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Knowledge management and intellectual property issues in aquaculture

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A n encouraging fact in the aquaculture world today is the extent to which science is driven and how knowledge-intensive the enterprise has become. We are all talking about the 'blue revolution' and how the use of aquatic resources has a significant potential in several fields ranging from pharmaceuticals, diagnostic and analytical reagents to excipients in the cosmeceutical and nutraceutical markets. The fast-developing cosmeceutical and nutraceutical industries are forcing ingredient manufacturers to focus on developing better ingredients since consumers are looking for higher performing and scientifically proven products and are willing to pay the extra money. The sea is a perfect source with its multitude of active ingredients and yet, are we really protecting all intellectual property arising from our aquaculture research? Most likely, the reason is that we still need to define and understand what intellectual property (IP) entails and then only once the concept is grasped totally, will we be able to protect our IP emanating from the marine world properly.

Biography

Priyum Koonjul is the Director, Business Development at Aligo Innovation, Canada. She worked as a Sales Representative for five years for Biometra (Cape Town, South Africa), a company specializing in instrumentation for laboratories and more specifically, she focused on instrumentation geared for molecular biology. She has also worked in the management and transfer of intellectual property, as a valorization agent at University of Quebec in Montreal. She holds a double major BSc (Biochemistry and Microbiology), a BSc (Hons.) and a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of Cape Town (UCT) in South Africa. She was also a Post-doctoral Fellow in Human Genetics at UCT and in Plant Biochemistry at IRBV (University of Montreal).

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