

Shrimp Feeding Trial - Venezuela

A shrimp feeding trial was run at INMARLACA Farm, located in Maracaibo, Zulia State, Venezuela to replace Fish Meal (FM) with Soybean Meal (SBM) .

The trial consisted in three (3) different diets ASA 1, ASA 2, and ASA 3.

DIET	Percentage of FM replaced
ASA 1	Commercial formulation
ASA 2	75% FM replacement
ASA 3	50% FM replacement

Three repetitions were made with each diet, using a total of 9 ponds of 3 HA each.

All ponds were started with 1 gram. shrimps and originated from the same hatchery.

After completion of the production cycle (153 days), growth average was as follows:

DIETS	AVERAGE WEIGHT
ASA 1	28 grams
ASA 2	30,1 grams
ASA 3	25,8 grams

Following are the costs per metric ton of each formulation used in this trial:

ASA 1 (commercial)	ASA 2 (75%)	ASA 3 (50%)
US\$ 778.50 / TM	US\$ 522.91 / TM	US\$ 617.74 / TM

Note: costs were calculated with an international FM cost of US\$1,400 MT.

Difference of costs between ASA 2 and ASA 3 with the commercial diet are:

ASA 2 \$ 255.59 y ASA 3 \$ 160.76

DIET	Cost difference
ASA 2	US\$ 255.59 /MT
ASA 3	US\$ 160.76 / MT

The Aquaculture integration responsible for this trial reported that they have already changed their regular formulation and are now using the ASA 2 diet, as results clearly showed better growths and a significant economic profit in the cost of feed.

Their SBM requirements were around 1050 MT per month. With the new formulation, their requirements will increase 60%.