

Techno-Transfer of Mud Crab Nursery in Ponds: It's Socio-Economic Impact on Small – Scale Mud Crab Produces in Northern Samar, Philippines

Didi Baticados*, Renato Agbayani*

*Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center/Aquaculture Department

Abstract

The estuaries and coastal waters of Northern Samar are characterized by an abundance of mud crab juveniles (*Scylla serrata*). These, however, are being overexploited by mud crab collectors with backing from financiers in other islands to the disadvantage of coastal poor producers. The SEAFDEC/AQD technology transfer of mud crab nursery rearing in ponds through its season-long training under the Institutional Capacity Development on Sustainable Aquaculture (ICD-SA) undertaken in Northern Samar adds value to the juveniles and may mitigate the illegal transport of small crabs to other islands. This paper examines the effectiveness of the techno-transfer mechanisms and the socio-economic implications on 60 small-scale mud crab producers randomly selected in four study sites at Northern Samar. Results indicated that the technology demonstration is a viable enterprise for it can provide additional income of about PhP 14,318 in six months in a 200 m² pond. The majority (83%) of producer-respondents showed interest in adopting the technology.