersion Excursion* teacher workshops at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute at FAU (Harbor Branch) to support science education among Florida middle school, high school, and community college students. The specific objectives of this project are to:

1. Develop a series of standards-based aquaculture curriculum for Florida teachers and educators
2. Host teacher aquaculture immersion workshops
3. Provide teachers and school districts with incentives and resources to support integration of aquaculture and aquatics into the classroom
4. Develop a directory of workshop participants with detailed information on schools and school districts represented, teachers, and facility descriptions.

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

1. Contract signed on August 20, 2008.
2. Developed workshop website (on paper) and will begin posting informational material in November 2008. The workshop will have dedicated pages on the www.aquaculture-online.org website linked to the new Harbor Branch website (www.hboi.fau.edu). Teachers will be able to register online, and all travel information will be posted.
3. Confirmed workshop dates: June 8-12, 2008, and June 15-19, 2008.
4. Met with University of Florida (C. Ohs and L. Creswell) to discuss the opportunity of collaborating on the two projects. The following topics have been discussed and we will be moving forward with these in the second quarter:
 - a. Combine the polycom sessions and site tour of their project with the one-week workshop at Harbor Branch. This will most likely take place the first or second day. The polycom session and site tour will occur with both sessions of the workshop.
 - b. Curriculum development: The Harbor Branch grant and the University of Florida grant both proposed to develop several aquaculture curricula that will be tested or introduced to the teachers at the workshops. We have decided to combine our efforts and create six aquaculture units with a complete curriculum for each section. The curricula will be reviewed by 10 master teachers (4 from this grant) and the curriculum development team at the University of Florida in Gainesville (UF grant) to ensure that the lessons are needed and that they meet the Sunshine State Standards. Harbor Branch will be responsible for development of three of the aquaculture units. The six aquaculture units are:
 1. General Biology of Aquaculture Species
 2. Design and Operation of Growout Production Facilities
 3. Broodstock Breeding and Hatchery Techniques

4. Water Quality
 5. Nutrition
 6. Harvesting, Processing, and Packaging
- c. Mailing lists obtained by Principle Investigators of both projects will be combined.
5. Contacted potential master teachers that will be assisting with curriculum development. Two are high school agriculture/environmental science teachers, and two are middle school science teachers with an interest in aquaculture.

ANTICIPATED DELIVERABLES FOR SECOND QUARTER

1. Participation in meeting with the University of Florida PIs and their curriculum development team to set aquaculture units to Sunshine State Standard guidelines.
2. Development of curriculum.
3. Schedule master teacher curricula review meeting to happen in Gainesville in December (winter break).
4. Develop advertising material (brochure, flyer, website) for the teacher workshops that will include the participation of Harbor Branch and the University of Florida. Brochures will be mailed directly to the aquaculture/agriculture teachers, and electronic flyers will be distributed on Listserves.
5. Posting of workshop website with regularly updated information for the teachers.
6. Scheduling of logistics for the workshop such as housing, schedule, activities, and instructors.