

## MARINE FISHERIES INFORMATION SERVICE

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## CENTRAL MARINE FISHERIES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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## PERSPECTIVES IN MARICULTURE

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The fish production from the coastal sector has reached threshold limit in the last couple of decades due to great stress and over harvest of more vulnerable target and charismatic resources and a disproportionate technology creep. An ever increasing human population, ever growing demand, technology upgradation and innovations in the harvesting sector were further instrumental for capture fisheries stress, stagnation or decline. Coastal aquaculture has thus emerged as one of the viable options to enhance the production of marine biota of economic importance under scientific farming regimes in brackish/coastal waters. However, the same is beset with many environmental maladies and problems like non-standardization of farm and farming practices, disregard to the carrying capacities of the system and lack of management measures and policy planning leading to environmentally non-friendly human interventions.

Although considerable research has gone into this applied sector by research institutions/universities, there has been little effort to discuss and consolidate the research results of mariculture technologies and their implication on the information data base, ecosystem, communities and economies. Hence, the Marine Biological Association of India

(MBAI) organised a Symposium on "Ecofriendly Mariculture Technology Packages - An Update" in April 2000 at Mandapam Camp and the research results discussed were synthesized into a book entitled 'Perspectives in Mariculture'. The book includes 39 articles on topics of mariculture and allied research and development in areas of hydrology, site selection, hatchery & farming technology for shrimps, crabs, bivalves and finfishes, farming system, feed, live feed, bacteriology, biotechnology, public policy, marketing and trade. This book will serve as source of current information for students, researchers, entrepreneurs and policy makers, to widen their understanding of mariculture and facilitate need based package of farming practices.

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