

Baitfish Best Management Practices: Gambusia

May 15, 2010

Pond Preparation

- Ponds are drained and dried between crops
- Any puddles or sumps that still contain water after the drying process are treated with a suitable pond bottom sterilant or piscicide

Pond Filling

- No surface water is used (an existing requirement of the Arkansas Certification Program)
- Water may be moved between ponds if the donor pond is known to be Gambusia-free or if the water is passed through a filter of sufficiently small porosity to remove Gambusia fry

Fry Production – Fathead Minnows

- No uncertified broodstock can be used (an existing requirement of the Certification Program)
- Broodstock must be inspected for Gambusia
- Broodstock cannot be used if Gambusia are present
- Gambusia-free broodstock can be hand selected from mixed fish populations

Fry Production – Golden Shiners and Goldfish

- No uncertified broodstock can be used (an existing requirement of the Certification Program)
- Broodstock must be inspected for Gambusia
- Broodstock cannot be used if Gambusia are present
- Gambusia-free broodstock can be hand selected from mixed fish populations
- When fish are hatched in tanks, eggs mats must be thoroughly disinfected by treatments with 50-100 ppm iodine or 500-1000 ppm formalin prior to hatch and fry transfer.

Biosecurity

- If seines, nets, fish haulers and other equipment are to be moved to baitfish production ponds from areas known or suspected to harbor Gambusia, the equipment must first be dried or treated with a suitable piscicide.