## Aquaponics in South America: State of art and perspectives



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International Conference 'Aquaponics Research Matters' Working Group Meetings and Management Committee Meeting South of the Aguiceulture South of the Aguiceulture CERES - UDESC

22 – 24 March 2016 University of Ljubljana, Slovenia





# Why we are still searching for new technologies and/or production systems?

#### Introduction



## Traditional aquaculture system are sustainable???

#### Water consuption

Use of land

#### Effluents

(Buhmann et al., 2015; Hu et al., 2015)



"Modern Aquaculture"

#### New solutions should be found to achieve:



Environmental impact



Sustainable Aquaculture production







## Aquaponics is an alternative for "Aquaculture diversification"

(Buzby & Lin, 2014)



Fonte: website International Aquaponic Societ

#### Introduction

### Aquaponics??? =

## Production system that integrates Aquaculture and hydroponics.





#### Introduction

1. Fish wastes



Basics Process in Aquaponics

> 2. Microorganisms convert wastes into plant nutrients

3. Vegetables filtered the water







# Main advantages in Aquaponics...









#### **High productivity**

#### **Rational use of water**

**Diversification** 

Improvement of feed use

#### **Products with added-value**

(Diver, 2006)

(Dediu et al., 2012; Mariscal-Lagarda et al., 2012)





# How is the situation of Aquaponics in Brazil?







## Survey: "Aquaponics in Brazil: research and commercial initiatives"

Total: 53 answers (online)

From december 2015 to february 2016





Survey





#### **Survey Profile**



University professor and reseacher

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- Underdegree student
- Investor
- Postgraduation student
- Technical
- Researcher
- Extension Specialist



#### **Profile By Region**









#### Already done research in Aquaponics?













- Lettuce
- Other green leaves vegetables
- Fruits
- Garnish/spices
- Cucumber, peper, okra, etc
- Roots (carrot, beet, etc)
- Halophytes plantas (Salicornia sp.)
- Others









#### **Aquatics Organisms**



- Tilapia
- Marine shrimp
- Pacu and Tambaqui (cachamba)
- Brazilian catfish
- Carps
- Freshwater prawns
- Others





#### **Research Focus**





- Commercial Scale
- Different aquaculture system in Aquaponics

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- Hydraulic design
- Evaluation of different fish/shrimp species
- Nutrition applied to Aquaponics
- Economics analysis in Aquaponics



#### **Scientific Production**



*Source:* UDESC-Brazil (M. Emerenciano, 2016) Total: 53 answers (from december 2015 to february 2016)

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Survey

#### **Commercial Aquaponics in Brazil**













Owner: Mr. Ernesto José Kovalski Technical manager: Mr. Guilhermo Lois Tour cost: 20 usd/person Project: 12 mil lettuce/month and two 40m3 round tilapia tanks

Curitiba, Paraná State, Brazil



Curitiba, Paraná State, Brazil













#### SISTEMAS DE AQUAPONIA COULIBRIUM



EQUILIBRIUM Aquaponics (Reciclázaro – São Paulo/SP)









EQUILIBRIUM Aquaponics (Reciclázaro – São Paulo/SP)







EQUILIBRIUM Aquaponics (Reciclázaro – São Paulo/SP)





Viva green Aquaponics (Jaguariúna – SP)





#### **Commercial Aquaponics in Brazil**



NORTH AMERICA

#### Future...



"Predictions showed that Sao Paulo city will has Aquaponics systems under building roofs in a few years..."

Source: Hypeness blog, 2015

#### Situation?



# How is the situation of Aquaponics in South America?



#### Situation?





# Pretty the same situation as compared to Brazil:

- Few research done
- Few farms implemented → we only detected 2 farms (Chile and Colombia)



• Some projects under preparation (Chile and Colombia)

## Commercial Aquaponics in South America

Some examples (2):



Chile (implemented)



Colombia (under preparation)










Owners:

Dr. Germán E. Merino Dra. Elisabeth von Brand



Diaguitas

Granja Agro-Acuícola

























# Fish (Trout)







# Plants







# First Aquaponics products in Chile







## Lettuces







# Radiccio









# Scallion and parsley









# Spinach and watercress















# Fruit irrigation







# Tours and visits

## APOYAMOS LA INNOVACIÓN AGRÍCOLA PARA QUE CHILE SIGA CRECIENDO.

Programa "Cultivo integrado de peces de agua dulce y vegetales con tecnología de recirculación de agua"













## Visit during "V International Aquaponics Congress (Chile 2014)"







Focused on tilapia cage culture (Colombia)

### NUESTRA ESPECIALIDAD

CULTIVO SOSTENIBLE DE TILAPIA

NUESTRA ESPECIALIDAD CULTIVO SOSTENIBLE DE TILAPIA





### Diversification...



PROTOTIPO ACUAPÓNICO ACTUALMENTE EN DESARROLLO

#### Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEXD2yymjjQ









Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEXD2yymjjQ

# **Research in Brazil**

Some examples:







UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE ALAGOAS





UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE SANTA CATARINA





Research focused on small scale (family) aquaponics and on effluents Team leader: Dr. Paulo Carneiro





UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE ALAGOAS **Research focused** on small scale (family) aquaponics

Team leader: Dr. Emerson Soares







**Research focused** on Marine shrimp and Halophytes sp. (i.e. Salicornia Sp.)

Team leader: Dr. Walter Quadros Seiffert



# Research at UDESC 5 cycles (2 experiments)



**Research focused:** aquaculture systemas, plant and aquatic organisms species; as well as nutrition/nutrients balance

Team leader: Dr. Maurício Emerenciano



# **Objectives of trials**

## 1. Comparison between biofloc (BFT) systems vs RAS system on lettuce aquaponic system



2. Evaluation of alternative species pacu (Piaractus mesopotamicus) in aquaponics systems



### Submitted



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Aquaculture



journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aquaculture

#### Application of biofloc technology (BFT) on the aquaponics production of different varieties of lettuce Lactuca sativa

Sara Mello Pinho<sup>1</sup>, Diego Molinari<sup>1</sup>, Giovanni Lemos de Mello<sup>1</sup>, Kevin M. Fitzsimmons<sup>2</sup>, Maurício Gustavo Coelho Emerenciano<sup>1,3\*</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> University of Arizona, Department of Soil Water and Environmental Science, Tucson, AZ, USA

<sup>3</sup>Programa de Pós-Graduação em Zootecnia (PPGZOO/UDESC), Chapecó-SC, Brazil

## Submitted



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

### **Aquaculture Reports**



Aquaculture

**Research article: Aquaculture Reports** 

Integrated production of pacu Piaractus mesopotamicus and two varieties of garnish

(scallion and parsley) in an aquaponics system

Short title: Pacu and garnish species in an integrated aquaponics system

Sara Mello Pinho<sup>a</sup>, Giovanni Lemos de Mello<sup>a</sup>, Kevin M. Fitzsimmons<sup>b</sup>, Maurício Gustavo Coelho Emerenciano<sup>a,c\*</sup>

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<sup>b</sup>University of Arizona, Department of Soil Water and Environmental Science, Tucson, AZ, USA

<sup>c</sup>Programa de Pós-Graduação em Zootecnia (PPGZOO/UDESC), Chapecó-SC, Brazil







STORATE



Greenhouse- 18 m<sup>2</sup> area and 3 m high

**Experimental design** 



RAS (exper. 1) Tilapia

• Experimental design



Experimental design



## Resultados

### **Plant Growth**




• Both BFT and Pacu are suitable for aquaponic systems, enhancing the productivity and improving plant quality





# Other contributions from UDESC



## Experimental Unit at a local high school













Photos: Sara Pinho

### Experimental Unit at a local high school







Photos: Sara Pinho



#### Information

www.panoramadaaquicultura.com.b

Uma Publicação Sobre Cultivos Aquáticos ~

Vol. 25, nº 147 Janeiro / Fevereiro - 2015

#### Panorama da AQÜICULTURA

# <section-header>AQUAPONIA UMA ALTERNATIVA DE DIVERSIFICAÇÃO NA AQUICULTURA

Spill Pond: uso eficiente de grandes viveiros na produção de peixes e camarões ◆ Desafios do melhoramenti genético de organismos aquáticos ◆ Uso do Aquate Fish™ para a formação de juvenis de titânia ● Entrevist com o ministro Helder Barbalho ◆ MeM: o grande diterencial para as tases iniciais do cuttivo de camarão Produção em escala influencia a aquícultura? ◆ MPA cria grupo de trabalho e já estabelece prioridade



#### **AQUAPONIA:**

uma alternativa de diversificação na aquicultura

#### Por:

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## Thanks to...



#### Partners:



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Alimentos Ltda



Laboratório Atlântico S

#### Our Team (LAQ/UDESC STaFF):



# Thank you very much!

UDESC



