

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
AQUACULTURE EXTENSION PROGRAM

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I am currently employed as program director for Aquaculture Extension with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University. My expertise is in aquaculture production including marine and freshwater fish and shrimp, aquatic animal nutrition, fish reproduction, and water quality. In the past, I have assisted food fish, baitfish and sportfish aquaculture producers in Arkansas; and I have collaborated with technology transfer projects to aquaculture producers overseas (Latin America and Southeast Asia).

In my new position, I will strive to provide support to local fish and shrimp farmers, aquaponics producers, and private pond owners, by facilitating communication and collaboration with research and extension faculty, staff and students from Ohio State and other academic institutions.

An initial assessment of aquaculture production in Ohio indicates that some of the objectives for the Aquaculture Extension Program may include:

- Develop and implement research and Extension projects that improve capacity and productivity to aquaculture farming operations. Topics that have been identified to fulfill this objective include developing largemouth bass fingerling production projects, enhancing yellow perch fingerling production by broodstock nutrition manipulation, and developing alternative production systems.
- Promote Ohio's aquaculture industry through training programs, workshops, and hands-on activities with different stakeholders.
- Develop a research verification program that can be implemented in Ohio, and across the North Central Region.
- Strengthen technology transfer to Ohio's aquaculture producers by promoting visits, exchanges, on-farm research and demonstration projects, and outreach through the Buckeye Aquafarming, among others.