

Farming_Talapia_Africa_Chickens_Pigs_And_Corn_2002.txt

Talapia Africa chickens, pigs

Two different spellings are valid I think.

Tilapia Africa chickens, pigs

sent: 25 May 02
Subject: Farming fish (Tilapia)

I got some interesting information in a fish store yesterday.

The old man who ran the place said that in some of the poor parts of Africa that they feed corn to chickens that are caged so that the droppings fall into a pig cage. The pig's droppings fall through wire mesh into a pond that becomes food for Tilapia fish. The fish, pigs, chickens are all farmed in this manner. The pond is used to irrigate the corn crop.

In the following I have attempted to find more information on this. If anyone else has information please post it.

Agriculture food and nutrition for Africa - A resource book for
Teachers of agriculture
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/w0078e/w0078e00.htm#TopOfPage>
http://www.fao.org/docrep/w0078e/w0078e06.htm#P4641_298753

Tilapia aurea
<http://www.ksuaquaculture.org/fish.tilapia.htm>

Biodiversity and Conservation: A Hypertext Book by Peter J. Bryant
<http://darwin.bio.uci.edu/~sustain/bio65/lec07/b65lec07.htm>

Tilapia (whole) fresh/live/frozen available wholesale

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We have tilapia available to retailers and wholesalers grown to one to one-and-a-half pounds. The fish are available whole only. Live or frozen. The fish are blue with a red crest, and are delicious. We can offer very competitive prices, consistent and on-schedule delivery, great customer service, and a wonderful product. Please contact me with any questions.

(954) 520-5463

jeremy@webguild.com

Thanks,

Jeremy Davis

<http://cherrysnapper.com/bbs/messages/360.html>

<http://cherrysnapper.com/bbs/index.sht>

An Interesting Travel report.

Most of the people living in the rural areas of Congo are subsistence farmers. Also, like CAR, in much of Congo the main staple food is cassava or plantain bananas. ?? . By

1990 there were over 2,000 fishponds producing fish. Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) is the fish of choice for fish farming in the Congo. As in CAR, the more experienced farmers also were encouraged to grow local catfish (*Clarius gariepinus*) in a "polyculture" with tilapia .

<http://www.ksuaquaculture.org/AfricaWeek3.htm>

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Congo are

subsistence farmers. Also, like CAR, in much of

Congo the

main staple food

is cassava or plantain bananas. Many different types

of
a native fruit
of the
It has a
underneath
often eaten
a stick
and/or bitter if
CAR, goats,
course, some
significant amounts of

vegetables and
fruits are eaten. During this time of year there is
called
nsafu that is abundant in villages throughout much
country. The
fruit is oval shaped and purple in color when ripe.
skin like a
plum, but with a soft, greenish avocado like flesh
and a large,
smooth seed in the middle. The nsafu is boiled,
with salt or
sometimes with sugar, and it is sometimes served on
(like a
lollipop). It is not sweet and can be a little sour
not
ripe. While there is not a lot of cattle here as in
chickens,
ducks, pigs are the typical livestock. And, of
fish is also
raised. Hunting and fishing still provide
protein,
especially in the northern part of the country.

Congo's history of fish farming parallels closely that of CAR. Fish farming fits well with the farming practices in the Congo and provides both an important source of nutrition, particularly protein, and income. During the 1970's and 1980's, with the assistance of FAO/PNUD, fish farming was encouraged, especially in the southern part of Congo. By 1990 there were over 2,000 fish ponds producing fish. Tilapia (Oreochromis niloticus) is the fish of choice for fish farming in the Congo. As in CAR, the more experienced farmers also were encouraged to grow local catfish (Clarius gariepinus) in a "polyculture" with tilapia. This was feasible during a time when catfish fingerlings were being produced at the large government fish station (Djoumouna) located just outside of Brazzaville. Good quality supplemental fish feeds could be purchased fairly

easily

including

extraction and beer

by-products from wheat milling, peanut oil

develop

brewing.

Available agricultural by-products were also used to

fish

a low-cost pig

ration and the association of pork production and

production increased

profitability of fish farming even more.

there are

Though the demand for fish is still high, presently,

among the

not a lot of

fish ponds in production in the Congo. Principle

Republic of

reasons for this

situation is the fact that during the 1990's, the

people, especially

Congo suffered

a period of civil unrest and instability. Many

homes to find

in the

southern part of the country, had to leave their

activities. In

safer places

to stay, often far from their villages and farming

and the

their

absence, the fish ponds were often emptied of water

fish harvested.

Today the country is, thankfully, at peace and the government is working to put itself and the economy back together. Most people have returned to their homes, but are still a bit wary about re-investing the time and effort into their fish ponds. A few people that I had an opportunity to visit are just now stocking their first ponds with fish and many more are putting their ponds back into shape. Unfortunately, some people are not finding it easy to get started again as they have to deal with things like the loss of their tools, a shortage of fingerlings, dams and dikes that have been destroyed often leaving ponds without access to water, and theft.

As usual, in the first days after my arrival in Brazzaville, I met with Republic of Congo and FAO officials. I developed my work plan which has included both researching the FAO archives and

making trips

around
Brazzaville and into the countryside. The first fish

ponds I

visited were
those at the large national fish station at

Djournouna, just

outside
Brazzaville. The fish station was abandoned during

the

troubles and most of
the buildings were damaged and most of the records

lost.

With the help of a
small grant from the Italian Embassy, a couple

fingerling

production ponds
and the canal system is being put back into shape.

Other

ponds, some new and
others abandoned, belonging to private individuals

were also

visited in and
around Brazzaville.

west of

This past Wednesday, 09 January, we packed up the 4
wheel-drive and headed
up-country towards Mindouli, a city about 180 miles

government

Brazzaville.
During the 4 days on the road, I met with local
officials, fish
farming extension agents, and visited fish farmers

and their

the recent

troubled time. As an

asphalted road

took us 6

the trip

back to

presently faced

spoke with

work, but people

will be

ponds. The area visited, in particular, was deeply impacted during civil unrest. There were still visible signs of a terrible, example, when I visited here years ago I traveled on an and it took us about 4 hours to get to Mindouli.

Today, the asphalt has all but disappeared and it took us 6 hours to get just half the distance. Although the road was rugged and rough, it was good to see that people are starting to get their lives normal and despite the difficulties and many hardships they are with. There's still a lot of interest in fish farming and the people I understood clearly the benefits. It'll take some time and a lot of work here, and in Africa in general, are hard working and very resilient. They will be back on their

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feet and fish farms will be back on the map.

All for now,

Gordon

<http://www.ksuaquaculture.org/AfricaWeek3.htm>