# TILAPIA-SHRIMP POLYCULTURE AT LOW SALINITY WATER: STOCKING DENSITIES OF NILE TILAPIA AND FEEDING STRATEGIES

Yang Yi, Wanwisa Saelee, Potjanee Nadtirom, Aye Aye Mon, Kevin Fitzsimmons



AARM/AIT

Asian Institute of Technology
Thailand

Univeristy of Arizona USA



Aquaculture CRSP

#### **Introduction (1)**

#### Coastal shrimp culture

- One of the major problems is the disease outbreak such as white spot
- Causes the failure of marine shrimp production
- Abandoned shrimp ponds

#### Inland shrimp culture

• Rapid expansion of shrimp culture into many inland areas

#### Sustainable shrimp culture

- The polyculture of shrimp-tilapia at relative low stocking density may provide an opportunity to develop a sustainable aquaculture system
- To best utilize abandoned shrimp ponds in coastal areas and low-salinity shrimp ponds in inland areas.



#### **Objective**

• To determine optimal stocking density of Nile tilapia in a tilapia-shrimp polyculture system at low salinity.

#### **Experimental Design**

- Treatment 1 (shrimp monoculture):
  - Shrimp (*Penaeus monodon*)
  - Density: 30 pcs/m<sup>2</sup>
- Treatment 2 (Low tilapia density polyculture):
  - Shrimp plus Nile tilapia
  - Tilapia density: 0.25 fish/m<sup>2</sup>
- Treatment 3 (Low tilapia density polyculture):
  - Shrimp plus Nile tilapia
  - Tilapia density: 0.5 fish/m<sup>2</sup>

#### **Two Experiments**

- Experiment 1
  - Varied feed ration in individual ponds
  - Determined by feeding tray method

- Experiment 2
  - Fixed feed ration in all ponds
  - Determined by a feeding table

#### **Experimental Conditions**

- Nine 200-m<sup>2</sup> earthen ponds
- Shrimp PL60 (0.4-1.2 g)
- Tilapia (5-8 g) stocked 1 week after shrimp stocking
- Pond fertilization once before stocking
- Shrimp feed (36% CP), fed at 0600, 1200 1800, 0000
- Initial salinity 5 ppt, then no more saline water added
- Diffusing aeration system, 24 hrs daily
- No water exchange
- No chemical/drug use







# Harvested shrimp and tilapia





## **Experiment 1. Shrimp performance**

			Treatment	S
Parameter	Unit	Monoculture	Polyculture	
			Low density	High density
Stocking				
Mean weight	g/pieces	1.2 <b>±</b> 0	1.2 <b>±</b> 0	1.2 <b>±</b> 0
Total weight	kg/pond	7.3 <b>±</b> 0	7.3 <b>±</b> 0	7.3 <b>±</b> 0
Harvest				
Mean weight	g/piece	16.3 <b>±</b> 0.98	16.6±1.05	15.4 <b>±</b> 0.66
Total weight	kg/pond	61.8 <b>±</b> 2.14	59.1±5.58	63.6±1.78
Survival rate	%	64.00±1.78ab	59.00±2.73 <sup>b</sup>	69.00±1.73 <sup>a</sup>
Net yield	t/ha/crop	4.19 ± 0.16	$3.98 \pm 0.43$	$4.33 \pm 0.14$
Gross yield	t/ha/crop	4.75 ± 0.16	$4.55 \pm 0.43$	$4.89 \pm 0.14$
Feed input	kg/pond/crop	$87.7 \pm 2.79^{a}$	$108.9 \pm 1.78^{b}$	$112.2 \pm 0.26^{b}$
Apparent FCR		$1.62 \pm 0.11$	$2.14 \pm 0.20$	$2.00 \pm 0.06$

#### **Experiment 1. Tilapia performance**

	_			
		Treatments		
Parameter	Unit	Low tilapia density polyculture	High tilapia density polyculture	
Stocking				
Mean weight	g/fish	$5.5 \pm 0$	$5.5 \pm 0$	
Total weight	kg/pond	$0.3 \pm 0^{a}$	$0.6 \pm 0^{b}$	
Harvest				
Mean weight	g/fish	$263.9 \pm 7.73$	$267.8 \pm 15.88$	
Total weight	kg/pond	11.6 ± 1.28 <sup>a</sup>	$26.0 \pm 1.34^{b}$	
Survival rate	%	82.67 ± 8.19	$88.00 \pm 2.06$	
Daily weight gain	g/fish/day	$3.98 \pm 0.00$	$4.04 \pm 0.24$	
Net yield	t/ha/crop	$0.87 \pm 0.10^{a}$	$1.96 \pm 0.10^{b}$	
Gross yield	t/ha/crop	$0.89 \pm 0.10^{a}$	$2.00 \pm 0.10^{b}$	

# Experiment 1: Partial budget analysis (based on 200-m<sup>2</sup> ponds for 65 days, US\$/200m<sup>2</sup>/crop)

Items	Monoculture	Low tilapia density polyculture	High tilapia density polyculture
Gross revenue			
Shrimp	264.91	253.50	272.63
Tilapia	-	4.16	9.35
Total	264.91	257.66	281.98
Total variable cost	144.03	162.79	167.42
Net return	120.88	94.87	114.56
Added cost	-	18.76	23.39
Added return	-	-7.25	17.07
Added return/added cost	<del></del>	-0.39	0.73

### **Experiment 1: Conclusion**

#### Tilapia-shrimp polyculture is:

- Technically feasible
- Environmentally not sure
- Economically not attractive

#### Further research:

Adjust feeding strategy

# **Experiment 2. Shrimp performance**

	Unit		Treatments		
Parameter		Monoculture -	Polyc	Polyculture	
			Low density	High densit	
Stocking					
Mean weight	g/pieces	$0.4 \pm 0.00$	$0.4 \pm 0.00$	0.4±0.00	
Total weight	kg/pond	2.6±0.00	2.6±0.00	2.6±0.00	
Harvest					
Mean weight	g/piece	12.7±0.37	12.8±0.33	12.3 <b>±</b> 0.28	
Total weight	kg/pond	50.6±1.18 <sup>b</sup>	60.6±2.90a	52.1±2.30b	
Survival rate	%	66.70±3.60	79.50±5.61	70.70±1.86	
Net yield	t/ha/crop	$2.40 \pm 0.06^{b}$	2.90±0.15 <sup>a</sup>	2.47±0.12 <sup>b</sup>	
Gross yield	t/ha/crop	2.53±0.06 <sup>b</sup>	3.03±0.15 <sup>a</sup>	2.6±0.12 <sup>b</sup>	
Feed input	kg/pond/crop	83.1	83.1	83.1	
Apparent FCR		1.70±0.04 <sup>b</sup>	1.44 <b>±</b> 0.07 <sup>a</sup>	1.69±0.08 <sup>b</sup>	

# **Experiment 2. Tilapia performance**

romotor	T Taol 4	Polyculture treatments		
rameter	Unit	Low tilapia density	High tilapia density	
ocking				
Mean weight	g/fish	8.0±0.28a	6.6±0.12 <sup>b</sup>	
Total weight	kg/pond	$0.40 \pm 0.02^{a}$	0.67±0.01 <sup>b</sup>	
arvest				
Mean weight	g/fish	323.5±8.19	326.4±16.36	
Total weight	kg/pond	15.7±0.31 <sup>a</sup>	30.5±1.87 <sup>b</sup>	
Survival rate	%	97.33±0.67 <sup>a</sup>	93.33±1.20 <sup>b</sup>	
aily weight gain	g/fish/day	4.64±0.12	4.70±0.24	
et yield	t/ha/crop	$0.77\pm0.02^{a}$	1.49±0.09 <sup>b</sup>	
oss yield	t/ha/crop	$0.79 \pm 0.02^{a}$	1.53±0.09 <sup>b</sup>	

# Experiment 2: Partial budget analysis (based on 200-m² ponds for 65 days, US\$/200m²/crop)

(based on 200-m <sup>2</sup> ponds for 65 days, US\$/200m <sup>2</sup> /crop)					
Items	Monoculture	Low tilapia density	High tilapia density		
oss revenue					
Shrimp	192.94	230.77	198.46		
Tilapia Tilapia	-	7.56	14.64		
Total	192.94	238.33	213.10		
tal variable cost	144.39	146.39	148.39		
et return	48.54	91.93	64.71		
lded cost	-	2	4		
lded return	<u>-</u>	45.39	20.16		
lded return/added cost	-	22.69	5.04		

#### **Experiment 2: Conclusion**

Tilapia-shrimp polyculture is:

- Technically feasible
- Environmentally friendly
- Economically attractive

Further research:

Optimize feeding regime

#### **General Conclusions**



Technically feasible

Under appropriate feeding strategy

- Environmentally friendly
- Economically attractive
- Use of cost effective diets and optimization of feeding inputs is therefore vital in sustainable shrimp farming and can make the shrimp-tilapia polyculture more attractive to shrimp farmers:
- The addition of Nile tilapia into shrimp ponds can improve feed utilization efficiency, resulting in better economic returns and less environmental pollution

