

## Soybean Meal Aquaculture Database Established

The United Soybean Board's Soy-in-Aquaculture<sup>(SM)</sup> Managed Research Program (SIA) and Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM), announce a collaborative effort to establish a new soybean meal (SBM) nutrient database designed to help feed formulators use SBM in diets fed to aquatic animals. This collaborative effort marks the first full nutrient and anti-nutritional factor (ANF) characterization of SBM in aquatic animal diets. This characterization is important considering the fact that ANF levels in SBM vary significantly depending on various factors such as cultivar.

The purpose of this newly-established program is to develop a database that will serve as a ready source of information for the use of SBM in diets fed to aquatic animals, and will reduce the speculation regarding the factors limiting its use in diets. Beginning this year, SIA/ADM will, free of charge, characterize test SBM for anti-nutritional factors – specifically lectins, oligosaccharides and trypsin inhibitors. These data will be available to all interested parties to aid in the formulation of diets and to serve as an important summary of SBM use for future evaluations. The following information must be available for the intended species:

- An estimate of the optimal dietary crude protein concentration;
- An estimate of the optimal ratio of crude protein to non-protein energy; and
- Quantitative requirements for lysine and methionine in the target species (if the essential amino acid concentrations have not been quantified and/or the methodology for quantifying them is suspect, this requirement may be waived).

Investigators will be responsible for characterizing the nutrient content of the SBM sample and other ingredients used in test diets such that diets are formulated on an amino acid basis. Minimal sample size for characterization is 200 g dry weight and all samples must be finely ground prior to submission. Samples must be submitted at least four weeks prior to starting studies.

Investigators are also expected to provide the biological response data (feed intake, weight gain, feed conversion ratio, survival, nutrient digestibility, and all other data collected as part of the trial) for inclusion into the SIA database. Investigators are free to choose what response data are collected. Submission of biological responses to the database does not preclude publication in other venues.

For more information, please contact <http://www.soyaqua.org/>, Dr. Paul Brown, Purdue University, [pb@purdue.edu](mailto:pb@purdue.edu), or Gil Griffis, Soy-in-Aquaculture Project Coordinator, United Soybean Board, [giljangriffis@earthlink.net](mailto:giljangriffis@earthlink.net).