

SEA GRANT PROGRAM



LAGNIAPPE

BROWN SHRIMP SEASON OPENING PUBLIC HEARING

On April 30, at 10:00 a.m. the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will hold a public hearing where comments will be heard on the proposed brown shrimp season:

Date: April 30, 1985
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Hilton Inn across from the New Orleans
International Airport, Kenner, LA.

Anyone interested in commenting on the proposed opening dates and/or the prospects of a special season should plan to attend this important public meeting.

MORE ON SODIUM BISULFITE

Sodium bisulfite (shrimp powder or dip) is in the news again. In the most recent development, the Food and Drug Administration has asked its nine district offices to pick up samples of shrimp from seafood dealers to check the levels of sodium bisulfite in shrimp.

FDA's current rules state that the maximum amount of sodium bisulfite allowed in shrimp is 100 parts per million. Also, all packaged shrimp treated with sodium bisulfite must be labeled as such.

The proper method for shrimpers to use sodium bisulfite is as follows:

- 1) Make a solution with 1 to 1½ pounds of sodium bisulfite for each 10 gallons of water.
- 2) Dip the shrimp in the solution for one minute.
- 3) Rinse the shrimp with water for 15 seconds.

This should, according to FDA, prevent black spot on shrimp and still be under 100 ppm. Higher than legal concentrations of sodium bisulfite are caused by the following methods:

- 1) Shrimp being dipped more than once, such as on the boat and again at the dock.
- 2) Soaking the shrimp too long in the solution.
- 3) Not rinsing the shrimp after soaking.
- 4) The use of too much sodium bisulfite in the solution.
- 5) And worst of all, putting the sodium bisulfite powder directly on the shrimp.

L.S.U. AQUACULTURE FIELD DAY

On May 25, 1985 the LSU Agricultural Center will sponsor an aquaculture field day at the aquaculture research facility on Ben Hur Farm beginning at 9:00 a.m.

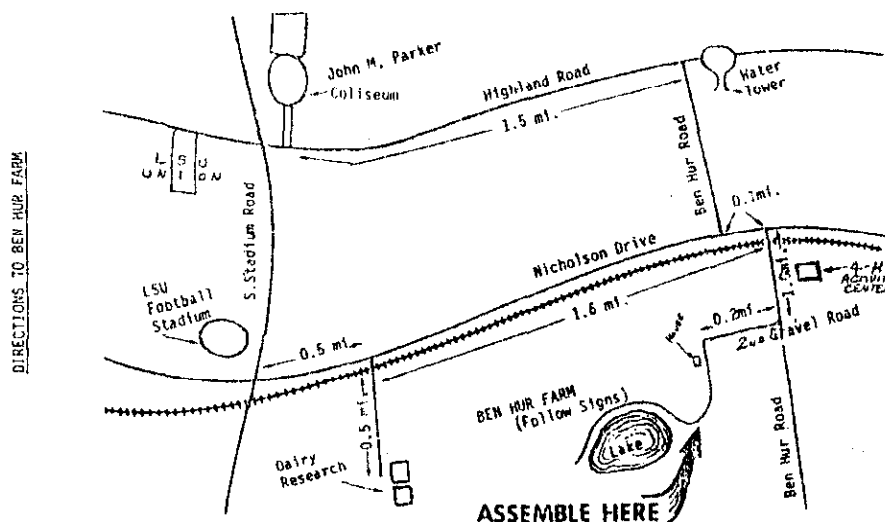
The morning field day will highlight on-site research pond visits studying various topics such as soft crawfish production, artificial crawfish baits, holding and purging crawfish, rice crawfish double cropping, catfish farming, prawn farming, aeration studies, diseases and more.

Extension Service personnel will also be on hand to discuss aquaculture, processing, marketing, economics, crawfish farming and their latest recommendations in these areas.

A crawfish stew lunch will be served (\$3.00 per plate) on campus at the John M. Parker Coliseum from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

The afternoon program will also be held at the coliseum with several excellent speakers scheduled to address the group.

All crawfish farmers, processors, or interested parties are urged to attend.



FEDERAL HANG FUND NEWS

The telephone number for making the first report for gear loss to the Fisherman's Contingency Fund (Federal Hang Fund) has been changed. Fishermen who experience gear damage or loss in Federal waters (outside of 3 miles offshore) should call (202) 634-4688 to make their report. This call will go directly to the Washington D.C. office and save time in getting your claim paid.

When you call Washington, be ready to supply the following information (your hang report is not official until all the information is supplied):

- * Name, Address and Telephone Number
- * Social Security Number
- * Vessel Name and Registration Number
- * Location of Hang
- * Description of Damage or Loss
- * Date and Time of Hang
- * Date Vesel Returned to Port

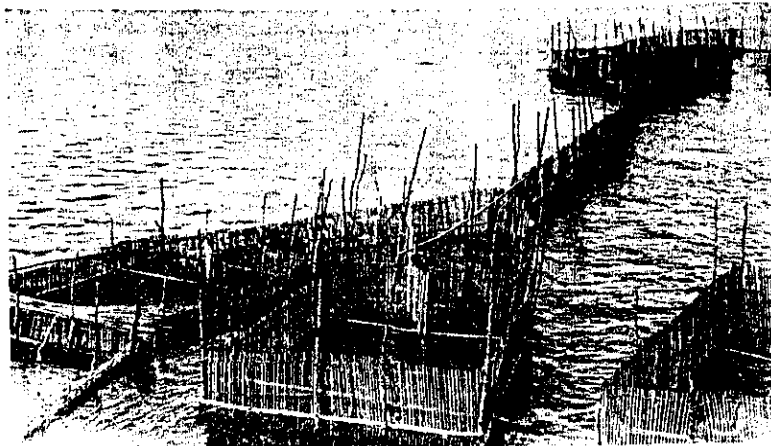
Remember, this report must be made within 15 days after the vessel returns to port. Please make a note of the new telephone number.

FISHING METHODS OF THE WORLD — FISH FENCES

Fish fences or weirs have been used from prehistoric times right up to the present time. Prehistoric man used fish fences in areas where ever there was a good difference between high and low tides. These fences or weirs were designed to trap the fish on high tide. When the tide fell, the fish were trapped in the heart of the weir and could be simply picked up by hand.

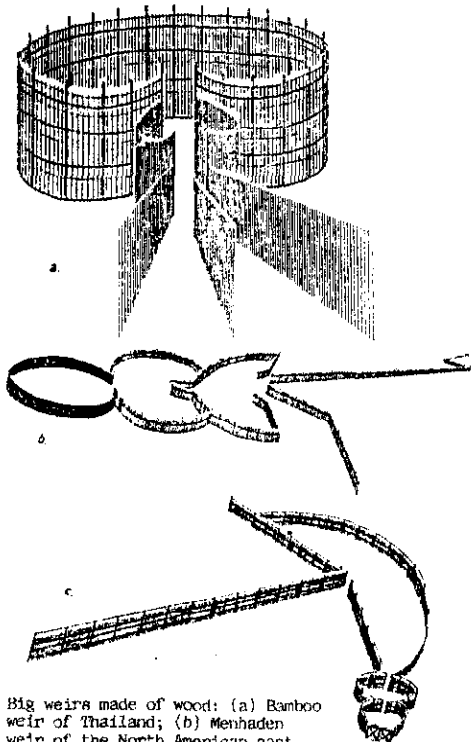
Most of these weirs and fences are put in an area, so that moving or migrating fishes will find their path blocked by the long leader on the weir. When the fish try to swim around the end of the fence, they move into the heart of the weir and can't find their way out. Historically most weirs and fences were made of wooden poles or bamboo as shown in Figures 1 and 2. Modern day weirs are often made of webbing strung from wood poles and supports and in many cases resemble pound nets.

Figure 1



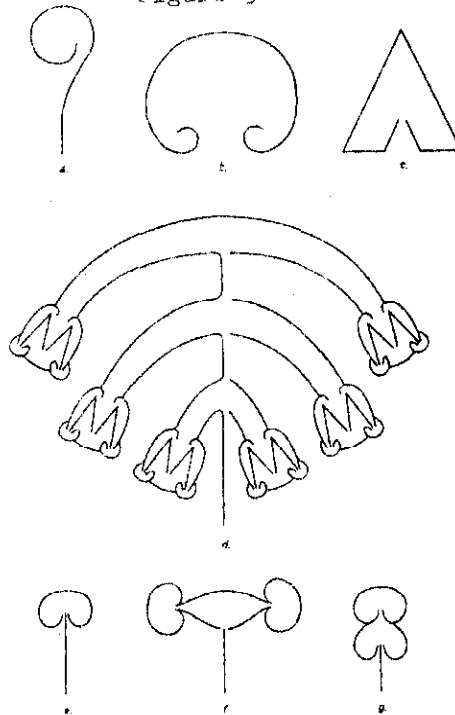
Fences arranged like traps off the Ivory Coast.

Figure 2



Big weirs made of wood: (a) Bamboo weir of Thailand; (b) Menhaden weir of the North American east coast; (c) Sardine weir of the Philippines.

Figure 3




Fish fences set in the form of labyrinths; (a) fish fence of Finland; (b) Korean fish fence; (c) fish fences in triangular form; (d) Japanese labyrinth used in big lakes; (e) heart-shaped form from the estuary of the Danube; (f) Swedish fish fence; (g) fish fence of North-eastern Europe.

Designs for fish fences and weirs range from the very simple with a single heart to the very large and complex (Fig. 3).

While this type of fishing gear works very well, there are some major disadvantages to it. Wooden weirs and fences take a great deal of time to build and need constant repairs. Weirs and fences made of webbing are very expensive to construct and also need constant maintenance. Either type can be destroyed by a single storm. Ones built in strong tidal areas must be checked once or twice a day depending on the tides so that the fish do not die and spoil when the tide is out.

Source: Fish Catching Methods of the World, A. Brandt.



SEAFOOD PROMOTION BOARD TO HIRE STAFF

According to chairman Frank Tullos, the Louisiana Seafood Promotion and Marketing Board will begin hiring its professional staff. The two positions being advertised are for the Advertising and Promotion Director and a secretary.

Qualifications for the director's position include graduation from an accredited four year college or university plus four years of progressively responsible experience in advertising, public relations, industrial or economic promotion, or promotions of similar types of programs, in economics or industrial research, or in closely related work, two years of which must have been in a supervisory or administrative capacity.

Additional experience may be substituted for college education or advanced college degrees may be substituted for experience.

Minimum qualification for the secretarial position is three years of clerical work, including at least one year above the beginning level. High school may be substituted for 6 months of experience. Business school or college training may also be substituted for experience.

Individuals interested in applying for either position should contact Frank Tullos at (504) 737-7402 for more information.

Mr. Tullos feels that with the hiring of its staff people the Promotion Board will be ready to expand its operations.

FREE PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

These publications may be obtained free by calling or writing my office in Marrero.

Louisiana Shrimp Laws - Explains all of the laws which apply to Louisiana shrimpers.

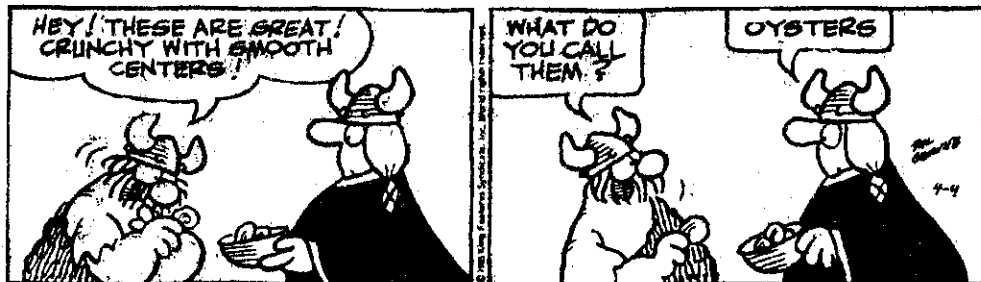
Fishing Boat Corporations - Explains how incorporating your fishing boat may or may not help you. There is a lot of confusion on this subject that this publication may clarify.

Fishermen's Record Book - Allows fishermen to keep a good record of what they earn and what they spend on their business. A valuable help around tax time.

THE GUMBO POT

Sorry, but no recipe this month. My recipe file is bone dry and rather than give you one just pulled out of a cookbook, we'll have to make do with a cartoon. If any of our readers have a recipe they would like to share, please contact me.

Hags the Horrible



Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]

Gerald Horst
Assoc. Area Agent (Fisheries)
Jefferson, St. Charles