

Preface

The UJNR (The U.S.-Japan Cooperative Program in Natural Resources) Aquaculture Panel was established in 1968, and the business meeting and symposium have been held every year since 1971. Through the long history of UJNR, Aquaculture Panel has contributed to the development of aquaculture researches of both countries by means of various cooperative activities, such as the exchange of scientists and literatures, and the promotion of joint research projects. The Aquaculture Panel is highly appraised as one of the most active UJNR panels in both countries.

The 43rd Joint Meeting of the UJNR Aquaculture Panel was conducted in Nagasaki, Saga and Oita Prefectures, the northern Kyushu Island, Japan from November 9-14, 2015; while the Scientific Mini-Symposium was held in Nagasaki University from November 10-11. The symposium theme was "Evaluation of the impact of breeding organisms on the ecosystem and aquaculture industry", which was under the 9th Three-Year Plan, "Genetics and Breeding Studies in Aquaculture Industry", commenced in 2014. Sixteen oral presentations were made on topics such as the impact of breeding organisms on the ecosystem and aquaculture industry, selective breeding techniques, and bioinformatics, and twenty poster presentations were also made on broader topics related to aquaculture during the two-day symposium.

The proceedings of the 43rd UJNR Aquaculture Panel Scientific Mini Symposium "Evaluation of the impact of breeding organisms on the ecosystem and aquaculture industry" is published as the special issue of the Bulletin of Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency. With great pleasure, this UJNR proceedings containing high quality papers authored by selected American and Japanese aquaculture scientists will hopefully help in the improvement of genetic/breeding programs, which is expected to contribute to the development of the aquaculture industry in both the United States and Japan.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the staff at Nagasaki University and colleagues involved in the UJNR Aquaculture Panel for their efforts in the preparation and organization of the symposium. I would also like to deeply thank the editorial board members for publishing the proceedings.

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