



ICAR-CIBA - a nodal R&D agency working in brackishwater aquaculture for the past three decades with a vision of environmentally sustainable, economically viable and socially acceptable aquaculture technologies, system interventions, technology backstopping and policy inputs by the institute, contributing to economic benefits of the sector which has already recorded annual export revenue of ₹ 20,000 crores apart from domestic consumption.

# SEED PRODUCTION AND FARMING TECHNOLOGY OF ASIAN SEABASS

ICAR-CIBA

Being India a tropical country with rich biodiversity of aquatic species and water resources, it is necessary to diversify the farming of fish species for judicious utilization of resources. Seabass is a fast growing, high value carnivorous fish ideal for farming in wide range of salinities. While its standard table size is 500g to 3 kg, it can grow to a size of 2 meters long and 60 kg weight. Equating its biological and culture potential, ICAR-CIBA made a breakthrough

## Highlights of the expertise/technology

- Year round seed production.
- A hatchery capacity of 5 million fry/ annum can be constructed with Rs.200 lakhs fixed investment and another Rs.40 lakhs for operation expenses. In 8 to 10 cycles an income of Rs.100 Lakhs/ annum can be realized under normal conditions.
- Package of practices for breeding, larval rearing, nursery rearing, grow-out farming and market information.
- Unique package for rearing in ponds, cages, tanks and recirculating aquaculture systems.
- Suitable practices for polyculture, monoculture, Integrated Multitrophic Aquaculture (IMTA) and intensive farming in cages.
- Exclusive indigenous feed technology for all the life stages of seabass.
- Extensively field tested and demonstrated.





## Transfer of technology and commercialization

- In year 1999 seed production technology was transferred to a RGCA, under Marine Products Export Development Agency (MPEDA).
- In year 2012 and 2013 Hatchery technology was transferred to Sankar Rao Hatcheries, Andhra Pradesh and M/s Suryo foods, Odisha respectively.
- Nursery rearing and grow-out farming techniques of seabass was extensively transferred to several small farmer groups and entrepreneurs in all the maritime states.

## Impact of the technology

- ICAR-CIBA and technology recipient RGCA, MPEDA together producing about 4 million seabass seeds /annum.
- Farming takes place extensively in West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra on total area of 4000 to 5000 ha including freshwater regions with an estimated production to a tune of 6000 to 8000 tons worth Rs. 200 crores.
- About 20,000 people are directly employed in various farming activities, and another 10,000 people are involved in allied sectors.



## Services Offered

- Detailed Project Report including sourcing of equipment, chemicals and reagents.
- Training of technical personnel.
- Transfer of technology on non-exclusive basis.

## Sources

- Risk analysis on Introduction of *L. vannamei* in India 2007, ICAR-CIBA and ICAR-NBFGR.
- CIBA e-Publication series No.19; <http://www.ciba.res.in/Books/ciba0597.pdf>.
- ICAR-CIBA signed MoU with Sai Aquafeeds, Andhra Pradesh in 2015.

***“Brackishwater aquaculture for food, employment and prosperity”***

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