

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS AND MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE OF SHRIMP CULTURE ON THE ANDAMAN SEA COAST

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After the serious losses which occurred in the upper gulf and on the east coast of Thailand. Shrimp farmers moved down to the south eastern coast and finally across to the coast of Andaman Sea. Conditions are generally more favorable in the coast of Andaman Sea and success has been greatest in these areas for variety of reasons. These initial advantages can be consolidated into sustained output through better resource management. Small shrimp farms with water areas lower 8 ha in the coast of Andaman Sea has represent more than 89% of all shrimp farms. They are not covered by the regulation and over 79.4% of these farms continue to discharge untreated effluent into natural water body. This is one of the main reasons that the shrimp farming industry in the coast of Andaman Sea is unsustainable. Although, regulation of shrimp farming was introduced, but there has been a poor response to the directive to register all farms greater than 8 ha and to construct effluent settlement ponds. Many recommendations have been made to improve the practice of shrimp farming, but they require that the government promotes recovery of the environment where deterioration has occurred, through farmer cooperation in controlling farm management practices and the discharge of effluent into receiving canals, but it is likely to be difficult to reach agreement on the terms of coordination. This paper reviews the pollution loading from intensive shrimp farming, environmental status and management strategies. The mitigation measures including government policy, farm management practices, effluent treatment and managing guidelines for sustainable of tiger shrimp culture on the Andaman Sea Coast are discussed in details.