



Eel aquaculture project seeks to reverse wild population decline

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Published - July 08, 2010 - 05:07 GMT

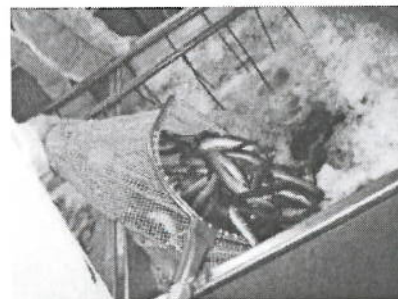
The reproduction of eels in captivity has become an important research focus due to the severe decline of the natural stocks.

Leading scientists from European research institutes and the aquaculture industry are determined to reproduce the European eel in captivity. The result is a €5 million (\$6.2 million) research project: PRO-EEL.

The project is being coordinated by DTU Aqua, the National Institute of Aquatic Resource, Technical University of Denmark and supported financially by the European Commission.

The long term perspective of this research - and an indicated goal of the European Commission - is to establish a self-sustained aquaculture of eels in Europe.

"The primary bottleneck in a controlled reproduction of eels concerns deficiencies in knowledge about their reproductive physiology and methods applied to induce and finalize gamete development," said the coordinator of the project, Jonna Tomkiewicz from DTU Aqua.



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