

Deboning Technology for Milkfish

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance | Government Policies & Intervention

Why in News?

ICAR-CIBA, Chennai has unveiled a **deboning technology for milkfish** to overcome its numerous fine intermuscular bones and improve consumer acceptance and value addition.

New Deboning Technology

- **Identified Challenge** - The presence of numerous fine intermuscular bones complicates consumption and reduces overall consumer preference.
- **Proposed Solution** - The practical **deboning technique** developed by ICAR-CIBA effectively removes these bones and enables the following benefits:
 - Improved ease of consumption
 - Enhanced consumer acceptance
 - Development of ready-to-cook products
 - Production of value-added fish products
 - Increased commercial viability

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MILKFISH

THE BRACKISHWATER CARP

A VALUABLE FISH FOR SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE

Chanos chanos



Feature	Details
Scientific name	<i>Chanos chanos</i>
Common name	Milkfish
Also called	Brackishwater Carp
Nature	Herbivorous fish
Habitat/Aquaculture	Brackishwater systems
Market size	~500 g in 6 months under suitable conditions
Productivity	4.5 – 5.0 tonnes/ha
Nutritional value	Rich in quality protein; delicate white flesh
Major limitation	Numerous fine intermuscular bones






- **Economic Significance**

- The average farming cost is approximately Rs.100 per kilogram.
- The farm-gate price is approximately Rs.200 per kilogram.
- Therefore, milkfish production presents significant potential for profitable diversification within brackishwater aquaculture.
- Milkfish aquaculture can generate opportunities in the following sectors:
 - Production of value-added seafood products
 - Fish processing industries
 - Entrepreneurial ventures
 - Development of seafood restaurants
 - Strengthening of farmer value chains

"Awareness-cum-Demonstration Programme on Milkfish Deboning & Value Addition held at ICAR-CIBA, Muttukadu Experimental Station"

ICAR-CIBA

- **Full form** - ICAR-Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture
- **Location** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu, with experimental stations including Muttukadu.
- **Governing Body** - Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)
- **Mandate** - To conduct research and develop technologies for brackishwater aquaculture, including finfish, shrimp, crab, feed formulation, and disease management.
- **Recent Related Initiatives**
 - Standardization of technologies for the following species:
 - Blue Swimmer Crab (*Portunus reticulatus*)
 - Goldlined Seabream (*Rhabdosargus sarba*): Achieved the first captive breeding in India.
 - Pearlsport (*Etroplus suratensis*): Hatchery development under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY).
 - Indian White Shrimp (*Penaeus indicus*): Genetic improvement programme.

Reference

[ICAR-CIBA | Deboning Technology to Popularize Milkfish](#)