

Making the Fish Farming Decision in Southern California

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General Recommendations

Fish farming is not recommended in urban areas of Southern California. If you are considering a rural area with reasonable land and water costs, investigate local regulations on water discharge from fish ponds.

Commercial farming of catfish and rainbow trout is successful in some areas of Southern California. Another option is a "pay lake," where anglers are charged a fee to fish.

Regulations and Registration

For information on California aquaculture regulations and registration contact:

California Department of Fish and Game
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

For saltwater information:
Marine Resources Division
(916) 653-6281

For freshwater information:
Inland Fisheries Division
(916) 653-8262

The California Department of Fish and Game can also provide lists of registered saltwater and freshwater aquaculturists in California. The lists are coded for type of operation (brood stock, fee fishing, etc.) and species produced. They may help you locate producers in your area.

Economic Analysis

Economic analysis is strongly recommended before you invest. Land and water costs are major factors. Aquaculture Magazine has articles on economics, as well as on technical matters. It also offers an annual buyer's guide featuring listings for many suppliers of equipment and materials. Write to:

Aquaculture Magazine
P.O. Box 2329
Asheville, NC 28802

Markets change rapidly and competition is intense. You should prepare a realistic marketing plan before you invest. Seafood Business and Seafood Leader magazines may help you explore markets for food fish. For subscription information write to:

Seafood Leader
1115 NW 46th Street
Seattle, WA 98107

Seafood Business
P.O. Box 908
Rockland, ME 04841

To simplify information, trade names of products have been used. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.



University of California Cooperative Extension
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Information Sources

The California Aquaculture Association (CAA) is a good source of information on the local industry, brood stock sources, problems encountered in local fish farming and new developments. The CAA publishes a newsletter, *California Aquatic Farming*. For information contact:

California Aquaculture Association
P.O. Box 1004
Niland, CA 92257
Phone: (619) 359-3474

A wealth of technical information on various fish and on crayfish, prawns, bullfrogs and alligators is included in *Third Report to the Fish Farmers*, published in 1984 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The editors are Harry K. Dupree and Jay V. Huner. It is now out of print. You may be able to borrow a copy from your library or through interlibrary loan.

If you are interested in catfish farming, chapters 4 (production), 11 (nutrition), 12 and 13 (harvest and transportation), and 14 (parasites and diseases) of this book have been reprinted as four separate booklets. You may order them from:

Fish Farming Experiment Station
P.O. Box 860
Stuttgart, AR 72160
Phone: (501) 673-4483

The entire book may be reprinted in the future.

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service can advise you on pond and dam construction. They may be listed in the federal government section of the telephone book under the U.S. Department of Agriculture. If they are not in your local directory, call your County Farm Advisor Department (University of California Cooperative Extension). See telephone numbers below for County Farm and Marine Advisor Offices in Southern California.

University of California Assistance

Your University of California (UC) Farm Advisor offices can refer you to local soil Conservation Service offices and other sources of agricultural assistance.

Santa Barbara and San Diego counties have Marine Advisors in the Farm Advisor office. They can advise you if you have more aquaculture questions after you have obtained and reviewed the suggested material.

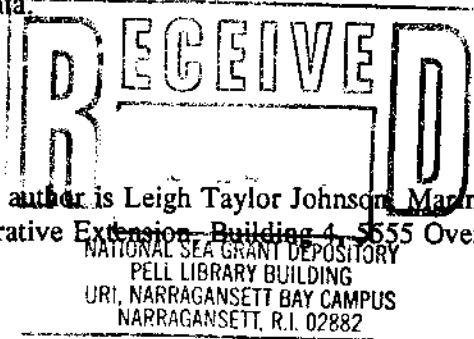
The Aquaculture Extension leaflet, *Additional Information*, (available from your local Marine Advisor) describes how to order two bibliographies on the aquaculture of many freshwater and saltwater species.

County Farm and *Marine Advisor Offices (UC Cooperative Extension) in Southern California:

Imperial County:	(619) 352-9474
Inyo and Mono Counties:	(619) 873-7854
Los Angeles County:	
Los Angeles	(213) 744-4851
Lancaster	(805) 723-4477
Orange County:	(714) 447-7150
Riverside County:	(714) 683-6491
San Bernardino County:	(714) 387-2171
*San Diego County:	(619) 694-2845
San Luis Obispo County:	(805) 549-5940
*Santa Barbara County:	(805) 681-5631
Ventura County:	(805) 654-2924

Please take time to obtain and read the recommended material and contact the agencies mentioned. After you have done this, you should have a good idea of the resources necessary to raise a particular species. When you have narrowed your focus to one or two species, you may wish to contact the Aquaculture Extension office of UC Cooperative Extension at the Davis campus. Call or write:

Aquaculture Extension
University of California
Davis, CA 95616
Phone: (916) 752-7490



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