

Risks of fish and prawn farming

Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain

Professor, Dept. of Fisheries, RU

- **Risk at monsoon/flood:**

- Fishes/prawns may be lost or escaped during excess rainfall or flood

Mitigation:

- *Fencing before flood*
- *Drain out of excess water*
- *Harvesting marketable size fish and prawn before flood and stocking larger sized fishes after flood*

- **Risk at dry period/drought:**

- Water level fall
- Oxygen deficiency through heating by temperature causing mortality

Mitigation:

- *Addition of water*
- *Layer of water hyacinth for one third pond area in cooling the water.*
- *Marketable size fish and prawn should be harvested in this situation.*

- **Risk at winter:**

- EUS is found in most cases within the month of November-February.
- Chance of occurrence is found maximum with high biomass in the pond.

Mitigation:

- *Fish biomass should be reduced before this period.*

- **Poaching:**

- Common social risk- increased with the increase in fish biomass

Mitigation:

- *Guarding of fish pond*
- *Placing bamboo pole or stick to protect netting in the pond*
- *Risk may be mitigated through harvesting the larger size fish and prawn.*
- **Market price fall of the harvested fishes/prawn:**
- Market price may be varied with the variation in area and season.

Mitigation:

- *Fish and prawn should be harvested with considering the profitable market price*
- **Poisoning**
- One of the major social problems in fish farming

Mitigation:

- *Supply of sufficient clean and safe water and transfer of live fishes to other pond just after poisoning*
- *Guarding for commercial farming*
- *Harvesting and marketing of larger fishes as precaution*