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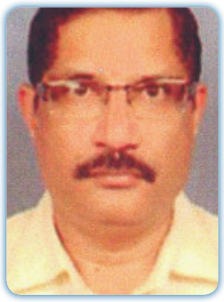

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Advances in aquatic animal health management

Diseases are recognized as one of the major constraints to global aquaculture production and are responsible for the severe impact on both the economic and socio-economic development in many countries of the world. One of the greatest challenges and opportunities for expansion of sustainable aquaculture has been proven to be in managing the health of aquatic organisms. Effective disease control is paramount within aquatic farming systems to stop the spread of infectious pathogens. Any successful health management programme should monitor the health status of the fish, identify and manage risks to fish health, reduce exposure to or spread of pathogens and manage the use of antibiotics/ chemicals. The success of any farm operation depends on health management systems implemented. The rapid detection of pathogens in infected fish, both clinically and sub-clinically, is desirable for effective health management in aquaculture. Traditional bacteriology, virology, parasitology and mycology are appropriate for detection of common, easily cultured pathogens; however, for many pathogens these methods can be expensive, time-consuming and might not lead to definitive diagnosis being mad, even when complemented with histological evidence. In addition to the traditional techniques used in fish disease diagnostics, a few modern methods like LAMP, Real time PCR, Lateral flow, micro technologies which mainly include bio-barcode assay are highlights. Also, in vaccine and immunodiagnostic kit development, surface display technique and egg yolk antibody production are emerging in fish health management and diagnosis.

Biography

K Pani Prasad is currently working as a Principal Scientist in Aquatic Environment and Health Management Division, Central Institute of Fisheries Education, India.

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