

Aquaculture Microbiology and Biotechnology Volume 1. (Ed. By Didier Montet and Ramesh C. Ray). Science publishers Enfield, New Hampshire, USA.

This is a collection of nine articles covering a broad range of applications of GMO-technology and microbial techniques to aquaculture purposes. The articles have no connections with each other, and should be viewed as individual reviews, that might as well have been published in ordinary journals, allowing for publication of reviews. The selection of content appear relatively stochastic, although the items covered are generally of great interest.

A strong and comprehensive review on the use of probiotics in aquaculture (by B.Austin and J.W. Brunt) is included. It covers well the major research done so far in this field and the important trends are included. This should serve as reference material for anyone interested in probiotics in aquaculture. Considered the strong demand for “new” prophylactic strategies, such research should be encouraged. A far more controversial issue, transgenic fish, is covered by I.S. Arvinitoyannis and P. Tserkezou. Their review covers the important issues and problems, but also the applications and promising results of such technologies, providing background that could give a more knowledge-based debate.

A review on PCR-DGGE is limited to use for determining origin of fish, and does not contain references to more common uses of the methods in aquaculture, describing associated microbial populations of various organisms and culture systems. This excludes the review from the recent developments in applications of microbial ecology in aquaculture. Furthermore, the collection includes useful reviews on diagnostic methods for fish and shrimp diseases, DNA vaccines in aquaculture and antibiotic resistance in aquaculture in a global perspective. In summary, the reviews are useful as sources of references and give good overviews of the selected areas.

Øivind Bergh

Institute of Marine Research

P.O. Box 1870 Nordnes

NO-5817 Bergen Norway

Email: ovind.bergh@imr.no