

PRESS RELEASE

Sealice Identification Workshops For Fish Farmers

NAFC Marine Centre and Shetland Aquaculture hosted four half-day workshops on sealice identification and treatment strategies for the local aquaculture industry on the 6th and 7th of February. David Sandison, General Manager of Shetland Aquaculture said: *“Controlling and managing sealice around farms is crucially important in protecting the health and welfare of our fish. Well trained staff who can identify sealice at different life cycle stages, are very important in aiding good sealice management practise around Shetland, which in turn supports the development of the industry.”*



The courses were designed as a special initiative to assist the industry in training staff on the mechanisms for identifying stages of sealice problems and the different treatment strategies available. They will also help the industry to comply with the requirements contained in the national treatment strategy for the control of sea lice on Scottish sea farms contained in the Code of Good Practice for Fin Fish Aquaculture.

Andrew Deyell of Hjaltland Seafarms commented: *“I thought the workshop was very beneficial to anybody on growing salmon. It can help identify the optimum time to treat and it also helps new workers to identify sealice”.*

The practical workshops were delivered by John Finlay (formerly of Skretting) who is recognised as an industry expert in this area. John Finlay said: *“This is an excellent initiative from the industry and supports improvement in effective use of available treatments.”*

NAFC Marine Centre and Shetland Aquaculture will, in future, be collaborating to provide more of these short practical workshops for local finfish farmers. Kenny Gifford, Aquaculture Lecturer at NAFC said: *“Since these workshops have been so popular with 50 attendees, we will be holding more on a variety of relevant subjects in order to ensure that farmers’ knowledge is always up to date.”*



NOTE: For further editorial information please contact Christena Irvine, Tel: 01595 772207. E-mail: christena.irvine@nafc.uhi.ac.uk

PHOTO: ©NAFC, Left to right: John Finlay and Kenny Grant

NOTE TO EDITORS:

In view of the increasing range and scope of the work being undertaken by NAFC, the decision was taken in September 2005 to change the institute's name from the North Atlantic Fisheries College to the NAFC Marine Centre.

Please note our correct title is now 'NAFC Marine Centre'. The 'NAFC' in our title identifies us with, and provides continuity from, our previous name – North Atlantic Fisheries College. In conversation 'NAFC' should be spelt out as 'N-A-F-C'. Similarly, we are no longer just a 'college', but a marine centre - providing education, research and commercial services to the marine sector.

Information on 'A Code of Good Practice for Scottish Finfish Aquaculture' can be obtained from Shetland Aquaculture, Tel 01505 695579, e-mail info@shetlandaquaculture.com



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