

India's First NABL Accredited Aquaculture Pathology Lab

The Central Aquaculture Pathology Laboratory of Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Aquaculture (RGCA), the R & D arm of the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India becomes the First Aquaculture Pathology Laboratory in the country accredited by NABL (National Accreditation Board For Testing & Calibration Laboratories) as per ISO/IEC 17025: 2005

RGCA the R & D arm of MPEDA established a state-of-the-art Central Aquaculture Pathology Laboratory at its Headquarters in Sirkali, Tamil Nadu during September 2011. The laboratory has since been serving the aquaculture industry of the country by providing timely and reliable diagnosis of various diseases encountered in the culture of finfish, shrimps & freshwater prawns.

The laboratory has three component units; each for Molecular Pathology, Histopathology and Microbiology and equipped with all the latest disease diagnostic tools, which together helps in diagnosis of various diseases encountered by the aquaculture industry. The Molecular Pathology Laboratory has been routinely engaged in screening/diagnosis of 16 Crustacean (shrimp/crab) pathogens including OIE listed pathogens besides 3 finfish pathogens.

In addition, the laboratory conducts periodical & need based aquaculture disease surveillance in India for the benefit of the industry. All the known diseases affecting the shrimp/prawn/ fish are diagnosed at this lab which includes the recently emerged dreaded shrimp disease viz. Early Mortality Syndrome (EMS)/ Acute Hepatopancreatic Necrosis Disease (AHPND).

The laboratory has been successfully participating Proficiency testing conducted by Aquaculture Pathology Laboratory, University of Arizona, USA (an World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) reference laboratory for crustacean diseases).



Renowned Aquaculture Pathologist, Dr. Don Lightner at the RGCA
Central Aquaculture Pathology Laboratory at Sirkali

**WITH THE ACCREDITATION OF NABL, THE AQUACULTURE PATHOLOGY LAB
HAS BECOME THE ONLY RECOGNIZED NATIONAL LABORATORY FOR
AQUACULTURE DISEASE DIAGNOSIS.**