



Report Biotechnology Transfer Course for Spiny Lobster Fattening

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One of the measures to improve fish production in the entity is to have the knowledge of the advances and new trends in technology with a view to establishing marine farms on the coast and make use of fishery products in a sustainable manner, promoting the participation of women in these activities.

The Cooperativa Vision-Mujer and the Regional Center for Fisheries Research (CRIP) we reached an agreement to start training courses and develop initiatives to enable us to boost our economic and social development and help the environment. The CRIP presented us with a first proposal to impart a first course in Biotechnology Transfer to Fatten Spiny Lobster.

Objective: to empower women in managing cropping systems fattening spiny lobster (*Panulirus Argus*) resulting in a utilization of the resource in the medium term in a sustainable way.

- ❖ From the 16 to the 25 of May 2011 was given the first course in the facilities Fisheries Research Station of Isla Mujeres with a total duration of 20 hours at 6 members of the Cooperative.

Given the success of the first course, we agree with CRIP apply for self-employment scholarships to take the second part of the course, more detailed and extensive, with the aim that participants obtain financial support to attend this course. So we took on the task of looking through the State Employment Service of Quintana Roo and on September 14th they authorize 20 scholarships. With this opportunity to have more self-employment scholarships, we was launched a call to incorporate more women in the training course.

- ❖ This second course was given a total of 20 women, from September 26 to October 24, 2011 with a total duration of 120 hours.

Participants applied the theoretical-practical aspects about: *Biology of the species, - basics of mariculture, - installation and management of farming units,- handling equipment and supply air and sea water - integrated management of the process of fattening,- cleaning and siphoning,-diet and food preparation, -data collection,- and biometry measurements.*

Evaluation: These courses are also intended to involve the family of women with the aim of strengthening economic activity and provide elements for economic growth, and where all family members participate actively with a clear picture of how to grow in a support group. This course allowed the participants to obtain a certificate as technicians in this area so they may continue to develop within the Cooperative, or seek other alternatives for its development.

What is next?

The members of the Cooperative Vision-Mujer, we will continue in the application and extension of the knowledge gained, and now we are looking for a third training course for the use of fishery products, such as lobster molts for use in making handicrafts for production and sales and generate a economy in the short term, while still working on the development of alternative production systems in the fisheries sector and the production of Chitosan for Biofertilizers, among others.

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