

## FISH HEALTH AND FOOD SECURITY

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### FISH AS FOOD (Wikipedia)

- ▶ Fish are consumed as food by many species, including humans. It has been an important source of protein and other nutrients for human throughout recorded history.

### FISH PLAYS ECOLOGICAL ROLES IN THE AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM

- ▶ Fish are important because they contribute essential nutrients to their ecosystems (University of Georgia and Florida International University)
- ▶ Excreting nutrients they take after consuming microorganisms, plants and smaller animals

### FACTORS AFFECTING THE AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS (Regional Aquatics Monitoring Program)

- ▶ Environmental stresses (e.g. habitat alteration in which one habitat is destroyed and another created)
- ▶ Anthropogenic stresses or human impact on the environment (e.g. amount of contaminants deposited; climate change through the production of greenhouse gases; loss of biodiversity and introduction of exotic species)

### FISH HEALTH

- ▶ Fish reproductive capacity
- ▶ Metabolic activity
- ▶ Morphological deformities
- ▶ Cellular and histological changes
- ▶ Reduced fish immune functions that leads to illness and poor reproduction

- When we define **FISH HEALTH**, we must look beyond the health of the individual animal and consider the health of the group.
- Are we achieving our desired production performance ?????
- Are the final product delivered to markets and processing plants, boxing and delivery to customers safe?????

### Some Government Efforts

- ▶ Trainings and seminars on pre-requisite programs e.g GMP; SSOP and HACCP
- ▶ Implementation of National Residue Monitoring Program
- ▶ Continuous knowledge update on fish health
- ▶ Philippines National Standard of the GAqP code (PNS/BAFS 135:2014 ICS 65.150)
- ▶ Philippine Food Security Information System (PhilFIS)

### FOOD SECURITY (World Food Summit, 1996)

- ▶ “Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for active and healthy life”.

**FISH IS AMONG THE  
HEALTHIEST FOODS ON  
THE PLANET (Joe Leech)**

**THANK YOU.....**