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## FISHERIES &amp; AQUACULTURE

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**Actions of the Brazilian Confederation of Agriculture and Livestock to improve aquaculture health management in Brazil****Lilian A Figueiredo**

Brazilian Confederation of Agriculture and Livestock, Brazil

Aquaculture has expanded and became socially and economically important agribusiness in Brazil along the past decade. However, despite the favorable climate, the vast availability of natural resources along with inputs for aquaculture production and providing fish health control, extension services to producers still represent a great challenge. In order to mitigate these, CNA is supporting programs to improve the prevention and control of aquatic animal diseases, as well as training programs for fish producers and technical personnel. One program financed by CNA is the pilot project that is monitoring the health status of fingerlings, which is a known critical point in the production chain, as the transportation of live animals is pointed out as the major cause of the introduction and spreading of fish diseases on farm level in Brazil. This project is currently being carried out in three major aquaculture production states (Parana, Mato Grosso and Rondonia). The state of Minas Gerais and Distrito Federal also integrate the project, being financed by the Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply (MAPA). All laboratorial analysis has been done by the Aquacen, which is the national reference official lab located at Minas Gerais Federal University. The project begun in December 2016 and up to date no disease of compulsory notification has been detected among the 7200 samples analyzed. Another CNA initiative is the preparation of technical guidelines on fish disease identification and biosecurity practices destined to fish producers and technicians. These publications follow the recommendation of the PVS report of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) regarding the Brazilian Aquatic Animal Health Service. OIE has indicated the need to increase training opportunities on aquatic animal disease identification, better animal health practices and production reports to improve yields on farm level. The Brazilian Confederation of Agriculture and Livestock (CNA) is allocating substantial financial and human resources to improve aquatic animal health in the country in order to support Brazilian aquaculture to express its real production potential and to become a major seafood producer in the world.

**Biography**

Lilian A Figueiredo is an experienced Technician on aquatic animal health and has contributed to the development of fisheries and aquaculture in Brazil. Her work in the National Aquaculture Commission of the Brazilian Agriculture and Livestock Confederation has brought attention and improvement to aquaculture within the national agribusiness.

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