

## **A BLACK TIGER PRAWN FARM IN CHACHOENGSAO**

Khun Samai Rojchanaporn has started to raise prawns for 4 years with EM technology. He has never applied EM before. He began by drying the pond for a half of a month or 1 month, then Bokashi was spread on sludge at the bottom of the pond and EM diluted solution mixed with EM5 later. After leaving for 3 days, water was pumped into the pond until it was 1.70 meters high. When the water became green, there was a lot of plankton for the prawns. Sixty thousand to seventy thousand baby prawns were launched into the pond and the water was aerated by treadmills for raising water, which made the water cool.

Multiplied EM (3 litres/acre/600 litres of water or 6 litres/ha/1200 litres of water) was sprayed into the pond once for three days for the first month and second month. For the third month 2 litres of multiplied EM was put in the pond because they were bigger and their dung smelled bad. Thereafter more multiplied EM was used to suppress foul odor and cleaned the water in the pond.

For the prawn feed, number one feed was used for baby prawns. After one month old it was changed to the lobsters feed and given to them 3 times a day. When they were three months old if the water had changed to be dark green, it means too many algae. So EM5 was sprayed to decrease the amount of algae once for 5 days. Before spraying EM5 the water in the pond was pumped out about 60-70 cm. high and filled with new water and EM5. While they were molting they were very weak, EM5 must be stopped. If the color of the water changed to smoky white, the water would be drawn out of the pond about 60-70 cm. high and put new water the same amount. The smoky white color of water caused problems to prawns. Bokashi sacks would be hung at the corners around the pond to make the water green which is good for prawns. He had started from 1 rai (0.4 acre or 0.16 ha) pond after 4 years he had 40 rai (16 acre or 6.5 ha). There were no problems to his prawns. They were harvested after 5 months and he could earn a lot. He was free of debt, and felt very happy to raise prawns with EM. He has been trying to expand EM technology to the farms nearby.

### **CONCLUSION HIS PROCEDURES**

1. The ponds were dried about 2- 4 weeks after harvesting.
2. Bokashi was spread at the bottom of the ponds then sprayed EM diluted solution (mixed with EM5) and left for a few days.
3. The water was pumped into the ponds about 1.70 meters high.
4. The water was observed, if it was green, it means a lot of plankton.
5. The water in the prawn pond was aerated especially near the edge of the pond to prevent baby prawns to live there.
6. Baby prawns were installed about 60,000 - 70,000 prawns for one rai. While installing the baby prawns, the water was aerated to keep a cool temperature and added oxygen as well.
7. EM multiplication was put into the pond once for 2-3 days about 500 litres /acre or 1,250 litres/ha. For the 2 months old, 625 litres/acre or 1,560 litres/ha of EM multiplication was

put into the pond and 1,250 litres/acre or 3,125 litres/ha of EM was put into the pond when they were 3 months old respectively. EM must be increased more in order to suppress foul smell and clean the water because the prawns were big and a lot of dung was excreted. If the water was dark green (algae), 60-70 cm high of water in the pond was pumped out and new water added. EM5 was sprayed once for five days to suppress algae.

8. EM5 would be stopped if the prawns were molting.
9. EM and EM5 would be added if algae occurred around the prawn's body. It was the obstacle of a prawn's growth.
10. They were harvested when they were 5 months old.

**NOTE**

1. He did not mix EM with the feed before feeding.
2. The prawns were very healthy, when the net in the pond was lifted they jumped out quickly.
3. The body was clean and no smell.

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