



Sustainability Assessment

FARMED MILKFISH

Milkfish (*Chanos chanos*) has been farmed in parts of Asia for more than 700 years and is one of the most important farmed fish species in Asia. Milkfish is well suited to farming as it grows well on feeds that contain minimal amounts of marine ingredients, breeds easily, is relatively resistant to disease, and can tolerate a broad range of water qualities. Milkfish is also commonly farmed in its native range, reducing potential ecosystem impacts from escaped fish. Overall, Milkfish can be raised with minimal environmental impact.

While Milkfish as a species can be farmed with low environmental impacts, the performance of individual fish farms can vary. Impacts such as pollution and habitat damage may occur from farms that are not well-managed, especially in regions where regulatory controls are not as strictly enforced. The technology for Milkfish farming is well developed, but has not been improving at the same rate as other species, such as tilapia. As a result, this potentially environmentally beneficial species is not as economically positive for farmers as it once was.

GO BLUE! SEAFOOD SUSTAINABILITY SPECTRUM FARMED MILKFISH



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT LEVEL: MODERATE TO LOW

Milkfish, as a species to farm, has several beneficial attributes including hardiness, good growth on feeds that contain small amounts of marine resources, and disease resistance. Poor production practices may reduce these benefits in regions where regulation and enforcement may not fully ensure protection from environmental impacts, such as pollution.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPROVEMENTS NEEDED

Overall, the Milkfish farming industry needs to innovate to improve efficiencies in production. Best management practices could be assured at all farms through more effective and enforced, regulations.

ACTIONS THAT SEA PORT IS UNDERTAKING

Sea Port is promoting the consumption of farmed Milkfish based on our belief that a wide variety of farmed seafood holds the best promise to relieve pressure on our wild fisheries while increasing the availability of high quality and healthy seafood. Milkfish certainly adds to this variety and does so with a reduced negative environmental impact. Sea Port believes that, in aggregate, choosing from a diverse variety of seafood is better for sustaining the world's seafood resources and Farmed Milkfish should be a part of this variety.

We created the sustainability assessments for each of our seafood items in order to reveal the existing and potential environmental impacts and risks that are associated with producing them for human consumption. This allowed us to establish the starting position for each of our seafood items along our progressive Go Blue Seafood Sustainability Spectrum. These assessments are only a single snap shot in time and because of this, we will continue to assess and update the critical sustainability needs associated with our supply sources and issue updates to the Go Blue Seafood Sustainability Spectrum as needed. There is a growing global awareness for the need to assure the sustainability of farmed and wild caught seafood and because of this; all around the world positive changes are rapidly occurring at all levels of the seafood supply chain. We will continue to spread this growing awareness and work with our many industry partners to improve the sustainability of all seafood, which we believe is the ideal protein of choice to feed an ever growing world population. Our Go Blue Seafood Sustainability Spectrum serves as our compass and yardstick as we strive to move all our products forward to becoming more sustainable. Please join us in this committed quest and Catch Our Wave® to sustainability by choosing a diverse variety of responsibly produced seafood as part of your diet.

