



## The SPC-ACIAR Aquaculture Workshop, 20–21 July 2001 Noumea, New Caledonia, a brief summary

Chan L. Lee<sup>1</sup>

I was most fortunate to be invited by Barney Smith and Dr Tim Adams to attend the special SPC-ACIAR Aquaculture Workshop held in Noumea on the 20 and 21 July 2001. The meeting was held immediately before the second SPC Heads of Fisheries meeting in Noumea.

The two-day Aquaculture Workshop was a relatively informal affair officially opened by Tim Adams, Director of Marine Resources Division, SPC. Following his welcome address, Barney Smith, ACIAR Fisheries Program Manager gave an outline of ACIAR aquaculture initiatives in the Pacific. ACIAR is very supportive of aquaculture development in the Pacific and currently has bilateral and multilateral projects in nine SPC countries. Barney strongly believes that aquaculture could play a major role on poverty alleviation, particularly at the community level. He sees his organisation supplementing and enhancing the regional programme to be funded by AusAID.

During the two-day meeting, three topics of great interest to SPC member countries were discussed during three different sessions.

### Session I: Trochus stock enhancement

The major outcomes and recommendations arising from the ACIAR trochus project are:

#### Outcomes

- The ACIAR funded trochus project 'Reef reseeding research of the topshell *Trochus niloticus* in northern Australia, eastern Indonesia and Pacific – FIS/94/10' was successfully completed in July 2001 and the results reported to the meeting
- The meeting supported the results and outcomes arising from the ACIAR Trochus reseeding research project
- A one-day trochus workshop in Vanuatu recommended a trochus broodstock enhancement project incorporating community-based management to restore trochus fisheries

#### Recommendations

- The workshop endorsed the development of a trochus stock enhancement project integrating



**Figure 1.** Gathering of 'Trochus believers' during the SPC-ACIAR Aquaculture Workshop, 20–21 July 2001, Noumea, New Caledonia  
(Right to left around the table: Gideon Tiroba, Malaki Tihala, Alofa Tuaumu, Chan Lee, Danny Jack, Maruia Kamatie, Moses Amos, Ueta Fa'asili, Fatima Sauafea and Antonio Mulipola)

1. Department of Fisheries, PO Box 71, Broome, WA 6725, Australia. E-mail: clee@fish.wa.gov.au

broodstock replenishment with community-based management

- The proposed project to be submitted to ACIAR for funding

## Session 2: ACIAR black pearl project

The ACIAR-funded black pearl project 'Pearl oyster resource development in the Pacific islands – FIS/97/31' was successfully completed and reported to the meeting. The next phase of the black pearl project was presented

## Session 3: Regional aquaculture initiative

A summary on the origin and current status of the Regional Aquaculture Initiative was provided by Ben Ponia, SPC Aquaculture Adviser. AusAID was approached in 1999 to take the project concept further resulting in the concept proposal for a SPC-AusAID Aquaculture Project. A presentation

of the SPC-AusAID Aquaculture Project was presented for discussion and supported by all member countries present in the meeting.

During the meeting, I was extremely happy to be able to catch up with many delegates from the SPC member countries. I took the opportunity to talk informally to many members on their interests on the trochus broodstock enhancement project and on other aquaculture projects that may be of interest to the region. Figure 1 shows a group of 'trochus believers' gathered for a picture. I believe that I have got all the names correct. If anyone can point out to me that I have spelt any name incorrectly or provided a wrong name in Figure 1, please let me know and I will buy you a beer or kava when we next meet!! 'Tank Yu Tumas' to all the delegates.



## Translocation of trochus to Tapanan Island, Tonga. A success story?

*Bob Gillett<sup>1</sup>*

In August 1992 we collected 545 shells in Lakeba Island, Lau, Fiji and flew them by commercial aircraft to Tongatapu, Tonga. Of these shells, more than 250 were flown to Vava'u and placed on a reef east of Tapanan Island. In early 1998 there were reports that some juvenile trochus were seen near the Pangaimotu causeway. In April 2001, while doing a 34 km swim to a dozen islands in Vava'u (that's a different story), I crossed a reef near the eastern tip of Kapa Island and spotted a 10 cm trochus shown in the picture.



1. PO Box 3344, Lami, Fiji

2. Editor's note: Is this one of the survivors from the 1992 stocking or is it an F1 or F2 from the 1992 stocking? Comments from readers would be most welcome.