Unit 3: Aquaculture

Lesson 4: Exploring Tilapia - Teacher’s Guide

Estimated Time for Completion – approximately 30 minutes

Student Learning Objectives:

- As a result of this lesson the student will...
  - Explore tilapia production in the U.S.
  - Examine tilapia production, marketing, and consumer concerns in the U.S.
  - Understand production-related issues facing tilapia enterprises.

Directions: Access the commodities and products tab on the AgMRC website (http://www.agmrc.org) and find the link to Aquaculture. Utilize information located here to answer the questions below.

1. What factors have allowed for the expansion of tilapia production across the world in recent years? How do you think these new innovations have helped producers?

   - First, select the “Commodities and Products” link.
   - Then select the “Aquaculture” link.
   - Select the “Tilapia” link.
   - Click on the blue “Tilapia” link in the main “Overview” section to expand the page.
   - Look in the “Overview” section to find the desired information.
   - Note: It is expected that students may also have to rely upon their critical-thinking skills to address this question’s content.

2. In what types of facilities are U.S.-produced tilapia cultured? Why are Southern-based outdoor tilapia production systems usually “strictly regulated”?

   - First, select the “Commodities and Products” link.
   - Then select the “Aquaculture” link.
   - Select the “Tilapia” link.
   - Click on the blue “Tilapia” link in the main “Overview” section to expand the page.
   - Look in the “Farmed Tilapia” section to find the desired information.
   - Note: It is expected that students may also have to rely upon their critical-thinking skills to address this question’s content.

3. What are the top tilapia-producing states? What factors make these areas suitable for tilapia production?

   - First, select the “Commodities and Products” link.
   - Then select the “Aquaculture” link.
   - Select the “Tilapia” link.
   - Click on the blue “Tilapia” link in the main “Overview” section to expand the page.
   - Look in the “Production” section to find the desired information.
   - Note: It is expected that students may also have to rely upon their critical-thinking skills to address this question’s content.
Unit 3: Aquaculture

4. In your own words, summarize the findings of the tilapia production study conducted by the University of Florida (Found under the subheading “production costs”). What implications could these findings hold for new tilapia producers?
   - First, select the “Commodities and Products” link.
   - Then select the “Aquaculture” link.
   - Select the “Tilapia” link.
   - Click on the blue “Tilapia” link in the main “Overview” section to expand the page.
   - Look in the “Production Costs” section to find the desired information.
   - Note: It is expected that students may also have to rely upon their critical-thinking skills to address this question’s content.

5. Due to the increasing popularity of tilapia consumption in Europe, “some portion of the supply traditionally destined for the United States may be diverted in the future to Europe and other markets.” How could this affect U.S. tilapia producers, consumers, and processors?
   - First, select the “Commodities and Products” link.
   - Then select the “Aquaculture” link.
   - Select the “Tilapia” link.
   - Click on the blue “Tilapia” link in the main “Overview” section to expand the page.
   - Look in the “Trends” section to find the desired information.
   - Note: It is expected that students may also have to rely upon their critical-thinking skills to address this question’s content.