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RESEARCH REPORTS

Sustainable Aquaculture for a Secure Future

Title: Profitability analysis of small scale aquaculture enterprises in Central Uganda

Author(s): Theodora S. Hyuha¹, James O. Bukenya², Julius Twinamasiko¹ and Joseph Molnar³
¹Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resources, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Makerere, University, Kampala, Uganda.
²Department of Finance, Agribusiness and Economics, Alabama A&M University, Normal, Alabama, USA.
³Office of International Agriculture, Auburn University, Auburn Alabama, USA.

Date: March 05, 2012

Publication Number: CRSP Research Report 11-279

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Abstract: The study had three overriding objectives. Firstly, to assess the profitability of small-scale aquaculture production enterprises in central Uganda; secondly, to ascertain the factors affecting profitability; and thirdly, to identify the constraints to fish farming in the region. The data were collected through a survey questionnaire administered to a random sample of 200 small scale fish farmers in the three major fish farming districts of Mpigi, Mukono and Wakiso in central Uganda. The analysis was carried out using descriptive statistics, enterprise budgeting and ordinary linear regression. Although the results show small-scale aquaculture enterprises to be profitable in the study region, the estimated profit margins are relatively small. Farming experience, fish price, record keeping, feed cost and volume of fish harvested were the most influential factors in explaining profitability. The key factors identified as hindrances to aquaculture development in the region included predators, unavailability of credit facilities, expensive feeds, shortage and poor quality of fingerlings.

This abstract was excerpted from the original paper, which was published in the International Journal of Fisheries and Aquaculture (2011) 2(15): 271-278.

CRSP RESEARCH REPORTS are published as occasional papers by the Management Entity, AquaFish Collaborative Research Support Program, Oregon State University, 418 Snell Hall, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-1643 USA. The AquaFish CRSP is supported by the US Agency for International Development under CRSP Grant No. EPP-A-00-06-00012-00. See the website at <aquafishcrsp.oregonstate.edu>.