

TECHNOLOGICAL CIRCUIT AS A TOOL FOR TECHNOLOGICAL DIFFUSION

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The Lageado Lake, located in Tocantins State, Brazil, has five aquaculture parks ready to start fish farming. In order to promote the development for artisanal fishermen and their insertion in productive chain, Embrapa Fisheries and Aquaculture has been developing diffusion and technology transferring actions in Tocantins State in two different ways, focusing mainly in technological training for multipliers (technicians, extensions, local leaders) but also information diffusion in technology transferring events like agricultural fairs, field days and technological exhibition.

As technological diffusion strategy, Embrapa Fisheries and Aquaculture has been using the ‘Technological Circuit’, a set of stations that represent at least one phase of productive process in case, objecting to build the knowledge step by step, thus, contributing to understand the most part of management practices and their implications in next phases of productive process. It’s possible to solve doubts and to stimulate experiences exchanges in a participative way.

As an example of this tool usage, the ‘Technological Circuit in Cage Fish Farming’ was carried out in May 2015, in Palmas, Tocantins. In this case, the circuit had six stations which involved these subjects: 1) Species presentation, the one that will be raised in cages in Lageado Lake, the Tambaqui (*Colossoma macropomum*), by an aquarium with fingerlings; 2) Cage Structure, a cage (1x1x1m) hoisted out of the water; 3) Mooring, structure of two net cages, signal buoys, cable line and concrete moorings installed in the Lake, 0,60 m depth, which allowed viewing the whole structure under water; 4) Biometrics, by using scenography fish and observing the calculus involved; 5) Feeding Management, a showcase with omnivorous and carnivorous feeds of different composition and grading, and a little barn with feed in bags, showing the right way of spacing and storage; and 6) Harvest, a net cage platform anchored inland, with a net cage hoisted, a Styrofoam box with scenography ice and fish simulating management practices and cage harvest, aiming at animal welfare and food safety.

Even though it’s a technical subject, the technological circuit is an all-purpose and efficient technological diffusion tool which can be used to different publics: rural producers, students, technicians and others interested in the matter, contributing to innovation process and knowledge construction.