



# Latest trends in tilapia production and market worldwide

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American Tilapia Association, Sec. Tres.

**Rio de Janeiro, Brasil**

**16 September 2013**

# Tilapia: continuing to increase in popularity globally

- Tilapias are second only to the carps as a farmed food fish.
- But tilapia have unique characteristics that will facilitate its continued growth to someday surpass carp production.



# Tilapia

- Model for how aquaculture industry should develop
- Global demand, variety of production systems and geographic regions, some vertically integrated
- Environmentally sustainable – “Green Aquaculture” (no fish meal required in the diet, no antibiotics, many farms use effluents for crops)



# Subsistence and Export Commodity

- Tilapia is unique in its role as a small livestock animal grown by subsistence farmers in developing countries around the world.....
- And
- It is widely grown and exported to high value markets to be served in expensive restaurants and grocery stores
- Commodity or specialty crop - BOTH, like chicken



**Tilapia:  
The Most Important Aquaculture  
Species of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

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**Tilapia: the most  
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**ABSTRACT**

In the 1990's, tilapia species were introduced into most of the countries in the world from their original ranges in Africa and the Middle East. They are now grown in commercial farming operations in almost 100 countries. Tilapia are likely to be the most important of all aquacultured fish in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The unique mix of tilapias' physiology, reproductive biology, genetic plasticity, development of domesticated strains, and ready marketability have put it at the forefront of aquaculture. The few detracting characteristics are rapidly being overcome by evolving culture systems, selective breeding, gender manipulation and genetic modification. A convergence of improved culture techniques, new farms, low cost diets, ecological efficiency and emerging markets will boost tilapia to be the world's largest aquaculture crop.

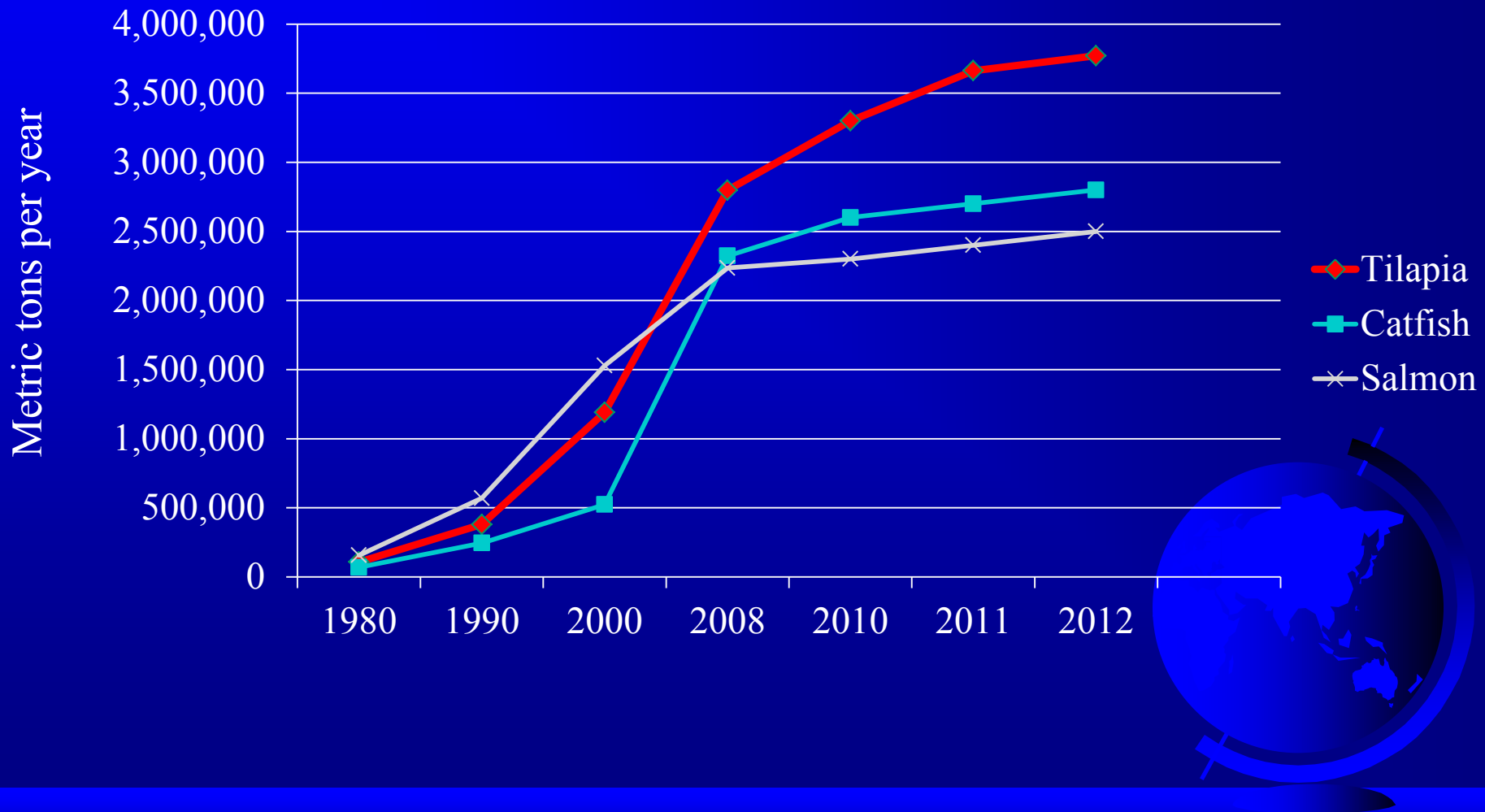
**INTRODUCTION**

Tilapia were touted as the "Aquatic chicken" by ICLARM and others more than 20 years ago. The phrase may be even more appropriate today than it was then. Like terrestrial chicken, tilapia are now grown around the world. FAO (1997) estimated that world aquaculture production of tilapia had reached 650,000 t in 1995. (Fitzsimmons, 2000)

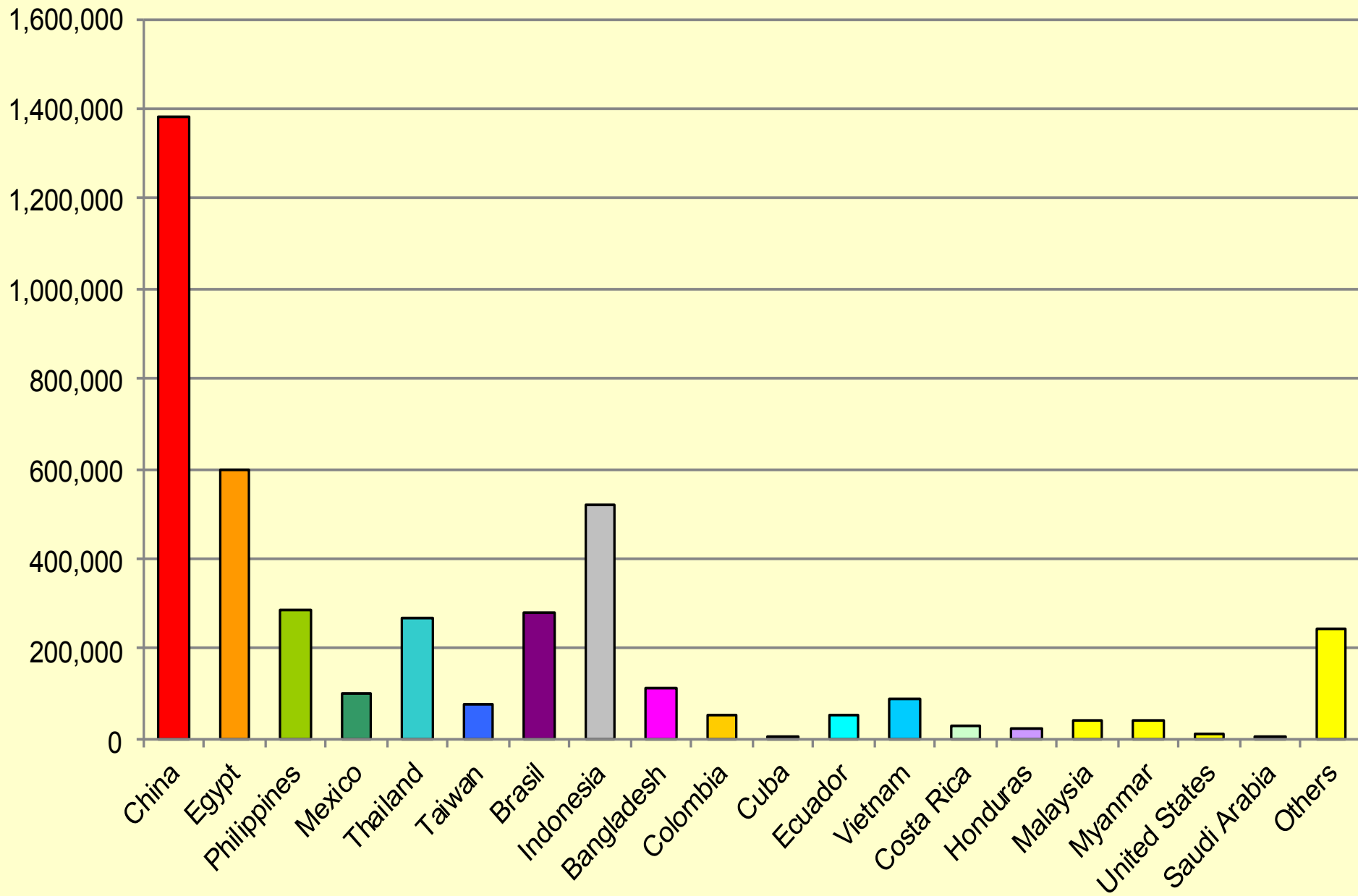
**Feb 2000  
ISTA 5**



# Global production of some major farmed fishes

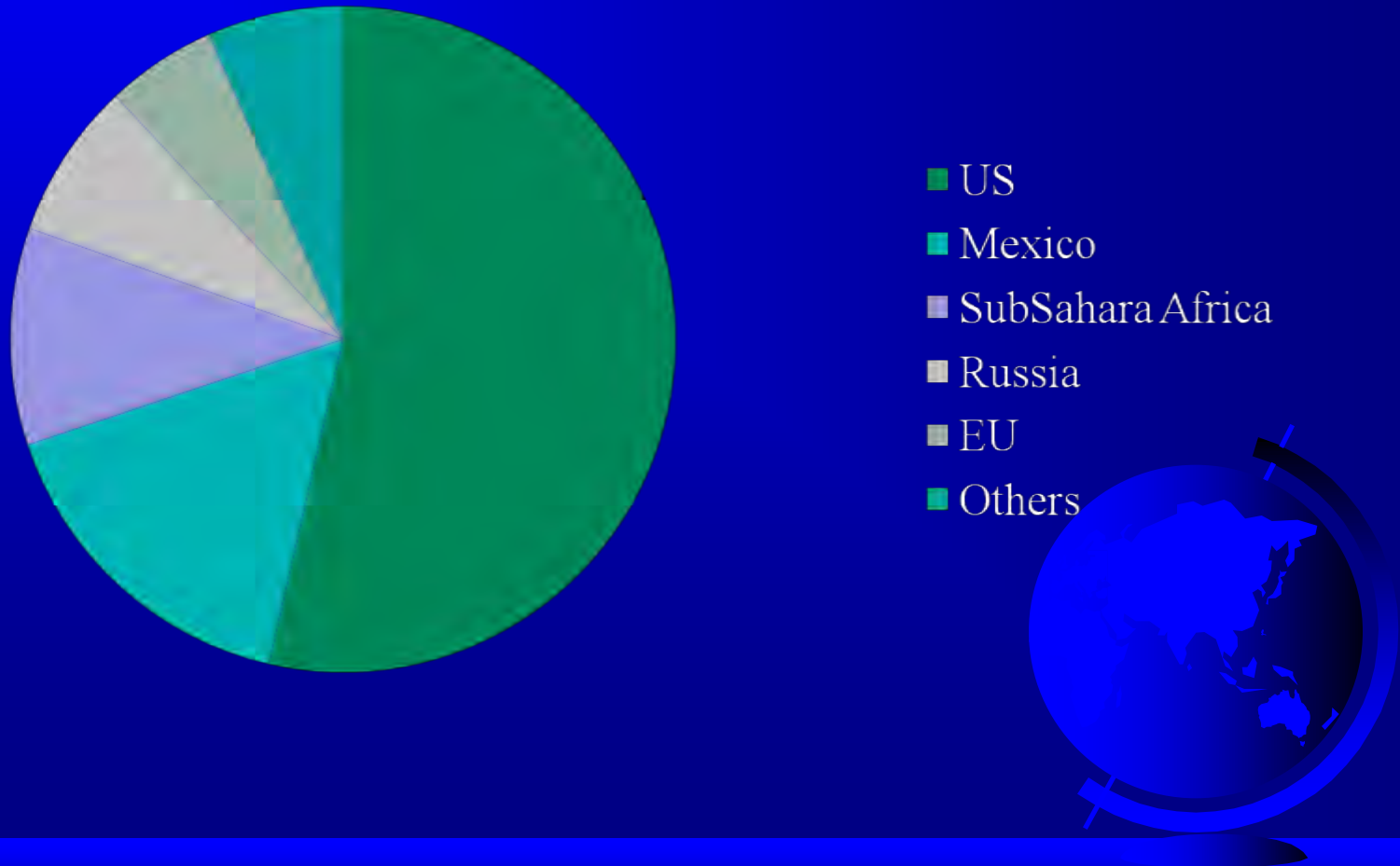


# World Tilapia Production of 4,207,900 mt in 2012



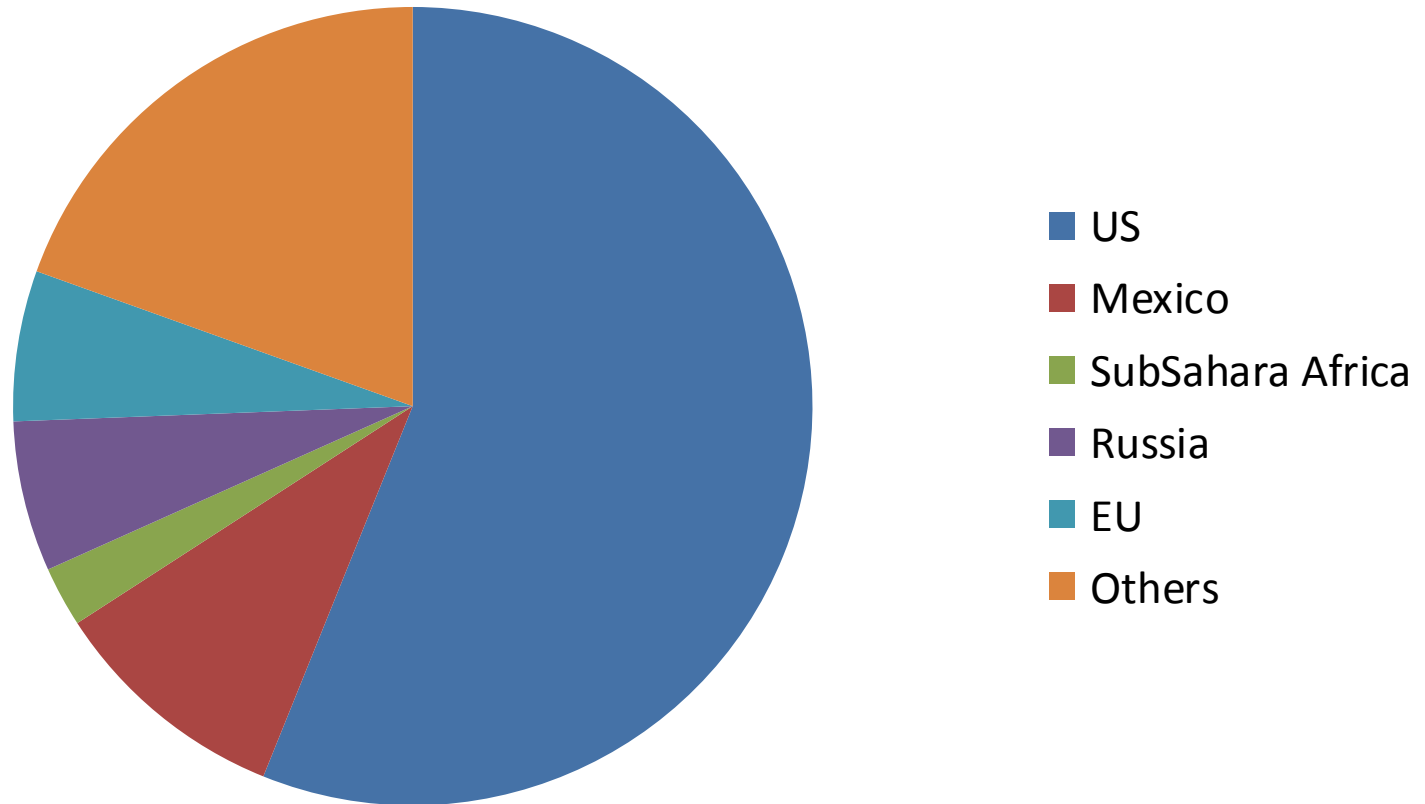
# 2008 Tilapia exports from China

Sales volume = 224,359 mt

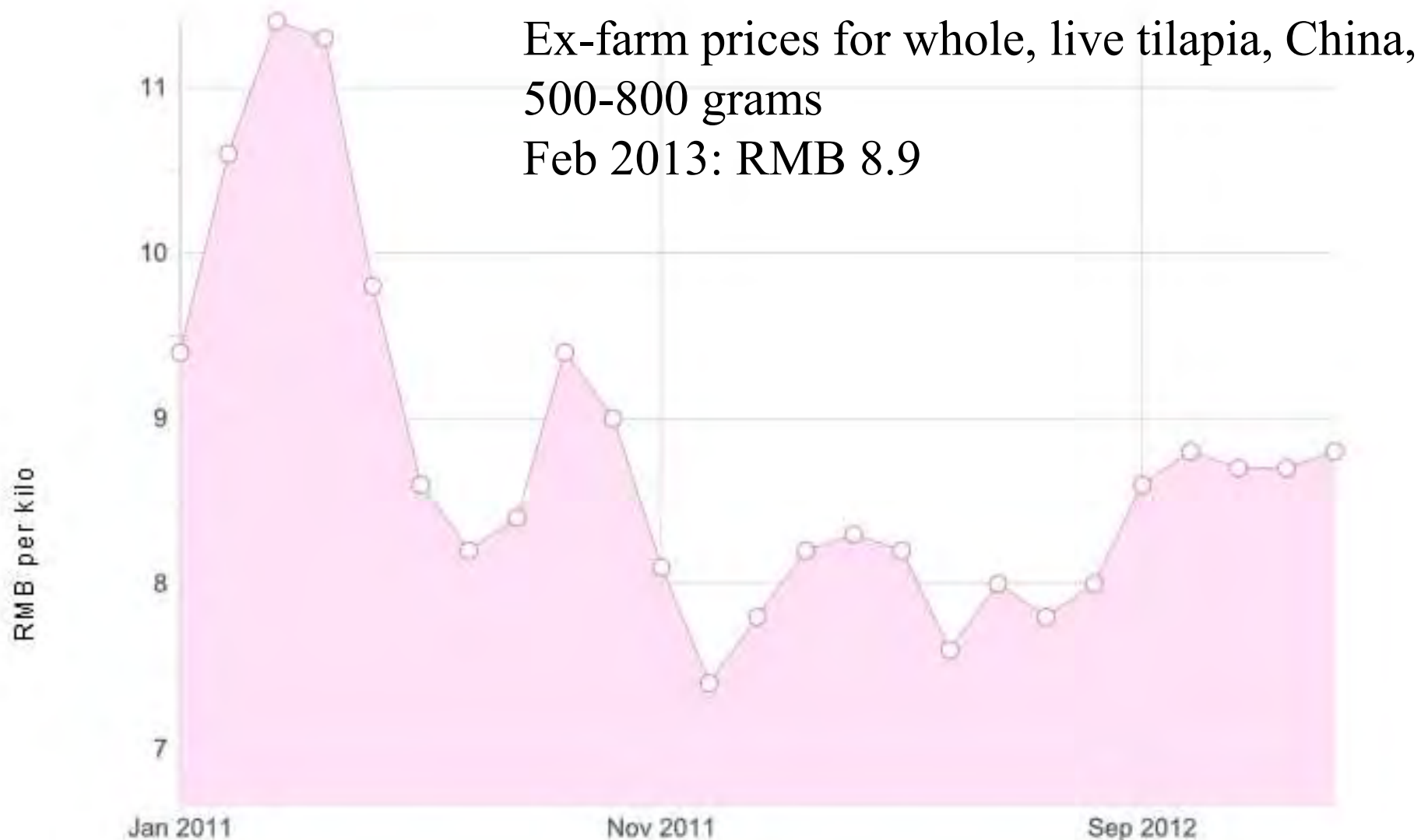




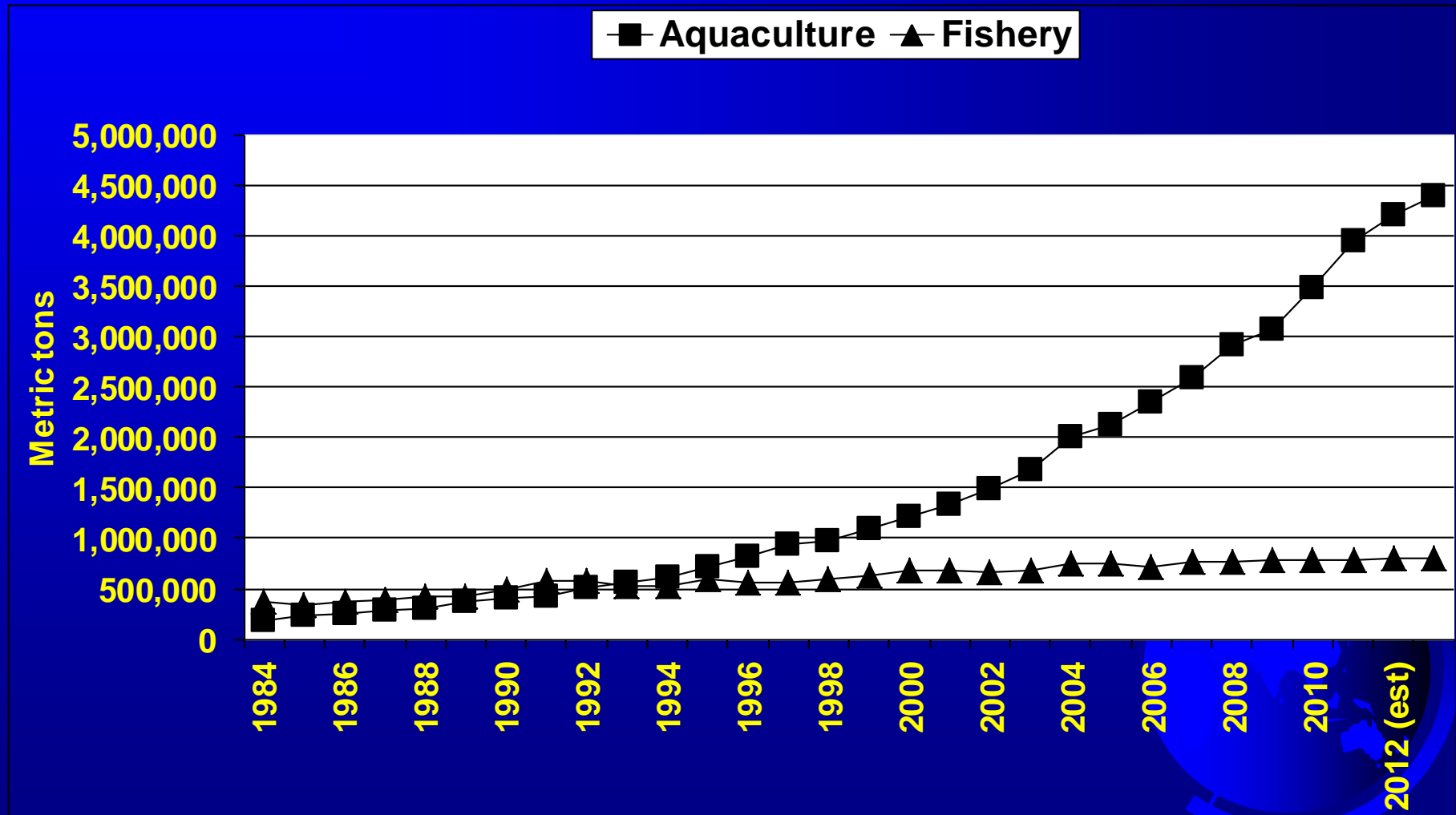
# 2012 Tilapia exports from China



# Farm gate prices for tilapia to Chinese farmers



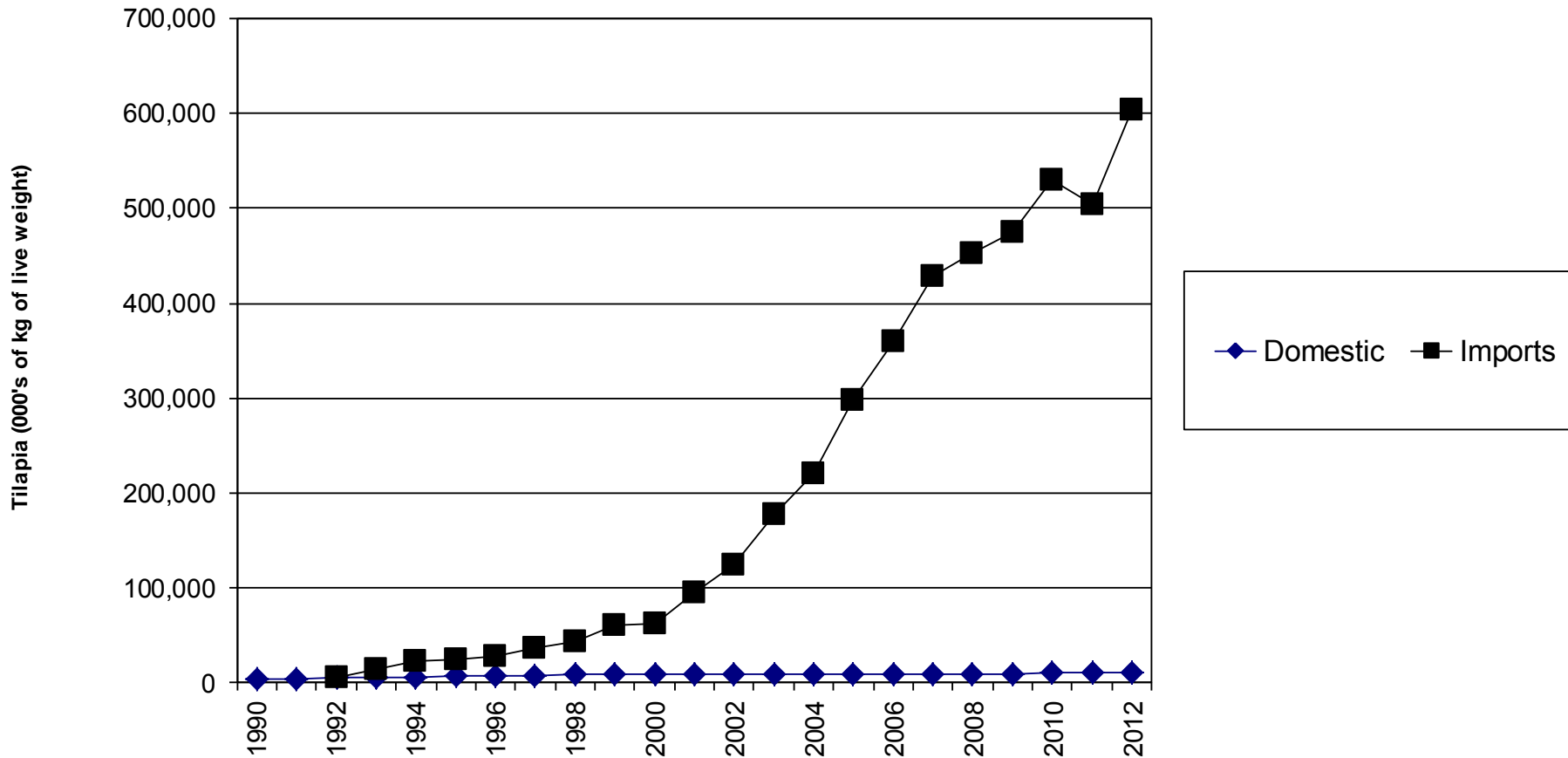
# Global production of tilapia



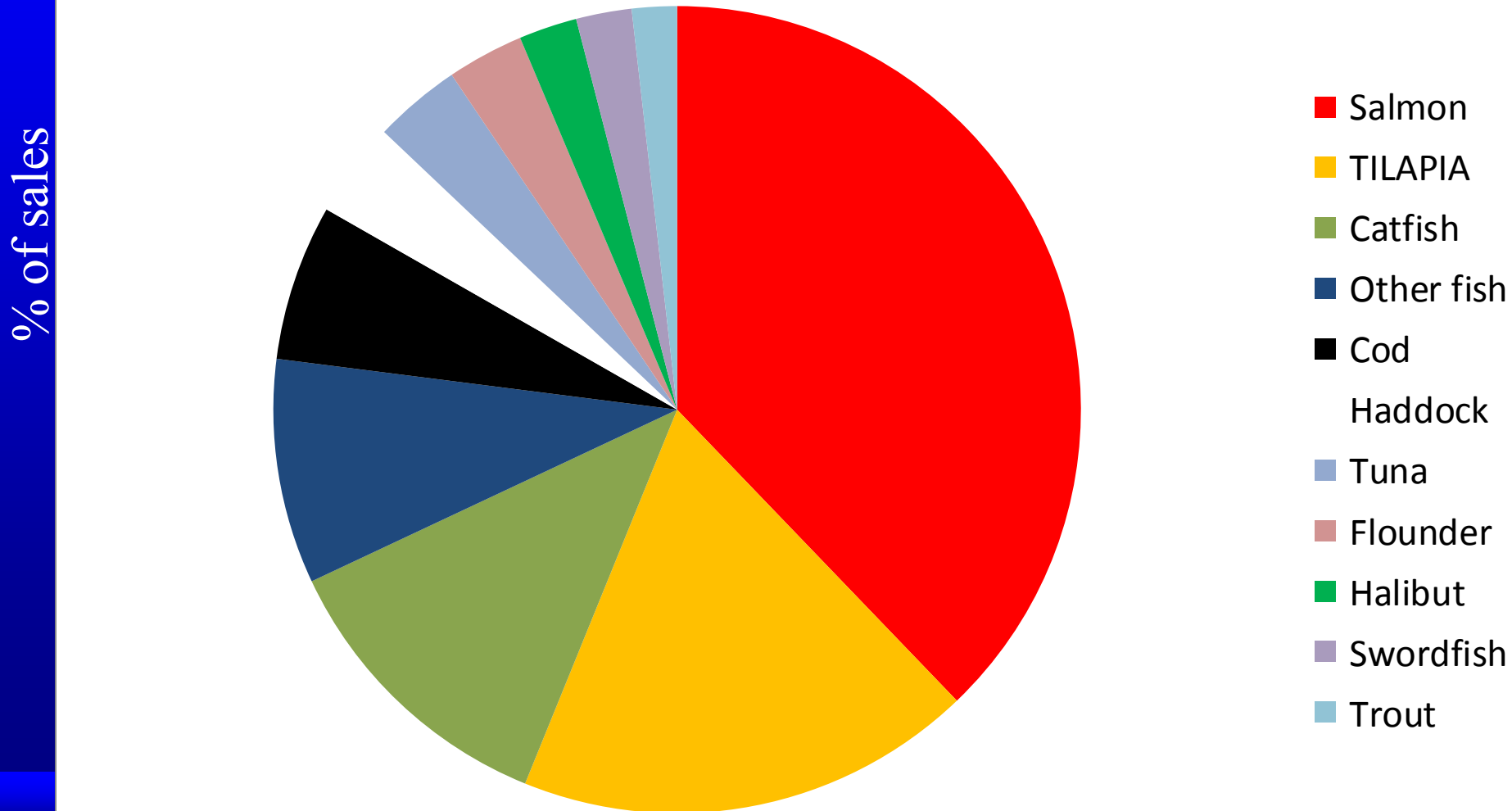
# Top Ten Seafoods (U.S.) per capita (lbs)

[illegible]

# US Consumption of tilapia from domestic and imported sources



# Percentage of US finfish grocery sales Feb. 2010



# US Tilapia consumption (imports and domestic)

437,000 mt of live weight (equivalent) - 2007

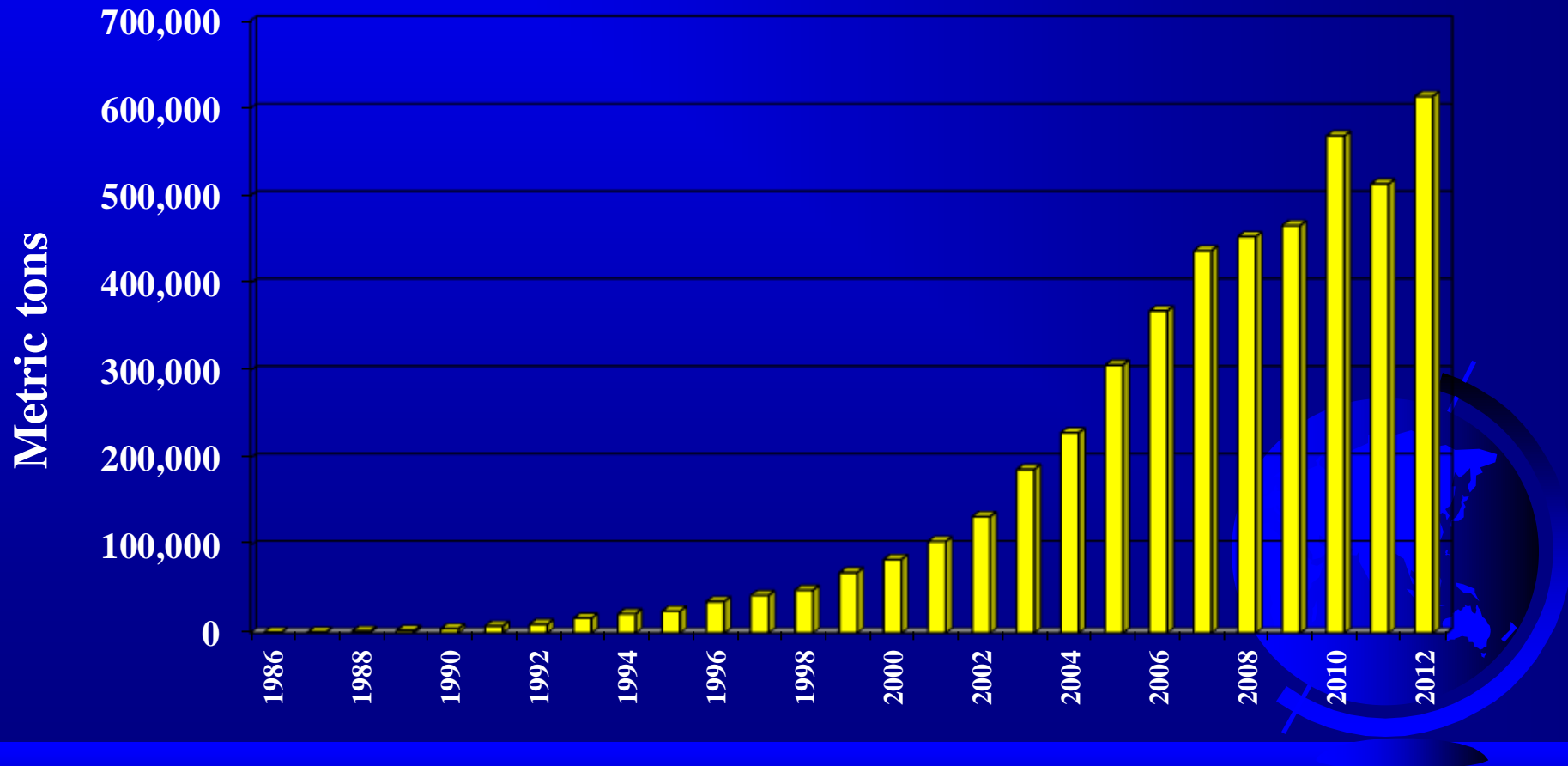
453,264 mt of live weight (equivalent) – 2008

465,953 mt of live weight (equivalent – 2009)

579,443 mt of live weight (equivalent – 2010)

513,361 mt of live weight (equivalent – 2011)

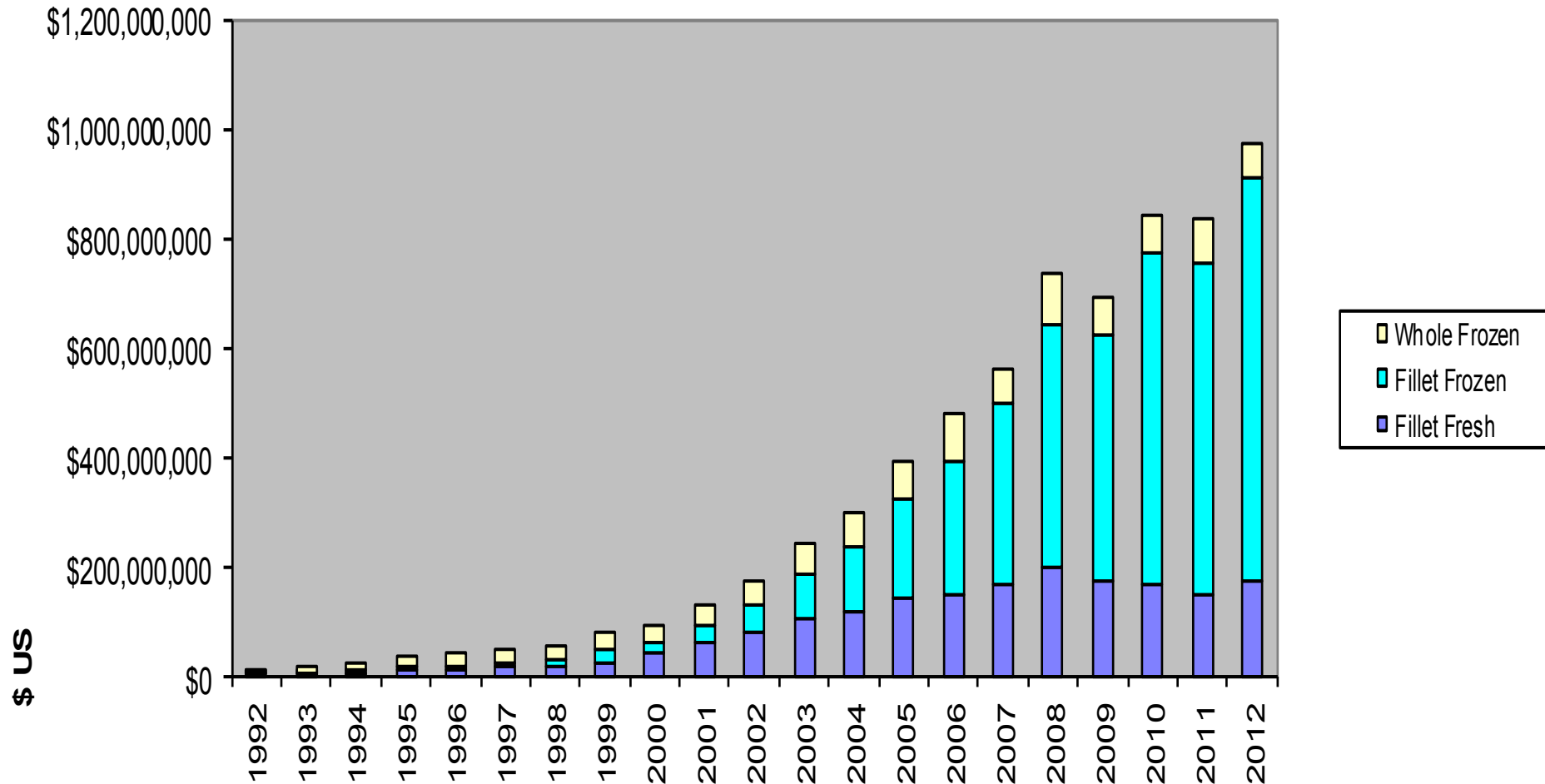
613,406 mt of live weight (equivalent – 2012)



\$696,085,981(2009) \$842,866,006(2010), \$838,349,634 (2011)

**\$986,127,852 (2012)**

Value of Tilapia product forms imported to the U.S.





# US Sales of tilapia

- Imports to US in 2012 were **\$986,127,852**
- US production of 28,000,000 lbs at farm
- 2012 US tilapia farm-gate sales were  
**\$84,000,000**
- 2012 US Tilapia Sales estimate –
- **\$986,127,852 + \$84,000,000 =**  
**\$ 1,070,127,852**

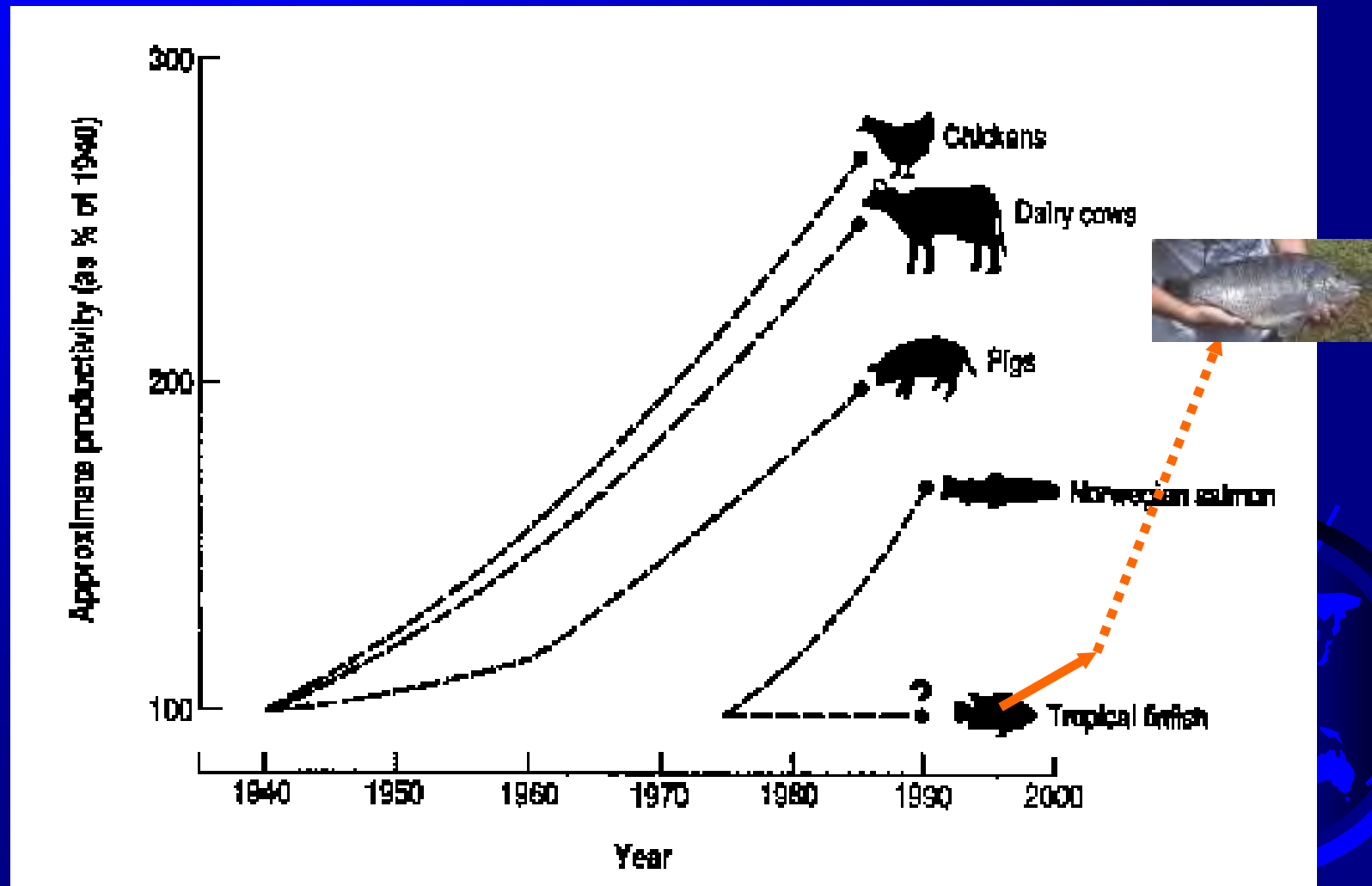


# Selective breeding and genetic improvements

- Excellent breeding programs
  - G.I.F.T. - Malaysia
  - Genomar - Brazil and Norway
  - Chitralada – Thailand
  - TabTim – Thailand (CP Group)
  - GIFT Excell – Philippines
  - Molobicus - Philippines
  - GIFT Bangladesh
- Several in Mexico
- YY Supermale - Philippines and Swansea, Egypt and Indonesia



# Genetic improvements in tilapia



(From: Mair, G., 2002)

# Tilapia Genome Project

- March 2011 - First assembly of the tilapia genome
- *Oreochromis niloticus* – Nile Tilapia
- <http://www.broadinstitute.org/ftp/pub/assemblies/fish/tilapia/Orenil1/>
- Matching many segments to those known from other fish
- Publically available and freely accessible
- Next frontier of genetic program for tilapia





## Tilapia Genome Project

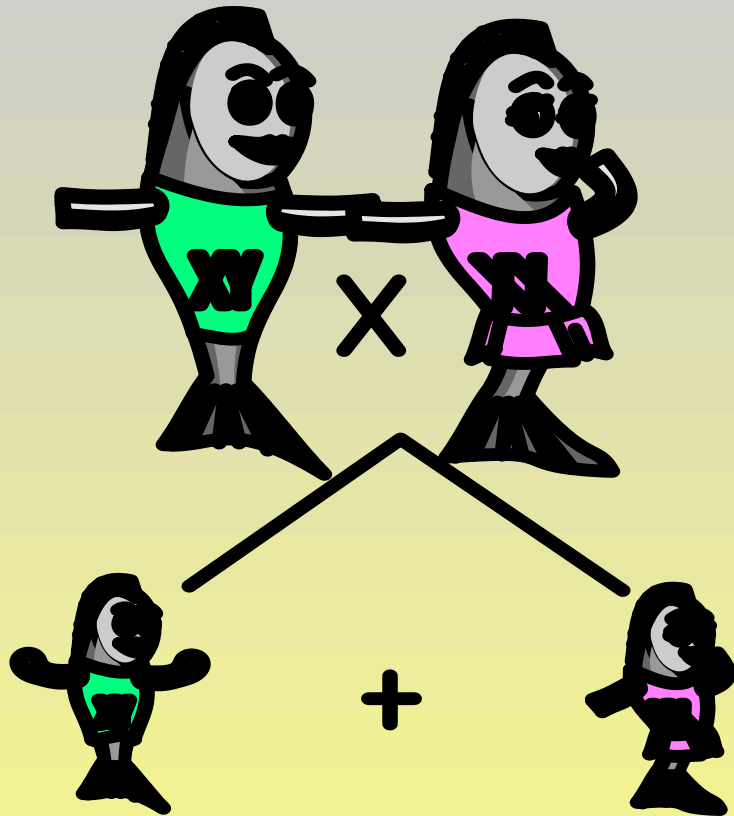
The 3000 species of cichlid fish, which includes tilapia, are found in a variety of habitats in Central and South America, Africa, and India. From an evolutionary point of view, the most interesting cichlid species are the 1500 species that recently diverged in the lakes of East Africa. Remarkably, the cichlids of Lake Tanganyika have diverged into 250 species in the past 6-8 million years, and the 500 Lake Victoria species and the 700 Lake Malawi species diverged in only the past 1 million years. For the scientific community, these species provide a natural mutant screen superior to any chemical mutagenesis. The cichlids are especially diverse in tissues and systems such as the endocrine and nervous systems that are related to the neural crest, a vertebrate-specific developmental germ layer. Cichlids are also valuable model organisms for the study of sex determination evolution, speciation and behavior. The combination of a sequenced tilapia genome and the wide variety of recently evolved cichlid behaviors and morphological traits will provide a unique opportunity to study social dominance, territoriality, sexual selection, and feeding behaviors, as well as a wide variety of neural crest derived traits.

The Broad Institute has generated a high quality draft from a Nile tilapia, *Oreochromis niloticus*. The Nile tilapia is 10-15 million years diverged from the East African lake cichlids, and provides a good outgroup for the



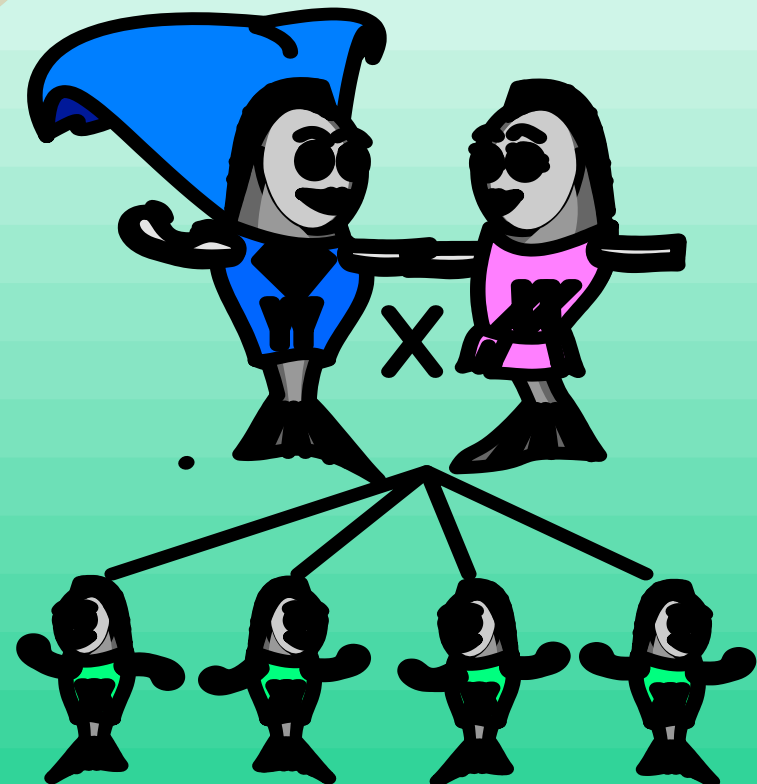
# The YY male technology

THEN



Normal crosses produce  
equal proportion of  
males and females

NOW



YY males produce only male progeny  
(GMT®)

# Regions of rapid production growth

- Vietnam – conversion of catfish cages to tilapia in Mekong, and culture in all regions
- Indonesia – cage culture, polycultures, rice culture
- Malaysia – government support and private sector investment
- Bangladesh – government support and private sector investment
- Brazil – lots of available water, labor, land, feed
- Thailand – better reporting, shrimp polyculture
- Mexico – continued intensification, some govt support, large and small private investments
- Sub-Saharan Africa - commercialization





# Integrated Farming Systems

- Tilapia → Grapes, wheat, olives, barley, sorghum, cotton, melons, peppers

Safford, AZ

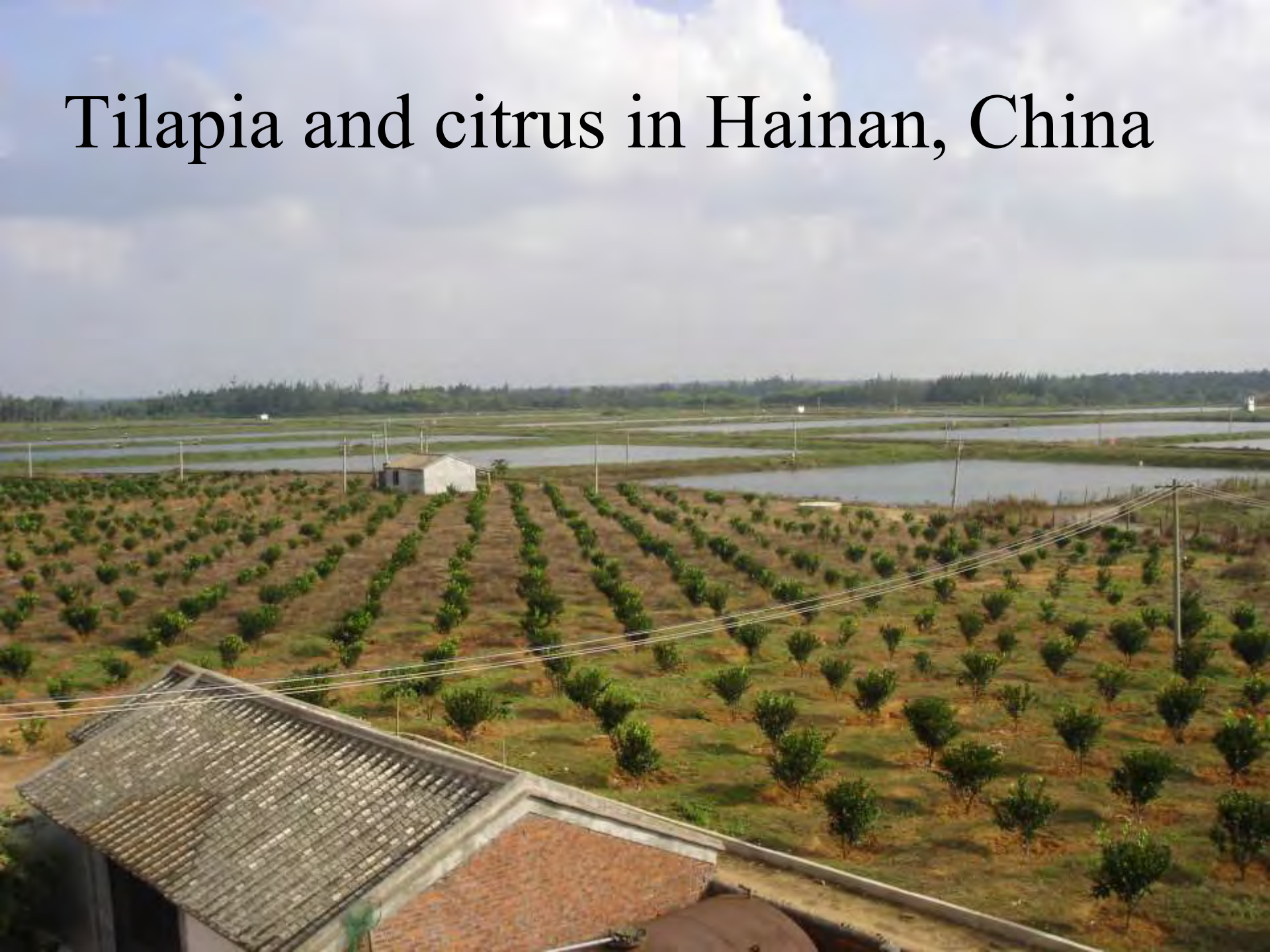


Marana, AZ





# Tilapia and citrus in Hainan, China



# Desert Springs Tilapia, Hyder AZ





# Tilapia-shrimp-halophytes Eritrea



*Salicornia*

Mangroves

Mangroves

*Salicornia*

Shrimp and tilapia ponds

# Polyculture Indonesia

## Pante Paku, Jangka, Bireun

(klaster udang windu dan ikan nila salin)



## Peurelak, Aceh Timur

(klaster udang windu dan ikan bandeng)



## Banda Mulia, Aceh Tamiang

(klaster udang windu dan ikan nila salin)





# Stocking and harvest schedule



# Tilapia – shrimp – seaweed polyculture in Indonesia







*Gracilaria*

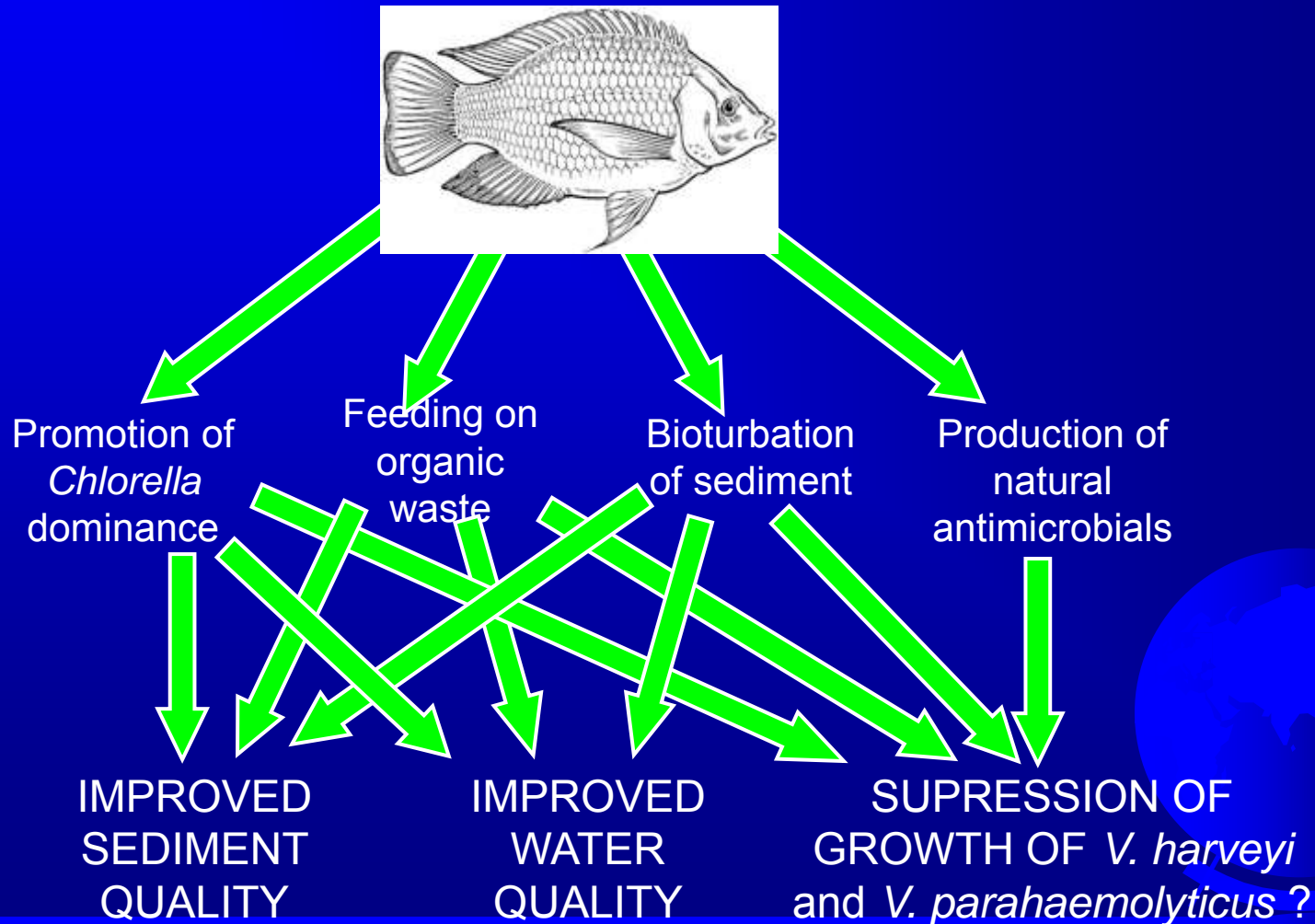
Shrimp



Tilapia



# Pathways in the use of tilapia as biomanipulator (and disease control?) in shrimp farms

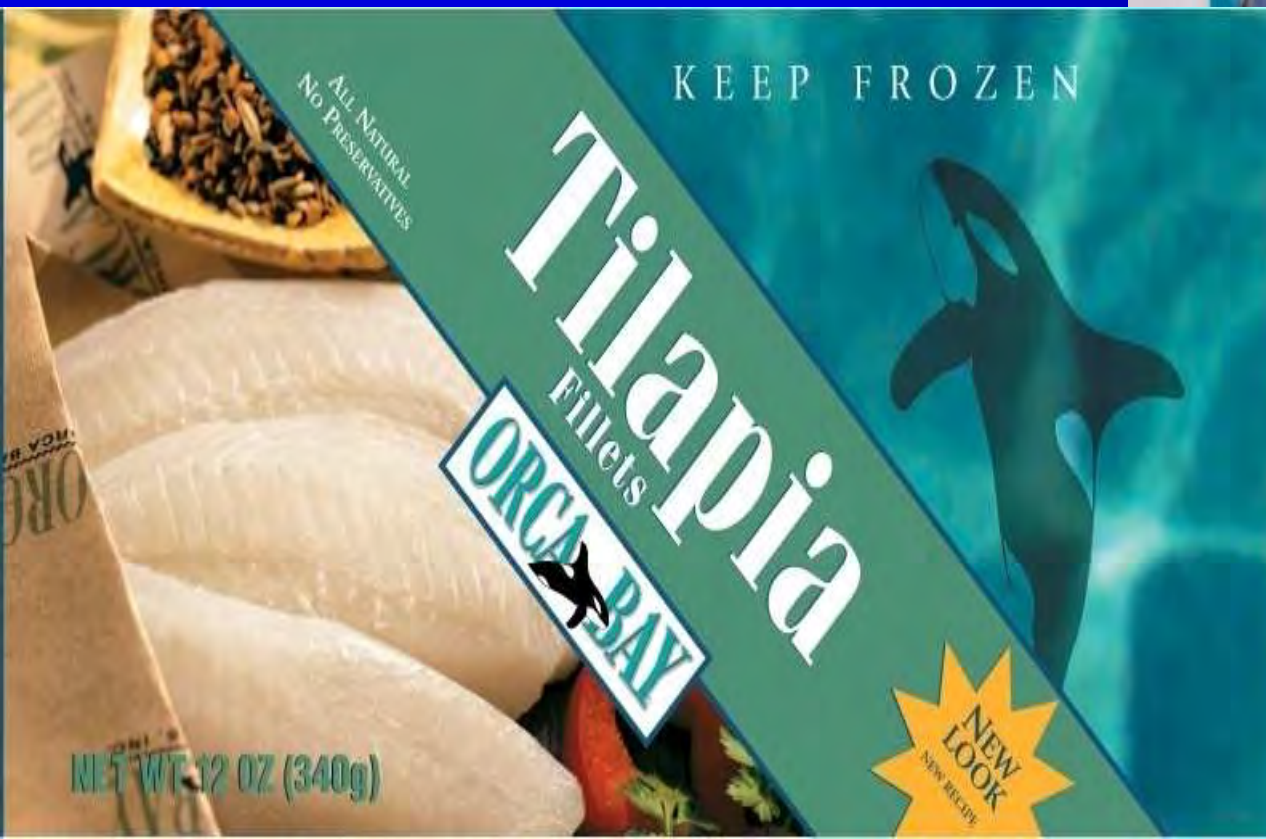




# Improvements in packaging



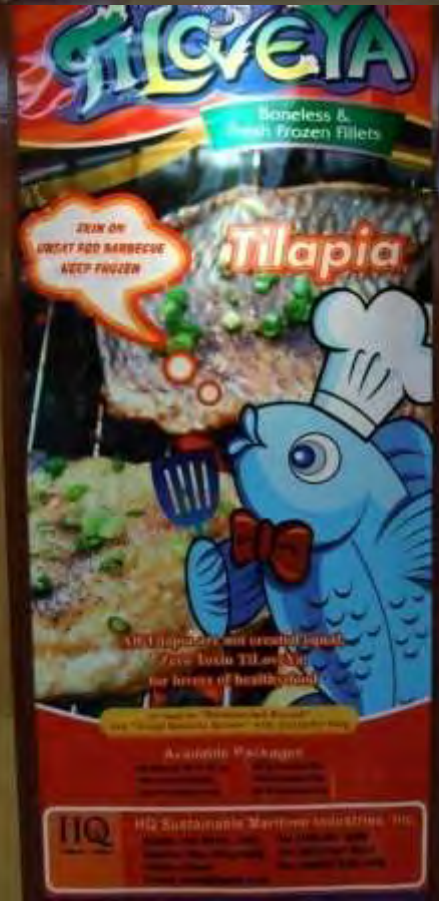
# IQF Fillets in re-sealable packages













# Value added meals



gluten free  
**SPICY GREEN CURRY TILAPIA**  
with cooked rice noodles and vegetables



SERVING SUGGESTION  
KEEP FROZEN/COOK THOROUGHLY

NET WT 12.35 OZ (350 g)

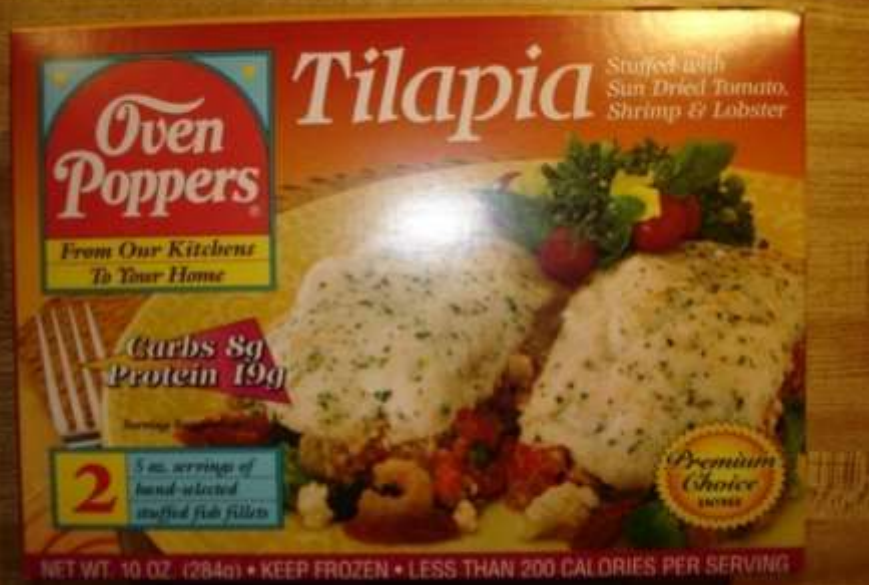
per serving	0g trans fat	3.5g saturated fat	320 calories	500mg omega-3 fatty acids	1g polyunsaturated fat	15g protein
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READY IN 8 MINUTES















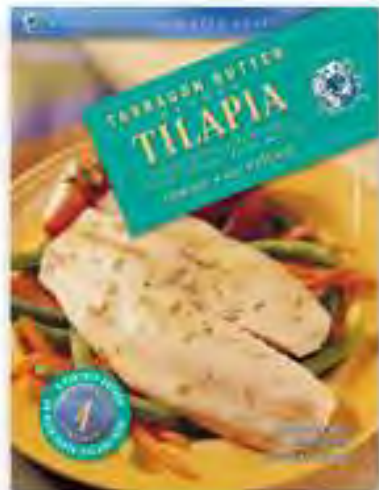
## TUSCAN STYLE TILAPIA

topped with fresh tomatoes, black olives, parmesan cheese & pesto

QUAY 5







## ONE-STEP SEAFOOD FILLETS

### Tarragon Butter Tilapia

Deep skinned tilapia fillets glazed with a delicate tarragon butter marinade. Individually vacuum packed. 12 oz. bag.



## Savory Seafood Grille Cajun Creole TILAPIA

Our tender Tilapia is slow cooked in delicious Cajun Creole seasonings, and made easy to cook & serve, putting an irresistible meal on your table in less than ten minutes!



# 4 OZ. RETAIL BAGS

These **Grab & Go** bags are a great addition to any seafood program!



## SAVORY Grab & Go!

Savory Seafood Grille Mahi & Tilapia in 4 oz. bags are **A Fresh New Way** to create sales-driving, price-point promotions that your customers will love!

**5 FOR \$5 -OR- 10 FOR \$10!**  
**GREAT SALES ITEM!**

Mahi Mahi

Tilapia

## ALL NATURAL BREADED TILAPIA FILLETS

Excellent Price!  
Great Availability!



Flakey Inside!  
Crispy Outside!

Popular White Meated Fish  
Great For Dinners, Sandwiches, and Buffets!

Retail 2lb. Box



Top View



Back View



Side View

[For Prices Click Here](#)



# New product forms

## Smoked tilapia



## Sashimi grade tilapia



# Tilapia and food service

- On almost all cruise ships
- Starting to appear on airlines
- Increasingly with schools, hospitals and prisons
- Several prisons have their own tilapia farms



Courtesy: Eric Roderick



American Airlines 14 Jan 2011- Chicago - Delhi



# Tilapia in Long John Silver's

McDonald's  
and other  
fastfoods could  
double tilapia  
global demand



# Traditional product forms



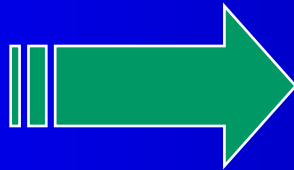
Yangon BBQ tilapia







# Byproducts - Tilapia Leather



# Manolos, Now Available In Tilapia

January 20, 2012 4:35 pm



Manolos made from discarded tilapia skin, raffia, and cork? Why not. Until now, the shoemaker hadn't delved into the green scene, but eco-chic designer Marcia Patmos was able to change that. "They were very open and loved my suggestion of bringing sustainability into the shoes, as long as I could find the right materials that they couldn't supply," Patmos tells Style.com. So, she settled on natural resources and fish industry byproducts for the Spring '12 collection. "The materials were actually very easy to work with," Patmos adds. "Mixed together or dyed, they're very versatile." The heels (\$975) and the flats (\$645) are hitting Manolo stores next week. Patmos revealed she's already hard at work on the next round—an ankle bootie made of vegetable tanned leather—for the the Fall '12 Manolo Blahnik for M.Patmos collection.

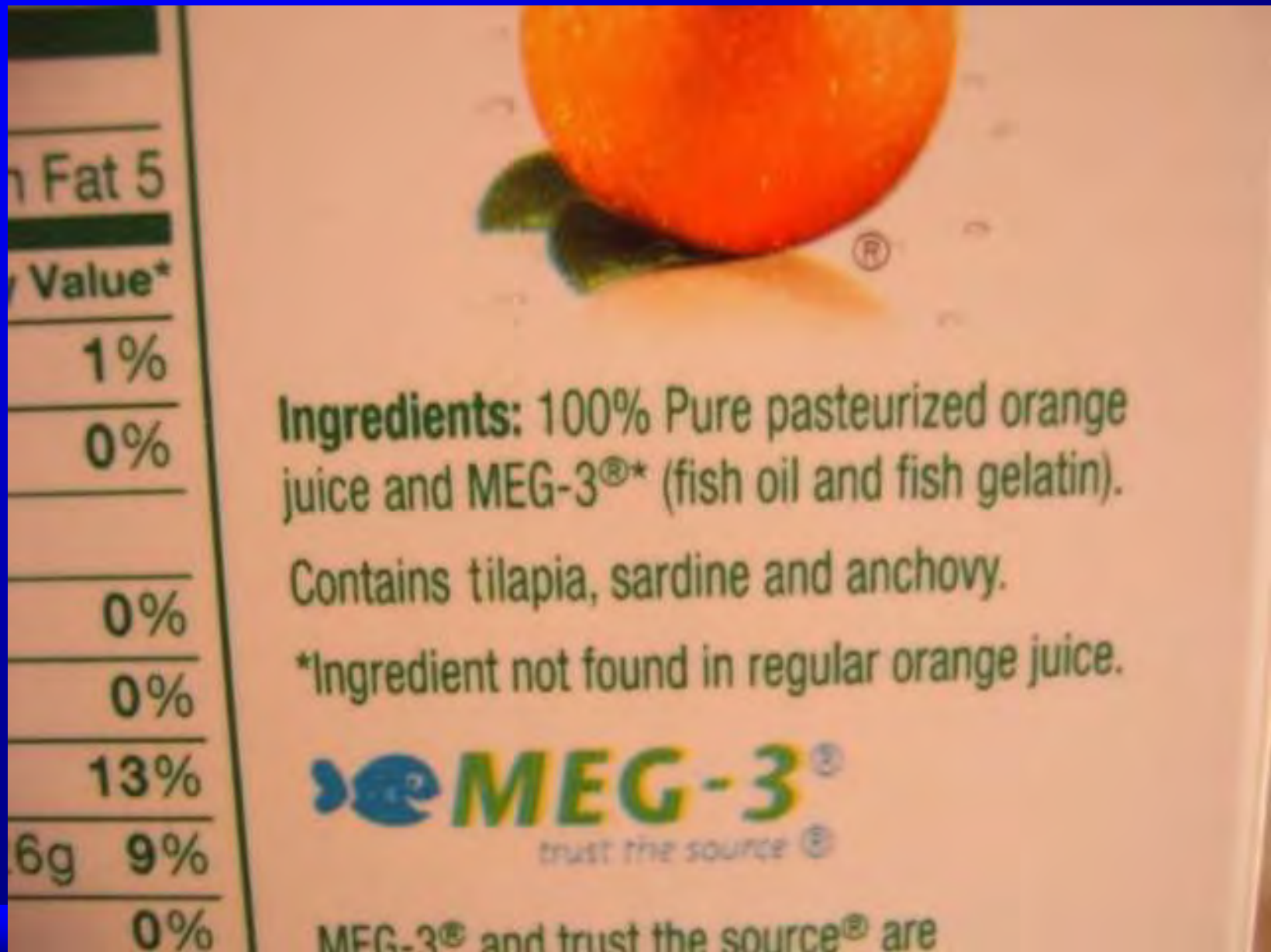
—Kristin Studeman



# Health and Beauty Products



# Tilapia Orange Juice



# Tilapia pedicures and manicures



## Fish Encounter 温泉鱼疗

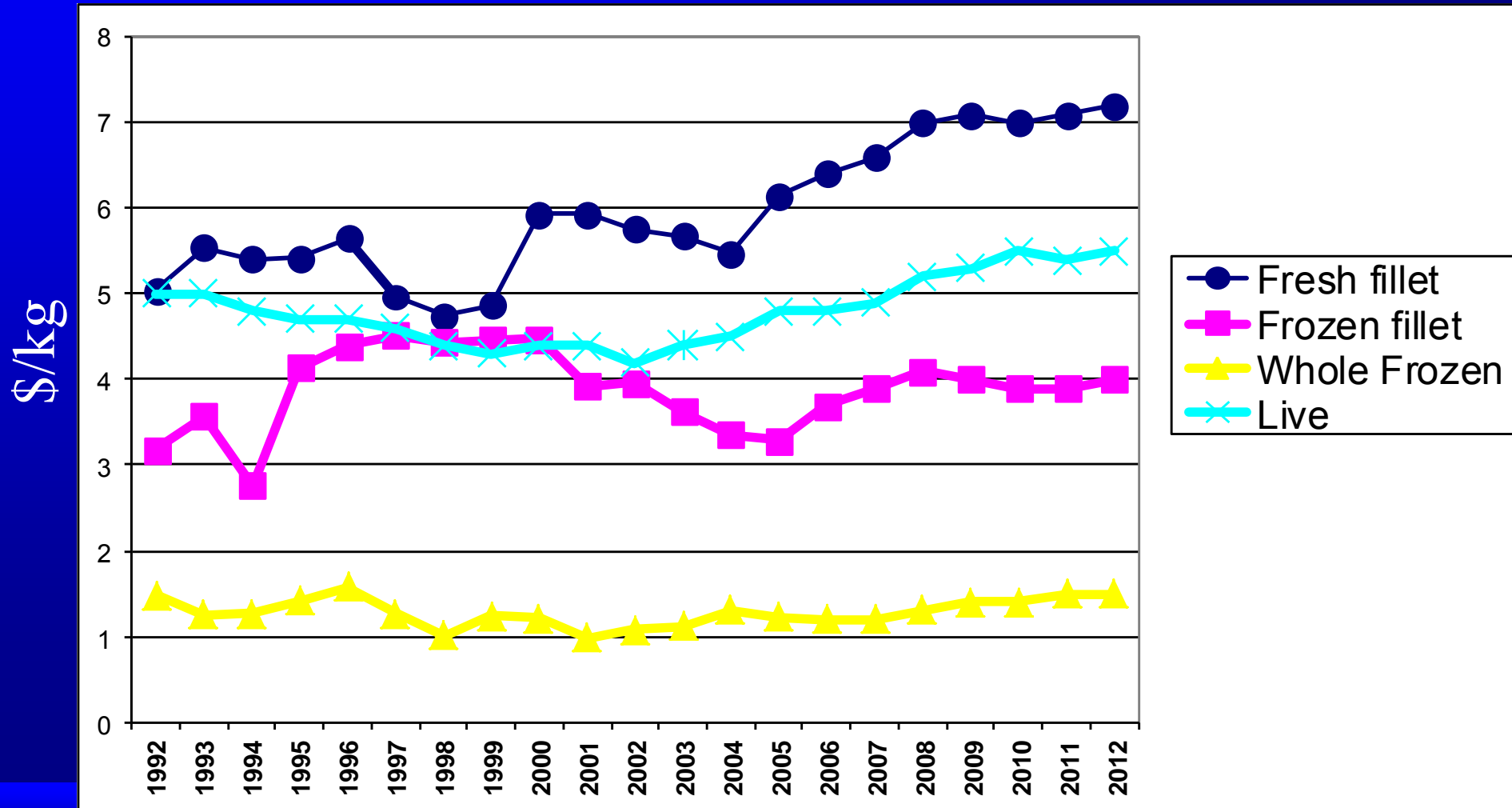
Price: RMB68/person  
价格: 人民币68元/每位

Location: First floor swimming pool  
地点: 酒店一层泳池旁



# Global Tilapia Market Trends

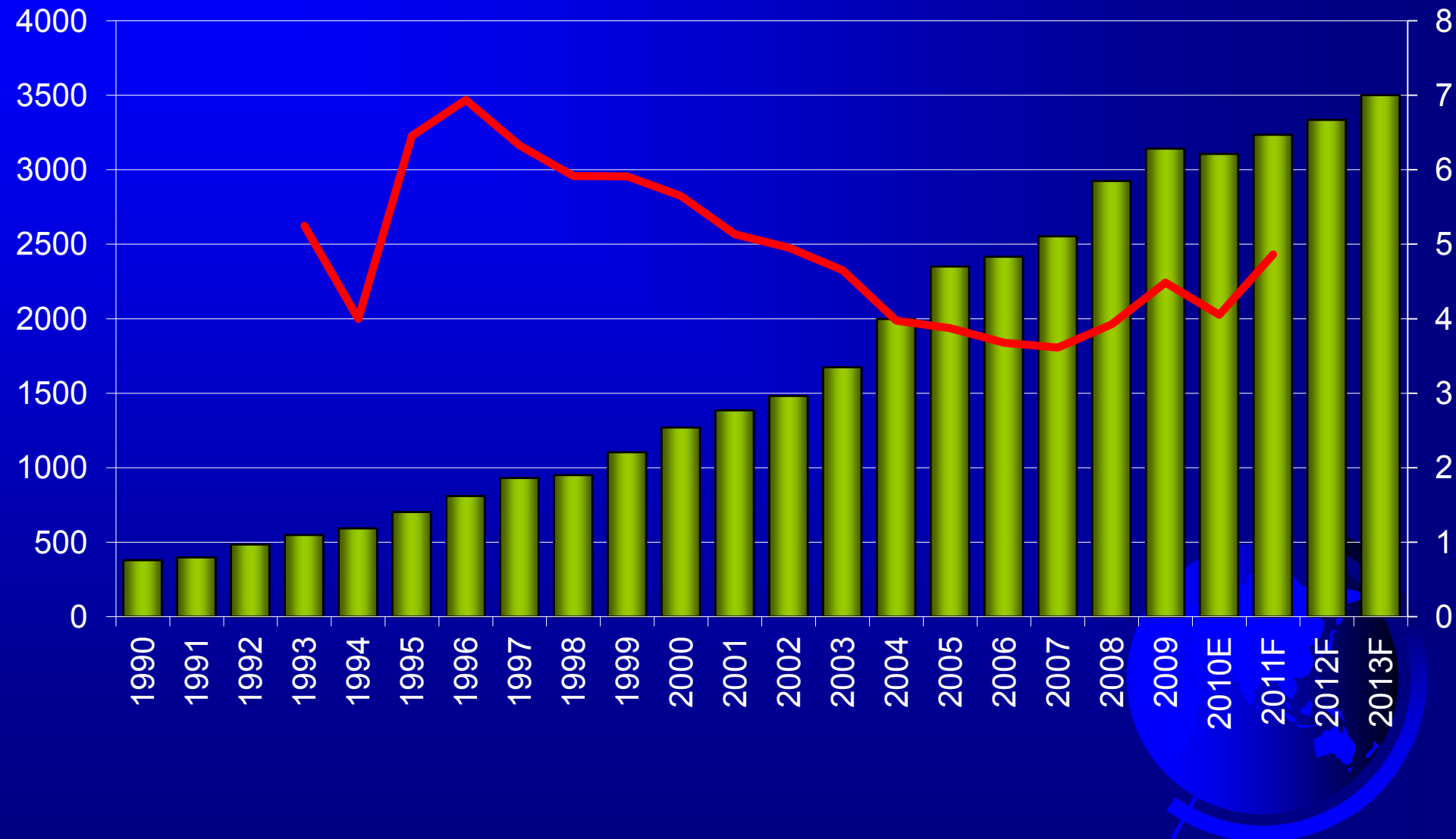
Prices have been constant, only fresh fillets have increased significantly, will not see increases beyond inflation



# Tilapia Global Aquaculture Production

1000 METRIC TONNES

REAL PRICE  
(USD/KG)



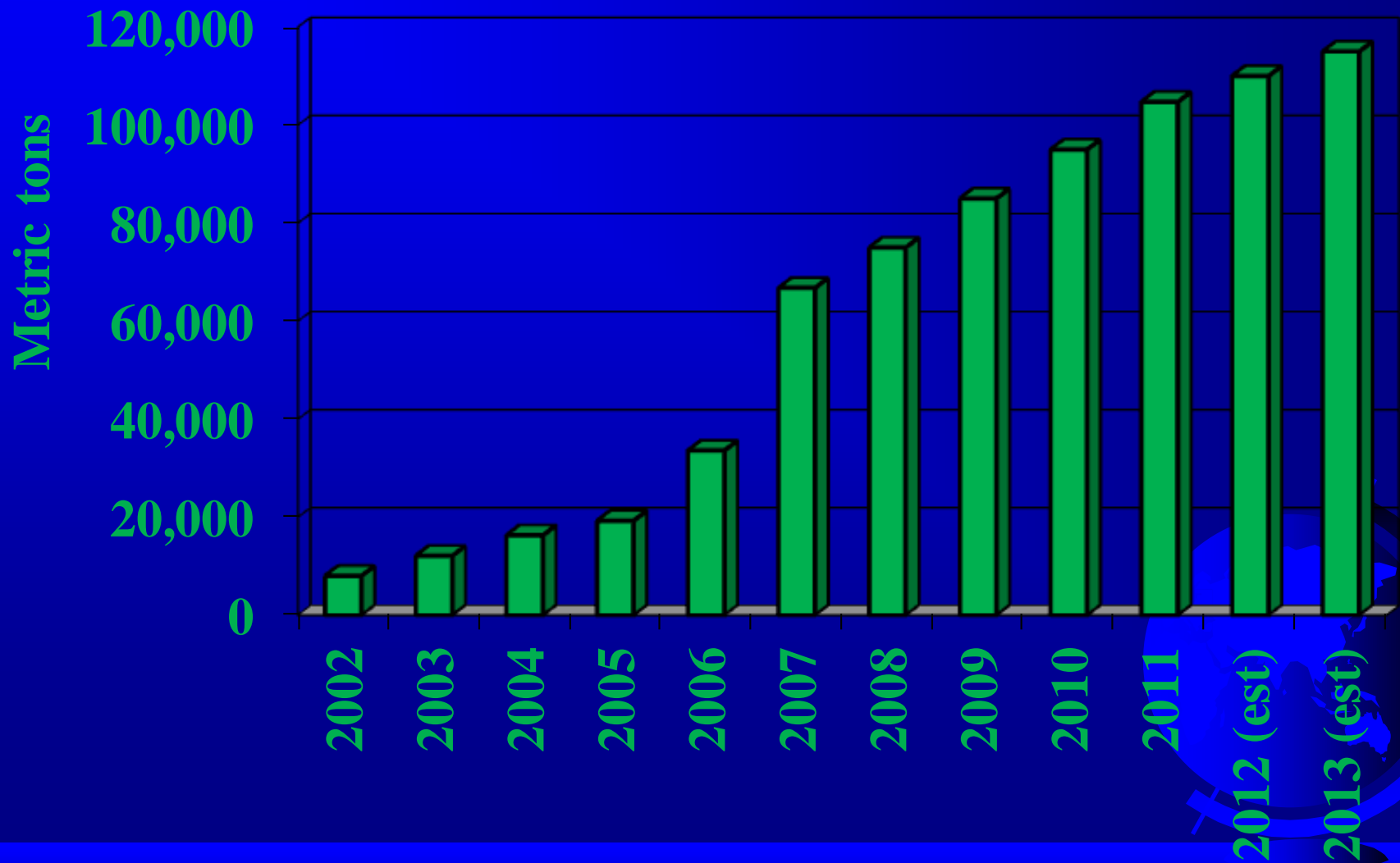
Sources: 1990-2009: FAO and Kevin Fitzsimmons; 2010-2012: Average of Helga Josupeit and Kevin Fitzsimmons estimates; 2013: Kevin Fitzsimmons; Prices US import frozen tilapia Jan- Jun: NMFS

# Global Aquaculture Tilapia Sales

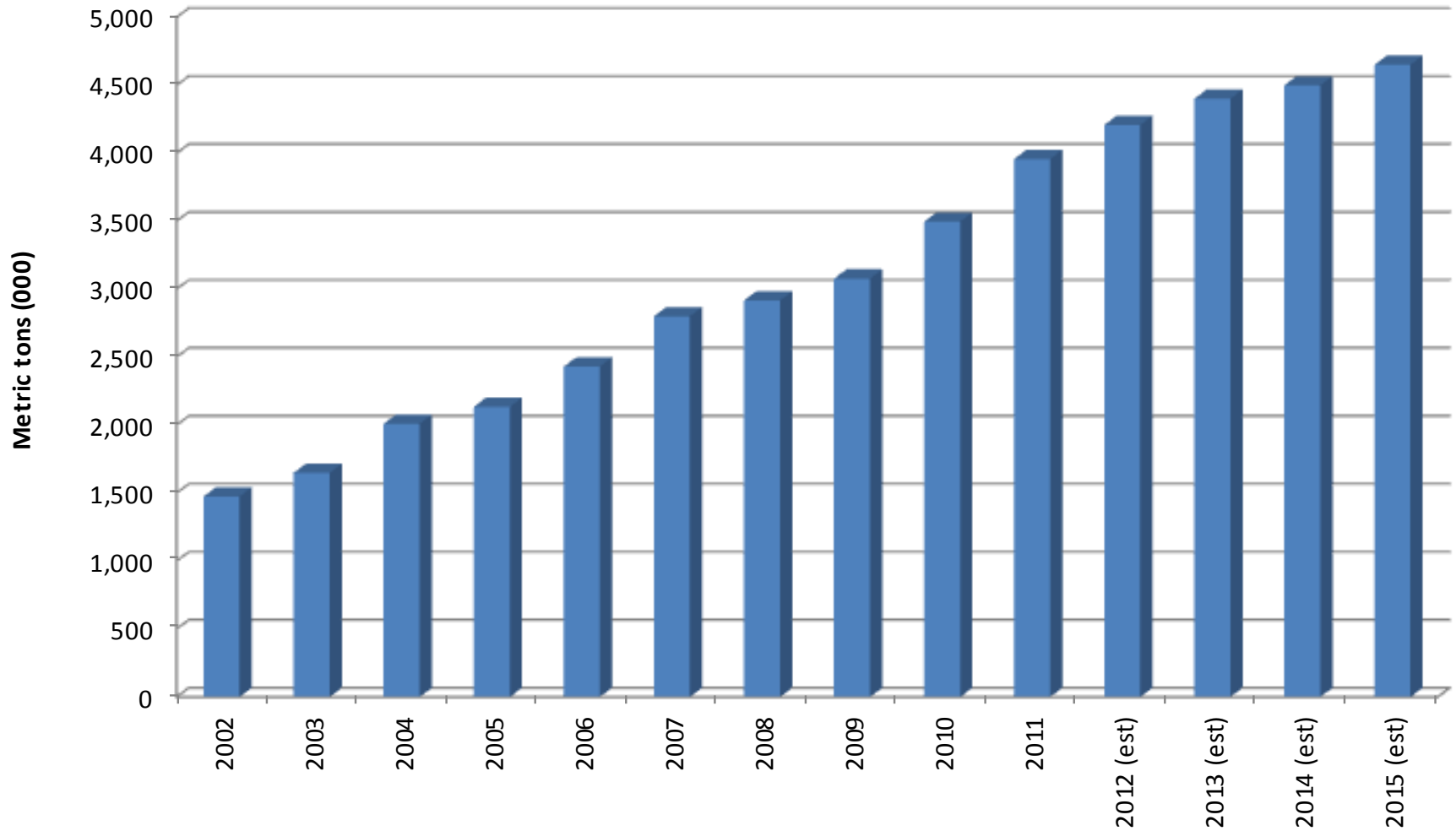
- For year 2000 = US \$ 1,744,045,000  
(FAO FishStat 2007)
- 2005 sales = \$ 2,457,312,000  
(FAO FishStat 2007)
- 2010 sales > \$ 5,718,263,000  
(FAO FishStat 2012)



# Bangladesh tilapia aquaculture



# Future global tilapia aquaculture





# Conclusions

- Global tilapia production was 3,957,949 metric tons in 2011 (FAO, 2013), should exceed 4,207,900 MT in 2012. (6% growth)
- Constantly improving farming, processing and packaging for food safety, quality assurance, traceability, and environmental safeguards (with little, if any, increase in price).
- Other aquaculture species will follow the tilapia model.





International Symposium on Tilapia in Aquaculture, Jerusalem 2013

## The 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Tilapia in Aquaculture (ISTA 10)

6-10 October 2013, Ramada Jerusalem Hotel



Three days of professional conference and one day tour to the North of Israel, will provide an updated and extensive vision to one of the most important aquaculture fish species in the world.

You are invited to contact us to ensure you receive more information on attending, presenting and exhibiting at the symposium.

E-mail: [ista10@siamb.org.il](mailto:ista10@siamb.org.il)



# Conclusions

- Tilapia has long been called the aquatic chicken.
- Instead.....
- The “terrestrial tilapia”



Tilapia: the most fun aquaculture  
species of the 21st century

[http://www.youtube.com/  
watch?v=Bh2673ncWJg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bh2673ncWJg)





# Buy TILAPIA



Thank you!

Questions?