



**MICHAEL BERNARD NEW**

### **SUMMARY OF AQUACULTURE EXPERIENCE**

Michael New entered the field of aquaculture in 1969 after extensive experience in the animal feedstuff industry. After conducting research on freshwater prawn culture in the UK and North America, he worked from 1973-1979 and 1981-1986 as an international consultant in finfish and crustacean culture. His work included site selection, leadership of multi-disciplinary teams studying economic and technical feasibility, fish farm design, the provision of technical aquaculture advice (particularly in nutrition, feed development, and shrimp and prawn culture), and fisheries studies in relation to rural development. His clients included major public companies, private individuals, governments, and aid organisations.

Between these two periods of consultancy work he managed an UNDP/FAO project in Thailand (1979-1981) concerned with the expansion of freshwater prawn farming. From 1986-1988 Michael New was Senior Aquaculturist in the Aquaculture Development and Coordination Programme (ADCP), a global and inter-regional programme funded by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and based at the Rome headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations. In 1988 the EC appointed him Programme Coordinator of the ASEAN-EEC Aquaculture Development and Coordination Programme (AADCP), a regional programme based in Bangkok. From 1991-1992 he was Senior Fishery Resources Officer (Aquaculture) in FAO headquarters, based in Rome. In 1992 he returned to his post as AADCP Coordinator in Bangkok; the project successfully completed its practical activities at the end of 1994.

From 1995 onwards he has been engaged in international free-lance consultancy work, specialising in project design and evaluation, freshwater prawn farming, aquafeed development, and the development of policies for sustainable aquaculture.

Michael New worked in aquaculture in Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, China (PRC), Colombia, Denmark, Dominica, Egypt, Germany, Greece, Guam, Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Martinique, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, UK, USA, and Zambia. He also visited aquaculture developments in Costa Rica, Guadeloupe, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Sweden.

Michael New has authored nearly 150 technical manuals, scientific papers, and popular articles on aquaculture, has chaired or been a keynote/plenary speaker at numerous international conferences and was Steering Committee Chair for World Aquaculture '99 (Sydney) and AQUA 2000 (Nice) and Programme Chair for World Aquaculture '05 (Bali). He was also a member of the Steering and Programme Committees for World Aquaculture '08 (Busan) and World Aquaculture '11 (Natal, Brazil). He organised Giant Prawn 1980 (Bangkok) and co-organised Giant Prawn 2011 (Kochi) and Giant Prawn 2017 (Bangkok) and was the Chair of the joint EAS-WAS conference & exhibition, AQUA 2012 (Prague). He is a Past-President of the World Aquaculture Society (President 1997-1998) and of the European Aquaculture Society (President 2002-2004). He was also a member of the Steering Committee for the joint EAS-WAS Conference '#We R Aquaculture' which was held in Montpellier in 2018.

In 1999 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II appointed him Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in recognition of his services to aquaculture in developing countries. In 2002 he was appointed an Honorary Life Member of the World Aquaculture Society (WAS) and in 2003 he was elected an Honorary International Life Member of the China Society of Fisheries. In 2009 he was given the World Aquaculture Society Exemplary Service Gold Medal, only the tenth person to receive this award (and only the second European) in the 40-year history of the Society, and in 2011 he was given the Gold Medal Award of the Asian Fisheries Society (AFS) and the Linnaeus Medal of the Tilapia International Foundation. In 2014 he was appointed an Honorary Life Member of the European Aquaculture Society (EAS), only the twelfth recipient of this award since EAS was founded in 1976.

In 2003 he formed the NGO *Aquaculture without Frontiers* (AwF) to help to alleviate poverty in developing countries through small scale responsible aquaculture. By the end of 2010, this NGO had raised over US\$ 180,000 directly from friends, family, colleagues, the aquaculture industry and the public. In addition, AwF had obtained access to nearly US\$ 264,000 of other funds, which were used for tsunami relief work in Aceh, Indonesia and in USAID Farmer to Farmer Programmes. By 2012 AwF had established poverty relief projects in Bangladesh, India, Haiti, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal and Thailand and conducted minor activities in many other Asian, African and Latin American countries. Since 2012 control over AwF has passed to others.

Michael has been a Trustee of the conservation group 'The Marlow Society' since 2014.