



For immediate release

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Maine company short-listed for top aquaculture award

A Maine company has been short-listed for the prestigious 2007 Aquaculture Today - Fit for the Future Awards, which will be announced in Edinburgh, Scotland, in April.

Portland-based MariCal has been nominated in the Innovation category. The company's research has contributed greatly to the global aquaculture industry.

MariCal was founded in 1996 and is a privately held animal health and nutrition biotechnology company with 26 full time employees with operations in Chile and offices in Alaska, Canada, United Kingdom, and Norway. In addition, MariCal is a joint venture partner in Virginia Cobia Farms LLC, based in Saltville, Virginia.

MariCal is a recognized global leader in aquatic biotechnology, possessing 58 issued and pending patents in its field. Natural and environmentally friendly, the specific applications developed from the company's technology do not require the use of either genetic modifications or the introduction of drugs or hormones.

One of MariCal's calcium sensing receptor (CaSR) technology applications, called the SuperSmolt® Program, improves smoltification production by pre-acclimating farmed salmonids to seawater while the fish remain in freshwater, increasing the osmotic capability of the fish at transfer. Over 55 million fish globally have been successfully treated with the Company's 3-6 week proprietary water treatment and specialty feed process.

Commenting on the nomination, William T. Thomas, Chief Operating Officer, MariCal said: "MariCal is truly honored to being considered as an Innovation Award candidate. Our SuperSmolt® Program and other calcium sensing receptor (CaSR) technology applications demonstrate MariCal's commitment to technology innovation to address the challenges of the global aquaculture industry through enhancing production efficiency and reducing cost. We are pleased our contribution is being recognized and we look forward to a long partnership with industry leaders for years to come."

The awards cover four categories: Finfish (supported by Landcatch Natural Selection); Shellfish (supported by The Sea Fish Industry Authority); Innovation (supported by FISHupdate) and Contribution to Aquaculture (supported by Fish Farmer).

Commenting, Aquaculture Today chairman Bob Kennedy said: “The response to our awards has been tremendous and is a graphic illustration of both the diversity and increasing maturity of the aquaculture sector. The nominees are an impressive representation of an industry that is going places.”

The winners will be announced at a special gala industry awards dinner at the Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa, Edinburgh, on April 18. At this special event, the Crown Estate will also announce its annual salmon fish farming awards shortlist. Aquaculture Today 2007 runs from April 17-19 and is the UK’s leading aquaculture conference.

ENDS

For more information, images etc please contact Christina Reid on 0131 312 4550 or email creid@fishupdate.com.

Notes to Editor:

1: Those shortlisted are:

Category 1: FINFISH

Supported by Landcatch Natural Selection

Clare Island Seafarms (Clew Bay, County Mayo, Ireland)

Fjord Scotland (Stornoway, Isle of Lewis)

Hjaltland Seafarms, Shetland (Gremista, Lerwick, Shetland Isles)

Kames Marine Fish Farm (Oban, Argyll, Scotland)

Scottish Sea Farms (Loch Creran, Argyll, Scotland)

Wester Ross Fisheries (Ullapool, Ross-shire, Scotland)

Category 2: SHELLFISH

Supported by The Sea Fish Industry Authority

Blueshell Mussels (Brae, Shetland Isles)

Caledonian Oysters (Oban, Argyll, Scotland)

Deep Dock (Bangor, Wales)

Jersey Oyster Company (St Martin, Jersey)

Loch Striven Mussel Farm (Argyll, Scotland)

Category 3: INNOVATION

Supported by FISHupdate

Johnson Seafarms (Vidlin, Shetland Isles)

M & J Seafoods (Aylesbury, Bucks, England)

Marical (Portland, Maine, USA)

Myti Mussels (Bangor, Wales)

Sainsburys (London, England)

Schering-Plough (Saffron Walden, Essex, England)

Waitrose (Bracknell, Berkshire, England)

Solway Transport (Canonbie, Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland)

Category 4: CONTRIBUTION TO AQUACULTURE

Supported by Fish Farmer

Dr Jim Buchanan, Services to the Industry (Roslin, Midlothian, Scotland)

Donal Maguire, Aquaculture Development Manager, BIM (Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland)

Doug McLeod, Chairman of the Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers (Ardvasar, Isle of Skye)

Professor Randolph Richards, Director, Institute of Aquaculture, University of Stirling (Stirling, Scotland)

Creative Salmon (Tofino, British Columbia, Canada)