



# Aquaculture Production and Technical Assistance

600 South Calhoun Street, Suite 217  
 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1300  
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 Tallahassee Office: (850) 617-7600  
 Bartow Office: (863) 578-1870  
 Email: [Aquaculture\\_Web@FDACS.gov](mailto:Aquaculture_Web@FDACS.gov)  
 Website: [www.FDACS.gov](http://www.FDACS.gov)

The University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Science, provides aquaculture production/technical information and assistance. Please contact the following offices for more information or to schedule an appointment.

**University of Florida**  
**Tropical Aquaculture Laboratory**  
 1408 24th Street, Southeast  
 Ruskin, FL 33570  
 Phone: (813) 671-5230  
 Website: [TAL.IFAS.ufl.edu/](http://TAL.IFAS.ufl.edu/)

The laboratory is an education and demonstration facility operated like a commercial farm. Ongoing production research can be observed; and the equipment necessary to grow fish and plants in ponds and tanks is in operation. Frequent demonstrations and workshops are held throughout the year. Farmers may request disease diagnosis and treatment through a state of the art clinical laboratory; lab services are fee-based.

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| Matthew DiMaggio, PhD<br>(813) 671-5230 x115<br><a href="mailto:mdimaggi@ufl.edu">mdimaggi@ufl.edu</a><br><u>Specialty:</u> Aquaculture production and management of ornamental, bait and food fish species | Jeffrey Hill, PhD<br>(813) 671-5230 x118<br><a href="mailto:jeffhill@ufl.edu">jeffhill@ufl.edu</a><br><u>Specialty:</u> Nonnative and invasive fish |
| Debbie Pouder, MAq<br>(813) 671-5230 x106<br><a href="mailto:dbpouder@ufl.edu">dbpouder@ufl.edu</a><br><u>Specialty:</u> Diagnostic Lab Manager                                                             | Roy Yanong, VMD<br>(813) 671-5230 x104<br><a href="mailto:rpy@ufl.edu">rpy@ufl.edu</a><br><u>Specialty:</u> Aquatic animal and reptile health       |
| Eric Cassiano, MS<br>(813) 671-5230 x109<br><a href="mailto:ericcass@ufl.edu">ericcass@ufl.edu</a><br><u>Specialty:</u> Aquaculture production extension services                                           |                                                                                                                                                     |

Florida USDA APHIS Veterinary & Wildlife Services have dedicated personnel at this location.

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| Kathleen Hartman, MS, DVM, PhD<br>(813) 671-5230 x119<br><a href="mailto:Kathleen.H.Hartman@usda.gov">Kathleen.H.Hartman@usda.gov</a><br><u>Specialty:</u> APHIS Aquaculture Program | Jared Zierenberg<br>South District Supervisor<br>(813) 671-5230 x105<br><a href="mailto:Jared.R.Zierenberg@usda.gov">Jared.R.Zierenberg@usda.gov</a><br><u>Specialty:</u> Wildlife Services | APHIS-VSPS FL<br>General Import/Export Inquiry<br><a href="mailto:VSPSFL@usda.gov">VSPSFL@usda.gov</a> or visit:<br><a href="http://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/importexport">www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/importexport</a> |
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**University of Florida**  
**Indian River Research and Education Center**  
2199 South Rock Road  
Fort Pierce, FL 34945-3138  
Phone: (772) 468-3922  
**Website:** [IRREC.IFAS.ufl.edu/](http://IRREC.IFAS.ufl.edu/)

The Indian River Research and Education Center has lined low-salinity demonstration ponds, a large hatchery, broodstock building and a greenhouse containing recirculating systems. Ongoing research and demonstrations can be observed.

Cortney L. Ohs, PhD  
Office: (772) 577-7348, Cell: (772) 519-6435  
[cohs@ufl.edu](mailto:cohs@ufl.edu)  
Specialty: Marine and freshwater foodfish, baitfish, ornamentals,  
larval fish, live feeds, algae culture; fish and crustacean nutrition

**University of Florida**  
**Senator George Kirkpatrick Marine Lab**  
11350 SW 153rd Court  
Post Office Box 89  
Cedar Key, FL 32625  
Phone: (352) 543-5057  
**Website:** [Shellfish.IFAS.ufl.edu/](http://Shellfish.IFAS.ufl.edu/)

Ms. Sturmer is a statewide aquaculture extension specialist for mollusk culture. Contact her for production and technical information. Ms. Sturmer maintains the UF/IFAS Online Resource Guide for Florida Shellfish Aquaculture.

Leslie Sturmer, MS  
[Lnst@ufl.edu](mailto:Lnst@ufl.edu)  
Specialty: Molluscan shellfish aquaculture and  
restoration (hard clams, oysters, arks, sunray venus)

**University of Florida**  
**Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center**  
3205 College Avenue  
Davie, FL 33314  
Phone: (954) 577-6331

**Website:** [FLREC.IFAS.ufl.edu/extension/aquatic-plant-management/](http://FLREC.IFAS.ufl.edu/extension/aquatic-plant-management/)

The focus of the laboratory is research and extension/outreach. Other services include aquatic plant identification assistance and control methods for exotic invasive aquatic and wetland plants.

Lyn Gettys, PhD  
(561) 301-6614  
[lgettys@ufl.edu](mailto:lgettys@ufl.edu)  
Specialty: Aquatic and wetland plants

**University of Florida**  
**IFAS Extension Okaloosa/Walton Counties**  
732 N 9th St.  
DeFuniak Springs, FL 32433  
Phone: Walton (850) 892-8172

**Website:** [SFYL.IFAS.UFL.edu/walton/marine--coastal/aquaculture-fact-sheets/](http://SFYL.IFAS.UFL.edu/walton/marine--coastal/aquaculture-fact-sheets/)

Focusing on information, training and support for the development of small scale aquaculture and aquaponics operations.

Laura Tiu, PhD  
(850) 612-6197  
[lgtiu@ufl.edu](mailto:lgtiu@ufl.edu)  
Specialty: Aquaponics



**University of Florida**  
**Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Program**  
7922 Northwest 71st Street  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0610  
**Website:** [FFGS.IFAS.ufl.edu/](http://FFGS.IFAS.ufl.edu/)

The Department provides graduate level education in fisheries and aquaculture and has a demonstration facility consisting of ponds and tanks. On-going research and the equipment necessary to grow fish can be observed.

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| <p>Huiping Yang, PhD<br/>(352) 294-0671<br/><a href="mailto:huipingyang@ufl.edu">huipingyang@ufl.edu</a><br/><u>Specialty:</u> Molluscan shellfish aquaculture,<br/>genetics, and restoration (hard clams, oysters, bay</p> | <p>Ruth Francis-Floyd, DVM, MS, DACZM<br/>(386) 643-8904<br/><a href="mailto:rffloyd@ufl.edu">rffloyd@ufl.edu</a><br/><u>Specialty:</u> Aquatic animals and reptile health</p> |
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**University of Florida**  
**College of Veterinary Medicine, Wildlife and Aquatic Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory**  
2015 SW 16th Ave  
Gainesville, FL 32608  
Phone: (352) 392-2235  
**Website:** [Hospitals.VetMed.ufl.edu/](http://Hospitals.VetMed.ufl.edu/)

Information available on diseases of ornamental, bait, food, and game fishes and shellfish (clams, oysters, shrimp, lobster, etc.). Health assessment, treatment advisement and fee-based diagnostic services available.

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| <p>Kuttichantran Subramaniam, PhD<br/>(352) 215-7278<br/><a href="mailto:kuttichantran@ufl.edu">kuttichantran@ufl.edu</a><br/><u>Specialty:</u> Aquatic Animal Health</p> |
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**The Florida Aquarium's Center for Conservation**  
529 Estuary Shore Lane  
Apollo Beach, FL 33752  
Phone: (813) 419-4917

**Website:** [FLAquarium.org/conservation/conservation-campus/](http://FLAquarium.org/conservation/conservation-campus/)

The Center for Conservation has research facilities focusing on the use of aquaculture for coral reef, seagrass, bay scallop, and fisheries habitat restoration. Dr. Patterson is available for onsite visits.

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| <p>Joshua Patterson, PhD<br/>(540) 797-4479<br/><a href="mailto:joshpatterson@ufl.edu">joshpatterson@ufl.edu</a><br/><u>Specialty:</u> Restoration aquaculture</p> |
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## QUICK REFERENCES

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <b><u>APHIS Aquaculture Program</u></b>   | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Kathleen Hartman</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                 | Page 1 |
| <b><u>Aquaponics</u></b>                  | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Laura Tiu</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                        | Page 2 |
| <b><u>Aquatic Plants</u></b>              | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Lyn Gettys</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                       | Page 2 |
| <b><u>Aquatic Animal Health</u></b>       | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Roy Yanong</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                       | Page 1 |
|                                           | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Kutti Subramaniam</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                | Page 2 |
|                                           | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Ruth Francis-Floyd</u></a>                                                                                                                                                               | Page 3 |
|                                           | <a href="#"><u>Debbie Pouder</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                        | Page 1 |
| <b><u>Bait Fish</u></b>                   | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Cortney Ohs</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                      | Page 2 |
|                                           | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Matthew DiMaggio</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                 | Page 1 |
| <b><u>Crustaceans</u></b>                 | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Cortney Ohs</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                      | Page 2 |
| <b><u>Drug and Chemicals</u></b>          | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Matthew DiMaggio</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                 | Page 1 |
| <b><u>Food Fish</u></b>                   | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Matthew DiMaggio</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                 | Page 1 |
|                                           | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Cortney Ohs</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                      | Page 2 |
| <b><u>Import/Export Permits</u></b>       | <a href="#"><u>APHIS-VSPS FL</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                        | Page 1 |
| <b><u>Non-native/invasive species</u></b> | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Jeff Hill</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                        | Page 1 |
| <b><u>Ornamental Fish</u></b>             | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Matthew DiMaggio</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                 | Page 1 |
| <b><u>Restoration Aquaculture</u></b>     | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Joshua Patterson</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                 | Page 3 |
|                                           | <a href="#"><u>Leslie Sturmer</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                       | Page 2 |
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| <b><u>Shellfish/Mollusks</u></b>          | <a href="#"><u>Leslie Sturmer</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                       | Page 2 |
|                                           | <a href="#"><u>Dr. Huiping Yang</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                     | Page 3 |
| <b><u>Wildlife Damage</u></b>             |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |        |
| South Florida                             | <a href="#"><u>Jared Zierenberg</u></a>                                                                                                                                                                     | Page 1 |
| North Florida                             | Richard C. Hinnah,<br>District Supervisor, USDA Wildlife Services<br>11152 NW SR 20, Bristol, FL 32321<br>(352) 281-1992<br><a href="mailto:richard.c.hinnah@usda.gov"><u>richard.c.hinnah@usda.gov</u></a> |        |



## **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

- Florida Sea Grant, Aquaculture website: [FLSeagrant.org/Aquaculture/](http://FLSeagrant.org/Aquaculture/)
- UF/IFAS has Extension offices in each of Florida's 67 counties, with extension agents to provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public. Consult the county government section of your phone book or visit their website, [SFYL.IFAS.UFL.edu/](http://SFYL.IFAS.UFL.edu/), to locate an agent familiar with aquaculture.
- UF/IFAS Extension FAWN (Florida Automated Weather Network) website at [FAWN.IFAS.UFL.edu/data/](http://FAWN.IFAS.UFL.edu/data/). Via this webpage, users can access real-time data from farm-based weather stations and view graphs, forecasts, archived data, and other weather/climate tools.
- Educators are encouraged to visit the UF/IFAS Teach Aquaculture website at [IRREC.IFAS.ufl.edu/TeachAquaculture/](http://IRREC.IFAS.ufl.edu/TeachAquaculture/) for curriculum modules adaptable to grades K-12.
- The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) produces a newsletter, *Florida Aquaculture* that contains timely regulatory and production related information. To request a free subscription, call (850) 617-7600, or visit: [www.FDACS.gov/About-Us/Publications/Aquaculture-Publications](http://www.FDACS.gov/About-Us/Publications/Aquaculture-Publications)
- Excellent websites exist that provide species, production, technical, regulatory or enterprise budget information:
  - ⇒ Southern Regional Aquaculture Center: [SRAC.msstate.edu/](http://SRAC.msstate.edu/)
  - ⇒ UF School of Forest, Fisheries, & Geomatics Sciences: [FFGS.IFAS.ufl.edu/](http://FFGS.IFAS.ufl.edu/)
  - ⇒ National Aquaculture Association: [TheNAA.net/](http://TheNAA.net/)
  - ⇒ US Department of Agriculture: [USDA.gov](http://USDA.gov)
  - ⇒ Florida Aquaculture Association: [FLAA.org](http://FLAA.org)
  - ⇒ Florida Tropical Fish Farms Association: [FTFFA.com/](http://FTFFA.com/)
  - ⇒ Aquaculture Farmer Assistance links :
    - [www.FDACS.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Aquaculture/Aquaculture-Certificate-of-Registration](http://www.FDACS.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Aquaculture/Aquaculture-Certificate-of-Registration)
    - [www.FDACS.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Aquaculture/Aquaculture-Certificate-of-Registration/Aquaculture-Business-Resources](http://www.FDACS.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Aquaculture/Aquaculture-Certificate-of-Registration/Aquaculture-Business-Resources)
    - [www.FDACS.gov/content/download/78423/file/FDACS-P-01781-Sales-Tax-Exemp-Aqua-Businesses.pdf](http://www.FDACS.gov/content/download/78423/file/FDACS-P-01781-Sales-Tax-Exemp-Aqua-Businesses.pdf)

*The FDACS Division of Aquaculture is working on a Master List of educators, farmers and professional agents willing to help with the sharing of Aquaculture knowledge and expertise in the state of Florida. The goal of this list is to help educators start new aquaculture programs, improve current programs and better connect aquaculture educators with the aquaculture industry. If you would like to be added to this list, or have any questions, please contact the Division at [Aquaculture\\_Web@FDACS.gov](mailto:Aquaculture_Web@FDACS.gov).*

