AQUAEXCEL: Building a European network of aquaculture research infrastructures

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▶ **To cite this version:**

Marc Vandeputte, Marieke Reuver. AQUAEXCEL: Building a European network of aquaculture research infrastructures. Aquaculture Europe 2014, Oct 2014, San Sebastián, Spain. 22 diapos. hal-02792483

HAL Id: hal-02792483
https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02792483v1

Submitted on 5 Jun 2020

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AQUAEXCEL: Building a European network of aquaculture research infrastructures

Aquaculture Europe 2014 - San Sebastián

16 October 2014

Marc Vandeputte
INRA, France
AQUAEXCEL coordinator

AQUAEXCEL – At a glance

- Aquaculture Infrastructures for Excellence in European Fish Research
- FP7, Capacities; RI (11.8M€ budget)
- 17 partners, 10 countries, 23 infrastructures
- March 2011 – February 2015 (4 years)

Main goal: to integrate the key aquaculture research infrastructures in Europe, covering all EU fish culture systems

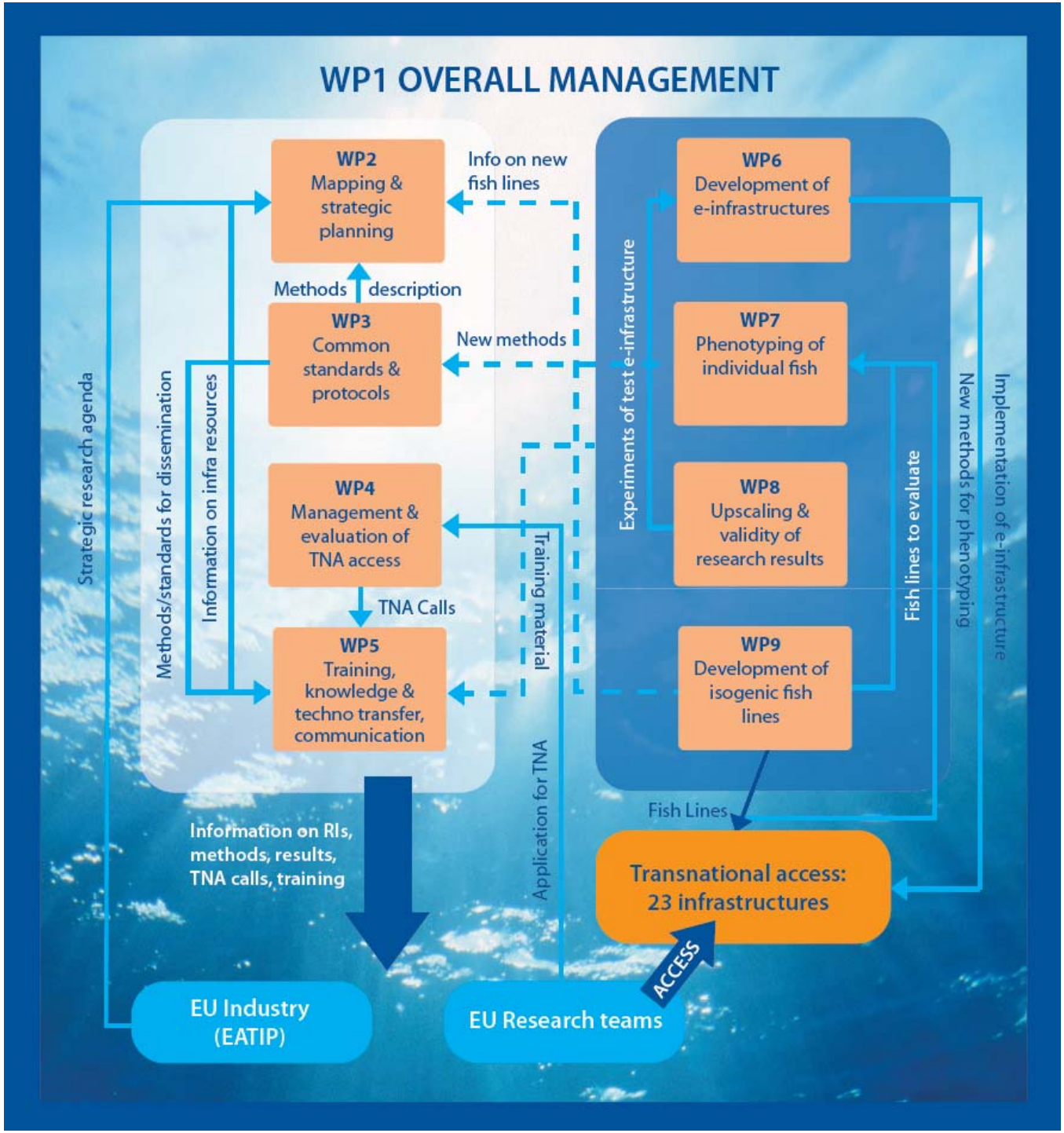
What are ‘RI projects‘?

- **Research infrastructures:** Facilities, resources and related services that are used by the scientific community to conduct top-level research: **the « hardware » for conducting good research**
- **Objectives of EU Infrastructure projects:**
  - Optimise the use and development of the best research infrastructures existing in Europe
  - Ensure the access of research teams from across the EU to these infrastructures
  - Improve the services provided to researchers

Types of activities to achieve these goals

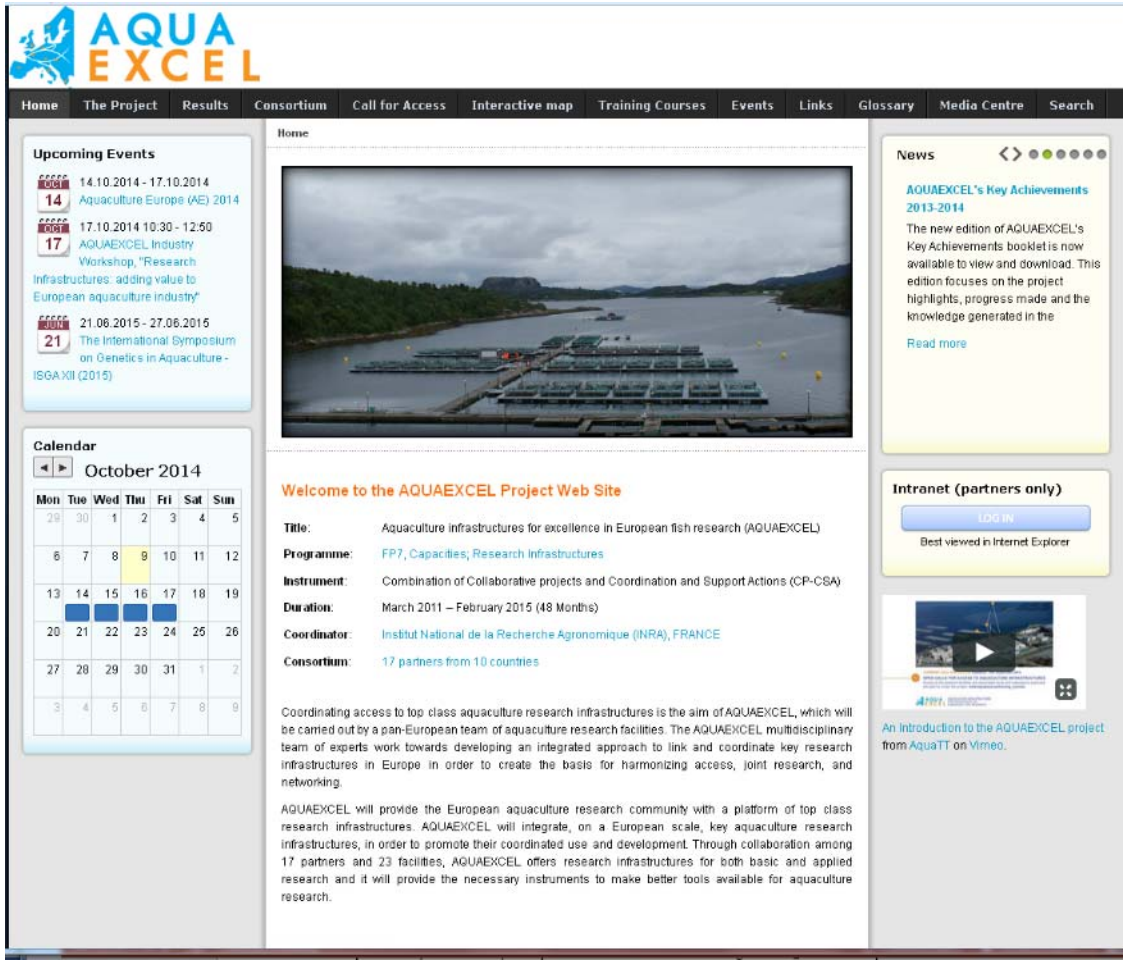
- **Networking Activities (NA):** Co-ordinate partners infrastructures (resource and know-how sharing, communication) and give visibility
- **Transnational Access (TNA):** Give 'free of charge' access to the world-class infrastructures and resources of the consortium
- **Joint Research Activities (JRA):** Joint R&D to improve the services provided by the infrastructures

Objectives & Structure



AQUAEXCEL products

The web site: see all our results at www.aquaexcel.eu



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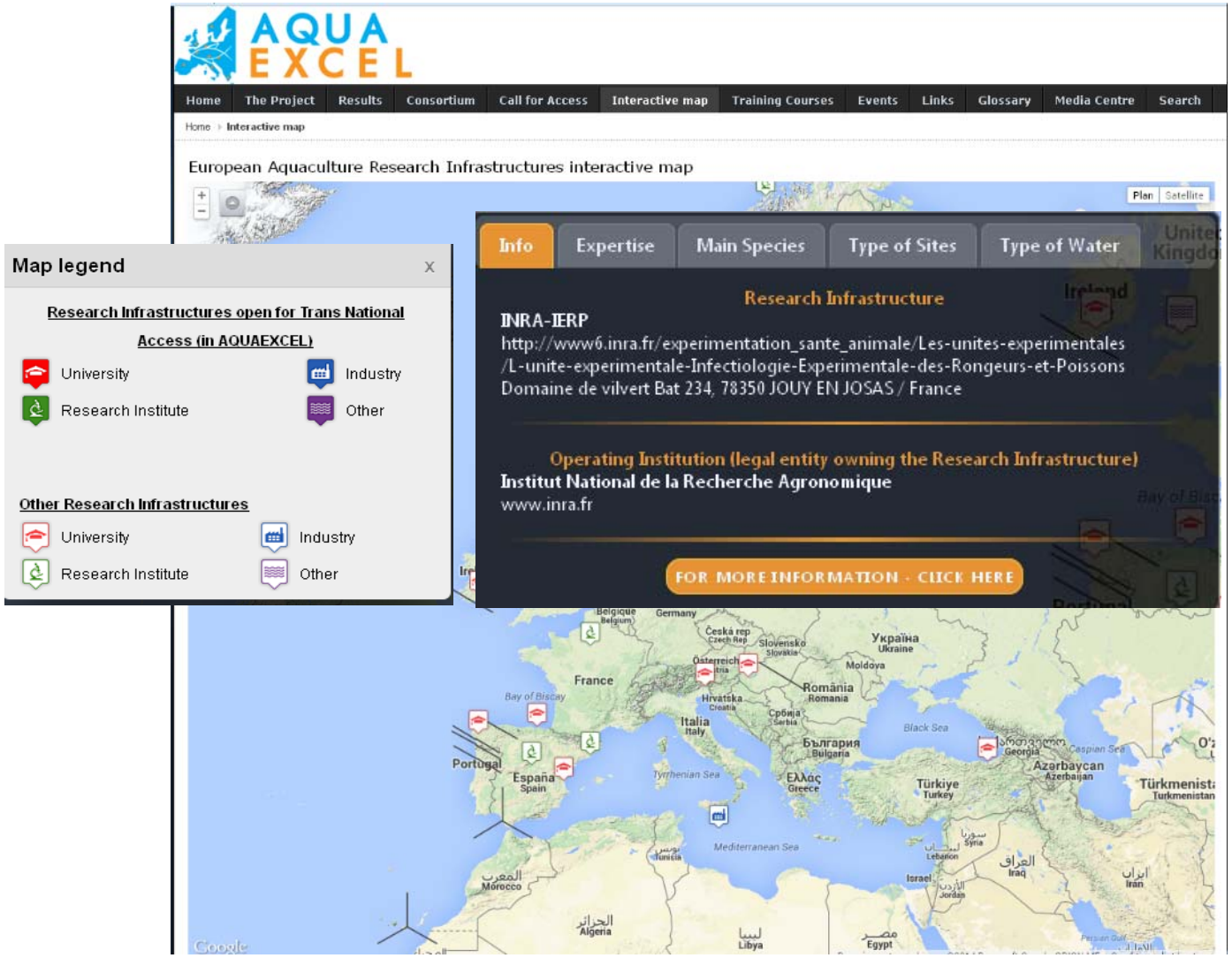
The RI map: identify your partner infrastructure(s)



Currently 108 entries

Interactive menu

Searchable

Detailed information available

You can still register!

AQUAEXCEL products

ATOL / EOL ontologies

http://www.a…gy.com/ …fr/visualisation-fr

+ measurement methods for 63 major traits

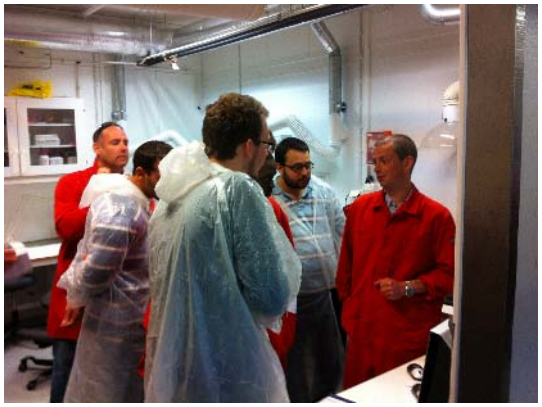
Advanced training courses

RAS technology @ Wageningen

Aquaculture Genomics @ INRA

Chromosome manipulations @ Stirling

New Monitoring Tech @ NTNU



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TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS: all major EU fish species

TRANSNATIONAL ACCESS: all types of infrastructures

Independent selection panel

136 projects submitted ≈ 85 financed

AQUAEXCEL research

IMARES

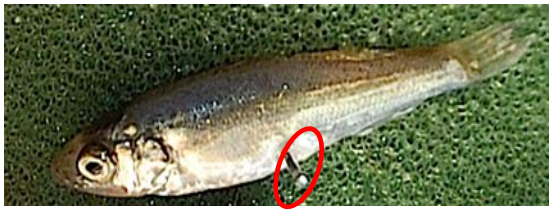
NOFIMA

SINTEF/ACE

WUR

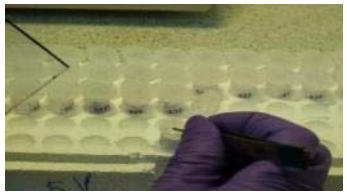
AQUA EXCEL

Individual identification in sea bass & sea bream



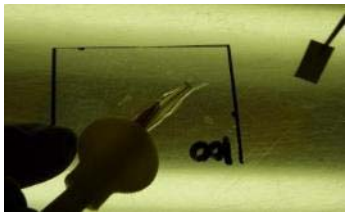
Insertion of the NonaTech tag after piercing the abdominal cavity and on a 400 mg juvenile seabass

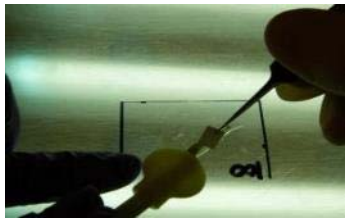
➔Survival OK for BW>400 mg
➔No effect on growth
➔Effect on swimming behaviour (disappears after 42 days)
➔ Reading success >80%



Cutting of inferior part of caudal fin and storage in ethanol

➔Survival OK
➔DNA collected starting 71 dpf (43 mg)
➔DNA quality/quantity OK for routine genotyping for fish> 87 dpf (248 mg)





Sampling mucus & epithelium cells on Whatmann paper and storage in Ependorff at -20° C

Aquaculture 426–427 (2014) 165–171

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Aquaculture

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/aqua-online

ELSEVIER

Early individual electronic identification of sea bass using RFID microtags: A first example of early phenotyping of sex-related growth

Sébastien Ferrari [a,b], Béatrice Chatain [b,c], Xavier Cousin [a,d], Didier Leguay [a], Alain Vergnet [c], Marie-Odile Vidal [c], Marc Vandeputte [c,e], Marie-Laure Bégout [a,*]

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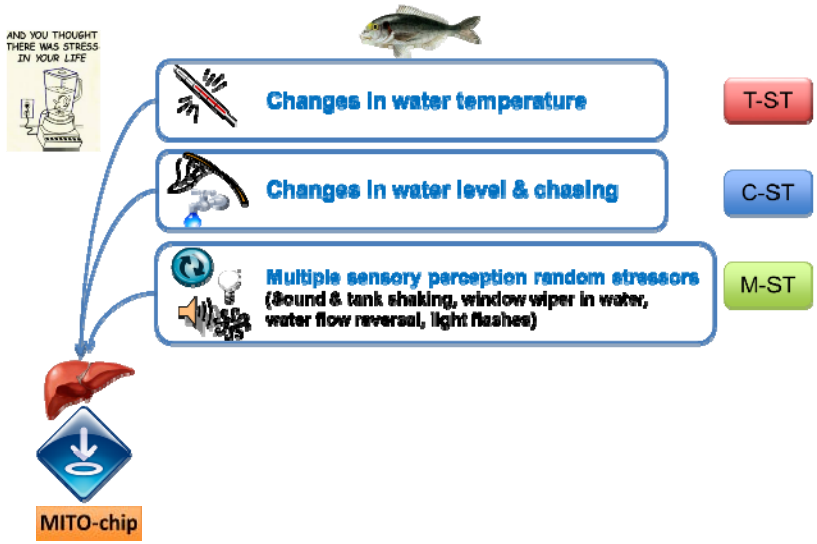
AQUAEXCEL research: better monitoring of fish adaptability

Mar Biotechnol
DOI 10.1007/s10126-014-9562-3

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Transcriptional Assessment by Microarray Analysis and Large-Scale Meta-analysis of the Metabolic Capacity of Cardiac and Skeletal Muscle Tissues to Cope With Reduced Nutrient Availability in Gilthead Sea Bream (*Sparus aurata* L.)

Josep A. Calduch-Giner · Yann Echasseriau · Diego Crespo · Daniel Baron · Josep V. Planas · Patrick Prunet · Jaume Pérez-Sánchez



Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, Part D 8 (2013) 123–130

Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

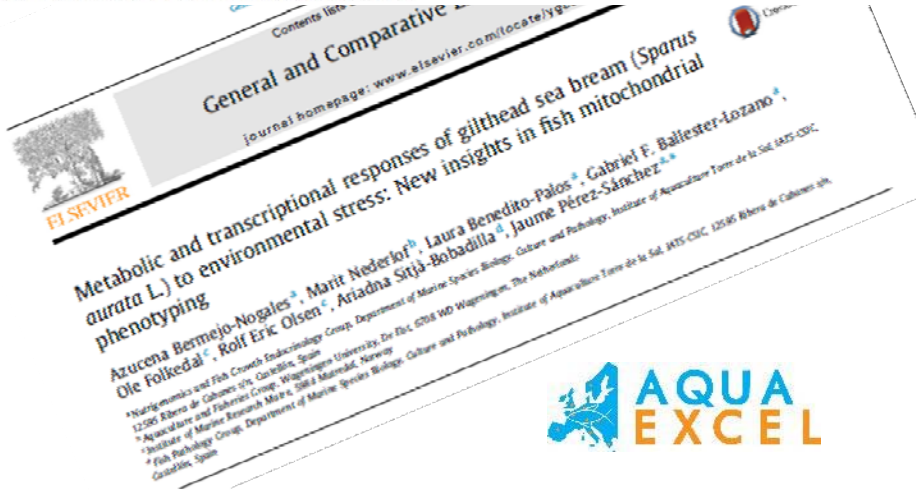
Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, Part D

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/cbpd

Dietary oils mediate cortisol kinetics and the hepatic mRNA expression profile of stress-responsive genes in gilthead sea bream (*Sparus aurata*) exposed to crowding stress. Implications on energy homeostasis and stress susceptibility

Jaume Pérez-Sánchez [a,*], Míriam Borrel [a], Azucena Bermejo-Nogales [a], Laura Benedito-Palos [a], Alfonso Saera-Vila [a], Josep A. Calduch-Giner [a], Sadasivam Kaushik [b]

[a] Nutrigenomics and Fish Growth Endocrinology, Instituto de Acuicultura Torre de la Sal, IATS-CSIC, Castellón, Spain
[b] INRA, UR1067 NuMeA Nutrition, Metabolism Aquaculture, F64310 Saint Pée-sur Nivelle, France



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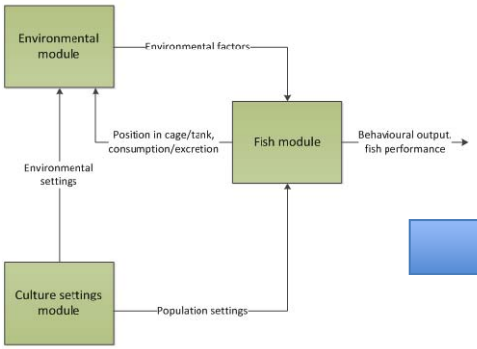
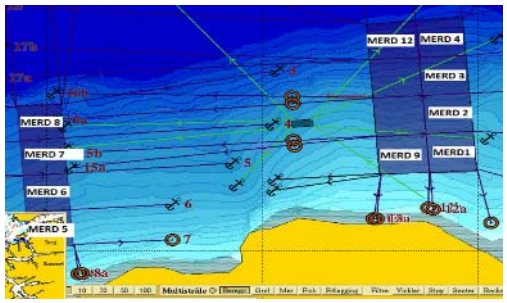
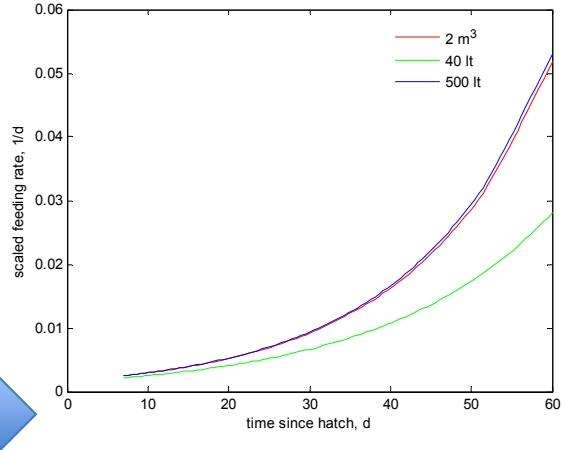
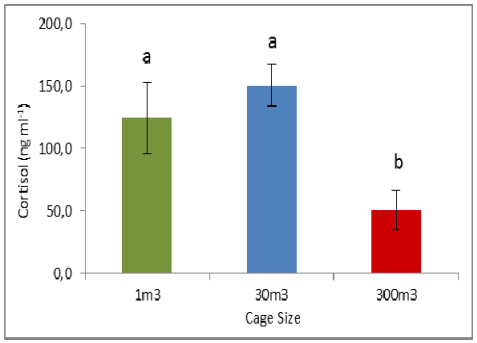
AQUAEXCEL research: Effect of experimental unit size on results









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AQUAEXCEL research: Production of isogenic lines

Gynogenesis and androgenesis➔ stable, « pure » lines

➔ reproducible experiments /identification of genes

➔ already available

CONCLUSION

- We made 17 partners work together and share their practices
- Organized cutting edge training courses
- Permitted > 80 research projects in Transnational Access
- Produced essential outputs for more efficient research:
  - Easily accessible information on aquaculture RIs
  - Animal traits and environmental ontologies
  - Phenotyping methods database
  - Remote access protocols to aquaculture Ris
  - Evidenced / modelled effect of experimental unit size
  - Better / non lethal / more informative phenotyping
  - Basis for isogenic lines of sea bass/salmon/carp

➡ For the benefit of the EU aquaculture research community and industry

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WHICH FUTURE ?

Follow-up project AQUAEXCEL^{2020} submitted in September:

- Strong industry involvement via EATIP
- Will finance >170 TNA projects over 5 years (be ready !)
- Organizing data (« the Digital Fish ») with EMBRC & ELIXIR
- Support for industry transfer of the best JRA and TNA outputs
- Virtual aquaculture research infrastructures for *in silico* experiments
- Effects of fish life history on experimental outputs
- Characterization and use of isogenic fihs lines
- Nano-sensors for remote monitoring of experimental fish

The answer in January 2015!

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Would you like to find out more?

AQUAEXCEL INDUSTRY WORKSHOP:

Research Infrastructures: adding value to European aquaculture industry

Friday, 17th October
Kicking off at 10.30am
Room 11 (Exhibition Area)

See you there!

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Contact us

Thank you for your attention

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Tel: +334 67 13 04 07

DISCLAIMER

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement no 262336. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the European Union cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.