



Republic of the Philippines
LAGUNA LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 2021-01

SUBJECT: REVISED GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL FEEDS IN THE LAGUNA DE BAY

Pursuant to Section 47 of Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, as amended, the Code of Practice for Aquaculture was promulgated by the Department of Agriculture through the issuance of Fisheries Administrative Order (FAO) No. 214 series of 2001, outlining the general principles and guidelines for environmentally-sound design and operation for the sustainable development of the aquaculture industry.

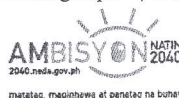
Ideally, use of artificial feeds is not allowed or recommended if natural food is sufficient, based on the Lake Primary Productivity (LPP)¹ study conducted.

Nevertheless, in order to implement the said FAO, LLDA issued Memorandum Circular (MC) No. 2006-04 on June 28, 2006, adopting Section 9 of the said Code, to govern artificial feeding, feed use and management in aquaculture areas of Laguna de Bay for the preservation of its ecological resources, which states that:

- a. Feeds shall be selected as to their high utilization rates to reduce nutrient pollution from uneaten feeds and excretory products;
- b. Feed characteristics shall include balanced levels of amino acids and other nutrients appropriate for the age of the fish, high palatability to stimulate rapid consumption, and high stability to prevent rapid nutrient release;
- c. Ideally, extruded feeds shall be used;
- d. Feeds shall be stored in cool, dry areas to prevent mold and other contaminants from forming;
- e. Medical feeds shall be used only if and when necessary for the control of specific disease;
- f. Feeding management in lake-based aquaculture shall be in conformity with the carrying capacity of the lake;
- g. Good feeding practices shall include frequent feeding in small quantities of feed several times through the day, using feeding trays and even distribution of feeds in fishpen / fishcage;

¹ The Carrying Capacity Study for Aquaculture of Laguna de Bay, Centeno J.D. et al, 1978

ISO 9001:2015 Certified Quality Management System
National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, 1100, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (02) 8376-4072, (02) 8376-4039, (02) 8376-4044, (02) 8376-5430, (02) 8376-5433
Website: <http://www.llda.gov.ph> | E-mail: info@llda.gov.ph



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