

Typology of fish farms using ponds in the French Lorraine region

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Introduction



A French research program funding by the National Research Agency



Call Systerra « Ecosystems, territories, living resources and agricultures »

PISCEnLIT : Ecological intensification of fish farming (2010-2013) =

an interdisciplinary program

=> systemic approach of freshwater fish culture systems (mainly ponds) including technical, social, biological, environmental, economical and organizational expertises

Main objectives are :

- Analyses of fish culture systems by an ecosystemic approach of fish culture ponds
- Proposition and assessment of scenarios of ecological intensification, including a valuation of ecosystemic services



Main tasks of the PISCEnLIT Program:









Lorraine Region



- 2nd French Region for fish pond polyculture
- 7000 ha available for fish culture
- Only dam ponds (often large surfaces)
- Production = 800-900 mt (150 kg/ha)
- 90% for the restocking market
- High interest for local authorities
 => « Pond agreement »



Socio-economic context

A context more and more difficult:

- Decline of the restocking market
- Increasing environmental pressure (piscivorous birds, rules for water pond management, climate changes ...)
- Low price of fish

. . . .

Specific objectives of the present study:

- Global characterization of fish farms using pond system (systemic approach)
- Typology of fish farms => clusters (all farms are <u>VERY</u> different)
- Perception of ecosystemic services related to fish farm ponds by fish farmers







Material and methods





- **25 Fish farmers** (59%)
- May July 2010
- **Farmers** = Producers of cyprinids (polyculture), salmonids, crayfish, ornamental fish
- **Pond use** = fish production or angling



2 hours / farmer

- 153 Questions (11 parts) :
- B Characterization of activity
- C Opening to public
- D Ecosystemic services
- E Social network
- F Territories and institutions
- G Labour and social
- H Products and bussiness
- I Constraints and conflicts
- J Economical management
- K Identification of fish farmer
- L Biodiversity

Method = a survey with many questionnaries

Data analysis:

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
- Hierarchical Clustering Analysis (HCA)



Ecosystemic services





Results





General results:

- 51 years
- 76% native from Lorraine
- 36% = first job
- 70% of individual firms
- Education level : 40% = bachelor, 36% = master / PhD
- 68% open to public (for 82% = a way for the firm perenniality)
- Surface = 112 ha
- Production = 31 mt





Data analysis (PCA + HCA) => <u>3 clusters</u> according to the more influencing variables

Farm typology



Mixed group (trout farms, crayfish farms, polyculture pond farms = pond owners)

Identification of ecosystemic services / fish farmers (n = 21) => 4 Classes





Production (57%) > Supporting (33%) > Regulation (24%) > Culture (19%) 14

Conclusions:

- Whereas a strong diversity of farms exists in Lorraine, the typology permits to identify **3 distinct clusters**.
- The **important parameters** for the typology analysis are:
 - pond number and surface
 - number of sites
 - number of wage-earners and seasonal workers
 - legal status
- The ecosystemic services linked to culture pond are :
 - Production services (fish)
 - Supporting services (biodiversity, wetlands)
 - Regulation services (water flow mangement) 🗇 dam ponds
 - Culture services (fishing, landscape, education)



Perspectives:

- Further actions will be focused on the classe C1 (polyculture pond farmers) : larger surface of ponds, higher potential for aquaculture, major stakes for the local and national administration.

- Including the perception of other populations (stakeholders, end-users, local inhabitants) / ecosystemic services, researches will be conducted on the part of culture ponds on water flow management at the watershed level.
 - **Quantitative aspects** (water retention ...)
 - Qualitative aspects (impact on water quality : contaminants ...)

Thank you for your attention