

Introducing the EAS Thematic Group on European Percid Fish Culture (EPFC)

The European Aquaculture Society (EAS) is pleased to announce the foundation of a new thematic group under the auspices of EAS:

European Percid Fish Culture (EPFC)

EAS thematic group on the culture of pike-perch, perch and other species of the family percidae for human consumption, stocking and conservation



The overall scope of the EPFC is to bring together percid fish aquaculture insiders and experts from continental Europe and other regions and to provide a basis for exchange on industry and research relevant topics. The goal of EPFC is to involve representatives from the sector in a network and to facilitate future cooperation and knowledge transfer, profiting from the high level of proficiency of all EPFC participants. The group is open to all members of the EAS and explicitly invites farmers and producers as well as scientists and policy makers.

The first initiative of EPFC is to organize a workshop during the EAS/WAS congress AQUA2012 in Prague, Czech Republic, September 1-5. This workshop will take place on September 1st, in close proximity to the conference. The tentative workshop schedule features a key note presentation (to be announced) and three thematic sessions on:

1. broodstock management and fingerling production
2. ongrowing and nutrition
3. marketing and training

In each theme session, a selection of short presentations from industry and research representatives will give an overview over the current state and will pave the floor for a panel discussion.

The prospected outcome of this workshop is to:

- establish a network of farmers and companies involved in percid fish production and related industry (processing, marketing, and others), scientists conducting research on percid species (applied and fundamental), and policy representatives and NGOs with a defined interest in percid aquaculture,
- highlight the latest findings from percid aquaculture research,
- give farmers and companies the opportunity to steer research by pointing out deficits in current knowledge and to kick off a dialogue between stakeholders,
- identify the need for future training and education programs for percid aquaculture practitioners,

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- provide an easily accessible forum for exchange of knowledge, thoughts, materials, contacts, and many more, driven by the participants' needs and interests,
- spark a strong signal to the community, underlining the fact that there is an economical future in European percid culture, so there is need for research and development.

A compilation of the most tangible workshop outcomes will be summarized by the organizers and published in the EAS magazine.

The workshop will be held on September 1st, 14-19 PM in the North Hall of the Prague Congress Center, in close proximity to the AQUA2012 trade show. Registration for the workshop is mandatory. Send an email to epfc@aquaculture.cc NO LATER THAN August 1st to express your interest in participation. Please attach a short CV and letter of motivation outlining your interest in percid aquaculture (max. 1 page). This letter will be made available to all workshop participants and will be published in the member section of the EAS thematic group.



Participation in the workshop is free of charge for all registered participants of AQUA2012 and/or trade show visitors. Please refer to the EAS/WAS websites for conference and trade show registration formalities. Workshop language will be English.

Please indicate as soon as possible if you want to give a short presentation during the workshop, highlighting your research findings or your product/business. If you are interested in sponsoring this workshop, please contact the organizers under epfc@aquaculture.cc.

More details about the workshop and the EPFC thematic group can be found in the next EAS magazine and on the EAS website. Please forward this letter to all colleagues and contacts with an interest in the subject.

Looking forward to meeting you in Prague!

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Stefan Meyer

Tomáš Policar

Rumbeke (BE), Büsum (DE), Vodňany (CZ), January 31st, 2012

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