

Fisheries & Apiculture

NARO

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Coordinating, Overseeing and Guiding Agricultural Research in Uganda

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Regional Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Research

Fish is a vital nutritional and commercial resource in most of the world's communities and the National Agricultural Research Organisation has set in motion a variety of projects to boost fish stocks, quality of the catches and favourable environments for their spawning and breeding.

- A study was conducted on the possibility to gazette fish breeding areas as a management tool for fisheries resources in Lake Victoria. Its findings included the discovery of river mouths as the most viable breeding grounds, and also recommendations for the prohibition of destructive habits (like sand mining) that are wreaking havoc on fish breeding grounds.

- There was the development of the F2 generation of Victoria strain of Nile tilapia, which has shown positive growth performance.

A number of achievements were also registered in the promotion and practice of cage farming, including:

- The development of best practices to ensure increased fish production e.g. elaborating on feeding procedures in order to prevent the dangers of excess feed dispersal.

- The development of plant based extracts to counter common diseases in cage culture.

- The building of a number of hatcheries and demonstration fish ponds e.g. at Ngetta ZARDI.

- Also, a comprehensive map for cage culture and aquaculture parks in seven districts was created.

- There was also the development of an aflatoxin-free fish feed (the MBAZARDI Fish Feed Toxbind).

- The creation of a number of food products e.g. fish sausages.

In the field of apiculture:

- A lot of NARO's efforts are towards the development of innovative tools to increase beekeeping productivity in Uganda, specifically technologies for increasing hive and apiary colonisation.

- And in tandem with that is the NARO-CGS Apiculture Project, whose concentration has been on the development and commercialisation of bee products in Uganda. So far, this has seen the production of the NARO Pure Honey brand (from Tororo), and also honey from the demonstration apiaries in Lira and Kamwenge.

