



- Apples are sold at nearly double the price that farmers are paid for them - eggs, four times.
- The farmer is paid 2p for the wheat in a 50p loaf of bread. The EU subsidy adds just another 1p
- A coffee or banana grower receives only 7 - 8% of the consumer price.

These already small returns keep on getting smaller.

"What's farming to do with me?"

"What can I do?"

FOOD AWAKENING is a handy leaflet, published by 1FWn, FL, ACF and the ARC, which addresses these questions and suggests practical ways of supporting vulnerable farmers.

Can we send you multiple copies, for distributing in your neighbourhood ... ?

**contact the FWn office:
02476 696969 ext. 421.**

¹ Farmers' World network, Farmers' Link, Agricultural Christian Fellowship and the Arthur Rank Centre

Prawn Free?

Supermarkets and restaurants are currently promoting Tiger Prawns and shrimps as an addition to our diet. Are customers aware of the serious environmental and social problems that the current methods of production can cause? FWn's Briefing on the Industrial or intensive shrimp aquaculture, which has become a global industry with an annual farm-gate value of over \$6 billion dollars, describes how:

"Shrimp farms replace a diverse, multiple resource environment with large scale mono-culture operations. They are up to 30 times more intensive than the natural rate of stocking requiring large amounts of inputs. These include: continuous pumping of suitably saline water, either by extraction from local brackish-water creeks or by mixing sea water with fresh water, pelletised fish meal, lime fertilisers and antibiotics."



PRAWN FREE?

Industrial or intensive shrimp aquaculture has become a global industry that has an annual farm-gate value of over \$6 billion dollars. But are consumers aware of the serious environmental and social problems it can cause? (Mangrove Action Project, 2000).



Tiger Prawns on the way to the feeding tables
Photo: Alex Vignard

THE GROWTH OF AN INDUSTRY

By 1992 prawns made up 20 per cent of world seafood trade, and demand has continued to grow. In 1995, the growth of industrial shrimp aquaculture has been such that governments in some developing countries are a threat to gain much sought after export status. As a result, the expansion of the industry has been rapid. In 1995, the industry was valued at \$6 billion. It is projected to grow to \$10 billion by 2000. The industry is now a major source of income for many small-scale farmers in developing countries. However, the growth of the industry has also led to the destruction of mangrove forests, which are vital for the livelihoods of many small-scale farmers in developing countries.

become a food source for food into a very hungry world.

In the early 1990s, major improvements in hatchery production and feed processing allowed production to grow. Large-scale operations, making it possible to produce, distribute, and market large quantities of prawns. The industry has now moved to the stage of the 'Green Revolution' in agriculture, the latter characterised by the growth of large-scale export-oriented agriculture operations in developing nations, and the associated widespread pattern for an environmental and social impact. The new large-scale aquaculture operations have resulted in an extensive expansion of coastal shrimp aquaculture throughout developing nations in Asia and Latin America since 1990. This is now spreading to Africa.

"To a person dependant on being able to harvest from a commons area and to protect against the effects of pollution of land, water and local fisheries, intensive development of private rights can destroy an area's culture, community and economy. ... Since the FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries is dedicated to ensuring the improvement of the quality of life for poorer communities, it is particularly important that efforts should be made to create investment models that ensure participation of local people in ways that result in enhanced training and sharing in the benefits of economic development."

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