

CMFRI achieves maiden success in the finfish breeding of pompano

The silver pompano, *Trachinotus blochii* is one of the topmost tropical finfishes, mainly owing to its fast growth rate and high market demand. The Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute initiated the aquaculture research on pompano since 2008 and the first successful broodstock development, induced breeding and larval production is now successfully



accomplished. It can be considered as a milestone towards the development of pompano aquaculture in the country.

Silver pompano is caught only sporadically in the commercial fishery and hence its natural availability in the sea is rather scarce. It is a much sought after species and hence the demand can be met only through aquaculture. The farming of pompano can be successfully carried out in ponds, tanks and floating sea cages. Since the species is able to acclimatize and grow well even at a lower salinity of about 10 ppt, it is suited for farming in the vast low saline and brackishwaters of our country besides its potential for sea cage farming.

It is evident that any aquaculture venture can be popularized only if proper technology is available and

the practise is of high commercial value. In the Indian domestic market the current price of pompano is about ₹ 200/kg.

The present success in the pompano breeding is a major step in the development of seed production technology. However, standardization of commercial



level seed production technology is the next urgent step. Hence investment on infrastructure for broodstock development and state-of-the-art hatchery should be given topmost priority. It is felt that pompano is a potential mariculture giant which has vast domestic and global business prospects.

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