

20. OCEAN WAVE SEAFOODS

ANTONIO MOZQUEIRA¹

One of the newest aquaculture facilities (entering its second year of operation), Ocean Wave Seafoods is the largest multi-species marine hatchery in Victoria. Covering an area of 14.5 ha, the farm is located at Lara in the vicinity of Avalon airport, 20 km east of Geelong and only 40 minutes from the centre of Melbourne.

Initial production objectives are for 100 tonnes of abalone and 50 tonnes of finfish per annum. Although abalone is our main production species, extensive facilities have been set aside for the production of finfish and associated R&D. Current species farmed include:

- Ocean trout — Fingerling (100 g) to commercial size in 8 months (2.5 kg).
- Greenback flounder — Experimental quantities. Produced in-house. Commercial size (about 30 cm) in 2_ years.
- Black bream — Experimental quantities. Produced by MAFRI. Commercial size estimated between 16 and 18 months (350 g).

Additional species under consideration are yellowtail kingfish and snapper, as well as other species of shellfish.

Research projects have been set up under a joint venture partnership with Fisheries Victoria, Marine and Freshwater Resources Institute (MAFRI), the Zoology Department of Melbourne University and the Department of Applied Biology of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT). These projects include acclimatisation and growth trials of ocean trout, abalone broodstock conditioning and black bream grow out

¹ Ocean Wave Seafoods. (See details in appendix.)

Fish production facilities include insulated, purpose-built microalgae, rotifer and *Artemia* production rooms. Initial work has followed the simplest approach where microalgae production was not used; instead, we have opted for clear-water production using the INVE model of enriching diets.

Over the coming months, microalgae production will be undertaken in anticipation of next season's finfish run.

Current subjects requiring our attention are:

- Limited availability of rotifers;
- Mal-pigmentation of flounder due to inadequate early diet;
- Faltering *Artemia* supplies; and
- Increasing efficient use of available *Artemia*.

Ocean Wave Seafoods is interested in collaborative R&D and in assisting new entrants to the industry.