

Tilapia Cage Farming in Vietnam

Introduction:

Cultivation of fish in cages is a dominant type of freshwater aquaculture in the southern provinces of Vietnam and the Mekong Delta. Due to limited land availability, cage culture of fish has expanded by effectively taking full advantage of the available water resources. Tilapia cage farms are the most popular freshwater cultivation practice which has contributed substantially to livelihoods, food demand and poverty alleviation.

Intervention:

Better management practices such as improvements to the cage designs, checking seed quality at stocking, monitoring water quality and fish health, improving bio-security during production, keeping records and a proactive approach to health management. It promotes use of new advanced techniques like high-density polyethylene (HDPE) floating cages and nets with anti-fouling coatings, based on Norwegian technology. The floating cages can endure winds and waves, are easy to move, and can breed a large quantity of fish. They are convenient for checking and harvesting fish leading to increase in the quality of fish and other aquatic species bred in floating cages. The Government has advised fish farmers to pay attention to the quality of fish seed and market demand. The department is also building a brand name for the province's fish bred in floating cages so they can be sold directly to wholesale markets and supermarkets. This would add more income for farmers.

Learnings:

Similarly, customized model can be adopted in India, wherein, the floating cages can be located in sea areas far from shore and have clean water, preventing pollution and disease among fish.

Source: The Fish Site, Better Management Practices, <https://vietnamnews.vn/society/506454/farmers-use-advanced-techniques-to-breed-fish-in-cages.html>