Unit 3: Aquaculture

Lesson 8: Crazy Crawfish (Part 2)

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. Why is “profitability... difficult to define for crawfish production and processing”? What factors make profitability difficult and variable?

2. Why is per-capita consumption of crawfish much higher in Louisiana than in the rest of the United States? Could the perception of crawfish as a “novelty” item be hurting its consumption amounts elsewhere? How could crawfish marketers work to overcome these consumer perceptions issues?

3. Producers drain crawfish ponds in the late spring and early summer to allow “for a vegetative crop such as rice to be grown”. What effects does this process have on crawfish production?

4. Why have rice producers in Louisiana sought to incorporate crawfish into their production systems? What benefits could exists through using such a production system? What could some of the risks be?

5. What are the “two primary sales outlets for pond-raised crawfish”? What size preference does each consumer type desire?