

Internship Placement

Organization: College of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Can Tho University

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1. Project work description

Mud crab (*Scylla paramamosain*) is an economical value species which has been farmed in brackish water ponds and in mangrove forest using wild collected seeds. However, hatchery technique of mud crab has been developed in recent years and now popularly practiced at of commercial production with totally over 400 hatcheries and 600 nursing stations in the region. The College of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Can Tho University (CAF-CTU) is one of few institutions holding the hatchery techniques of the mud crab. CAF-CTU has offer training on the developed technique to both local and international companies and farmers. The hatchery of mus crab of CAF-CTU is used for student research, training and mass production. The internship student(s) who apply to work at this hachery is welcome and can do the following activities:

- Select broodstock (from the wild or culture) for spawning
- Prepare water for larval rearing (mixing, treatment, filter, etc)
- Live food production (algae, rotifer)
- Practice daily works on larval and zoea 5 to megalopa rearing, crablet nursery (supplementary feeding, Artemia hatching, water management/exchange, feed preparation, larval development observation, harvest, transportation of megalopa and crablets, etc.)
- Visit to mud crab hatcheries and farming in the Mekong Delta, particularly in Bac Lieu province.

2. Placement description

The mud crab (*Scylla paramamosain*) hatchery of the College of Aquaculture and Fisheries, Can Tho University is located in the Campus 2, Xuan Khanh ward, Ninh Kieu district, Can Tho city, Vietnam. Can Tho city in the center of the Mekong River Delta (along the Bassac river). The hatchery uses composite tanks with various sizes for broodstock culture, spawning, larval and crab rearing. Other supported equipment/tools for hatchery operation are also available.

For the commercial hatcheries and farms in Bac Lieu province, Duc Nguyen mud crab hatchery will be visited. It is about 120km from Can Tho city.

3. How to get there?

There are several ways to get to Can Tho city. If the international students, they can arrive in Tan Son Nhat international airport (Ho Chi Minh city) or Can Tho International airport (Can Tho city). In case of Tan Son Nhat int'l airport, students can take a taxi to Mien Tay bus station (30-45 minutes; US\$ 10) and then a bus from Mien Tay bus station to Can Tho (about 3,5 hours; US\$ 7-8).). If Can Tho Int'l airport is by taxi (about 20 minutes, US\$ 7-8).

4. Living conditions

There are available cheap hotel for rent surrounding the university with the cost of IS\$ 20-30 USD/day. Rooms of the int'l dormitory of the University is also available if booked in advance with the cost of 100-200 \$/month without or with air condition. Meal costs US\$ 1.5-2.0 on average.

5. Climate

Can Tho city locates in tropical region. Therefore, the weather is warm all year round, but there are two seasons a year, dry season from December to April and wet/rain season from May to November to October.

The average temperature is about 27°C (often occur in April or May) and lowest is about 20°C (occur in December or January). The average rainfall is 1,850mm.

6. Culture

It is important to respect local culture and traditions. Cover-up dresses are required. Shoes or sandal does not matter but most of the time you will need to walk; therefore, light sport shoes/trainers will be suitable. Dress conservatively; casual clothing is suitable while working at the hatchery - T-shirts, shorts and sandals are appropriate.

7. Host arranges:

Dormitory type accommodation nearby
Subsidized rate for food wherever possible
Work space and computer and internet facilities
Materials and animal for the study

8. Interns are responsible for the followings

International airfare
Transportation from and to the airport
Fees for visa/passport
Food and drinks (approx. about US\$ 1.5-2 per meal)
Any costs of trips, trainings, and others arranged personally
Insurance and costs of damages due to personal negligence
Tuition feed to be discussed

9. Miscellaneous

Travel medical kit, flash light, umbrella or rain coat, few books, a towel and toiletries. In fact, these are available locally at cheap prices.

