



FISH HEALTH SECTION Newsletter

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73-3

Aug. 1973

ADVANCES IN DISEASE CONTROL

The DISEASE CONTROL PLAN developed by the Colorado River Wildlife Council is being implemented. All member agencies in this system have ratified the plan. This is a large scale and major involvement in fish disease control and numerous FHS members have voiced approval of this action. It seems congratulations are in order for all who played a part in the development of this affaire d'honneur.

A STANDING COMMITTEE on FISH DISEASE CONTROL was established by the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission at their annual meeting in Ottawa in June. The objectives of this committee are to: 1) conduct an inventory of disease problems, 2) determine the degree of surveillance required, 3) review regulations, 4) review expertise, and 5) propose measures for the eradication and control of dangerous fish diseases. Obviously, committee action in this international group could lead to development of a substantial program.

FHS Highlights

1. The BYLAWS RATIFICATION balloting conducted through the last Newsletter brought in 58 approvals and 3 disapprovals. President Fryer will be consulting with AFS officials regarding their approval and/or acceptance of these ratified Bylaws.
2. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE: Chairman Don Amend has been actively leading the committee toward the present goal of recognition of professional fish health workers. The committee is hopeful that this recognition will include a unified professional title that accurately identifies members of our group. Contact has been made with the Board of Certification of the AFS regarding this. The committee welcomes comments from all members who feel they can contribute. Contributions should be forwarded to Don Amend, Western Fish Disease Lab., Seattle, WA 98115.
3. TECHNICAL PROCEDURES COMMITTEE: Chairman Dave McDaniel and his cohorts have prepared a preliminary report draft which demonstrates that a great deal of work has already gone into development of technical procedures. Future Newsletters will cover more specific details as they become available in final report form.
4. NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE: In order to serve the FHS membership to the greatest extent we can, an open invitation is extended to all members to forward news items to committee members listed below (if you've no preference, please forward to member geographically nearest you). Also include comments on format or content which you feel would improve your Newsletter.

Dennis Anderson, P.O. Box 252, Genoa, WI 54632

Dr. Chris Frantsi, Fish Disease Lab., RR#6, Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada

Chris Jensen, Oregon Game Commission, P.O. Box 3503, Portland, OR 97208

Joseph McCraren, Warm Water Hatchery Biologist Center, Tishomingo, OK 73460

Doug Mitchum, Wyoming Game & Fish Research Lab., Box 3312, Laramie, WY 82071

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Professional News & Views

1. A recent and severe **NORTHERN PIKE KILL** on the Fox River near Oshkosh, Wisconsin was attributed to Gill Rot of Pike. Branchiomyces demigrans was identified as the etiologic agent which claimed an estimated 20,000 to 25,000 northern pike between 16" and 22" length. This is the first known significant loss of game fish in North America, caused by this disease. Hot summer weather was a likely predisposing factor in this mortality which was most evident during the week of July 8 to 14. (For further information contact: Jim Warren, Box 252, Genoa, WI 54632)
2. A **FISH DISEASE RESEARCH and SERVICE PROGRAM** was started in the College of Vet. Medicine at the Univ. of Georgia in 1969. Dr. John Gratzek, Project Leader, reports they are offering courses on fish disease to the general student body and to veterinary students. In September of 1972 a three day workshop was conducted on diagnosis of fish diseases and was attended by 20 veterinarians from 20 states. Research accomplishments include development of a differential medium for Aeromonas liquefaciens and a microtiter system for Channel Catfish Virus. This project also provides fish disease diagnostic services mostly on referrals from veterinarians, extension personnel and county agents. (For further information contact: Dr. Gratzek at Univ. of Georgia, College of Vet. Medicine, Athens, GA 30602)
3. **CHANNEL CATFISH EGGS** may be treated safely with single exposures to 100 ppm Betadine prior to the time they begin to hatch. This treatment is extremely toxic to newly hatched sac-fry. This word comes from the Warm Water Hatchery Biologist Center at Tishomingo, Oklahoma. Also recommended with this disinfection is a treatment with malachite green at 1:15,000 for 30 seconds at time of egg collection. The iodophor treatment has been found ineffective against fungus so the commonly employed dip in malachite green is still needed. These recommendations are based on test results over the past two spawning seasons in water between 74 and 79°F. No buffering of disinfectant solutions was required as the well water used in the trials was sufficiently buffered naturally. Premature emergence of fry due to iodophor exposure has not been observed. Exposure times for Betadine of up to 10 minutes have not been unsafe for the eggs. (For further information contact: Joe McCraren-see pg. 1)

MEETINGS AND MISCELLANY

1. **WILDLIFE DISEASE CONFERENCE:** August 22-25, Univ. Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Saturday (8/25) Section A on Diseases of Fish
2. **Annual AFS MEETING:** Sept. 13 & 14, Contemporary Hotel, Lake Buena Vista, FL
(Fish Health Module: Dr. George Klontz, Chairman)
3. FHS member Dr. Herbert R. Axelrod (President, T.F.H. Publications, Inc.) has submitted information and a series of reviews concerning fish disease books published by T.F.H. Publications, Inc., 211 West Sylvania Avenue, Neptune, NJ 07753. The review list includes nine books (8 on fish disease), one of which will be published this fall while the others are already available. The new book is FISH PATHOLOGY by Dr. H. Reichenbach-Klinke (T.F.H. # PS-204) which is said to contain over 500 pages of up-to-date information on all pathological conditions and diseases of fish. Further information and price lists may be obtained by writing the company.
4. The 4th Annual **MIDWEST FISH DISEASE WORKSHOP**, held at the Univ. of Arkansas at Little Rock on June 5-7, was highlighted by discussions of key regional and national disease problems. Next years meeting site will likely be Kansas City, MO.
5. The 14th Annual **WESTERN FISH DISEASE CONFERENCE** was held at the Marine Science Center, Newport, Oregon on July 5 & 6 and covered many disease problems known to Westerners. Existing local control programs and proposed federal legislation were also discussed. The 1974 conference will be held in Nanaimo, British Columbia.