



Marical satisfied with SuperSmolt results in Chile

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Paula Carvajal Puerto Montt, Chile: The results of groups of harvested fish treated with the SuperSmolt process in Chile by the US company Marical (CienciaMar in Chile) have been promising so far. IntraFish was informed this by the Marical CEO and co-founder Dr. William Harris Jr.

IntraFish interviewed Dr. Harris who was visiting Chile, and he said that various tests have already been carried out in Chile to compare the performance of groups of fish treated with the SuperSmolt process and fish without such process. Dr. Harris and Eduardo Aguilera, the general manager of CienciaMar, an affiliate of Marical in Chile, explained to IntraFish in an exclusive interview that at least 4 groups of fish treated with SuperSmolt have already been harvested and the results obtained from these groups reveal many benefits. **Better conversion** The Marical co-founder said that one of the advantages of fish treated with SuperSmolt is that they grow better in the sea stage and have a reduction of the feed conversion ratios, i.e., that "thanks to the process, fish have managed to convert their feed better, which is a large advantage for producers." "This shows that investing in SuperSmolt pays off and is profitable and that we now have data to prove that there are real benefits," he said. **Photoperiod versus SuperSmolt** Dr. Harris said that he believes that the trend in Chile is to transfer the freshwater farming stages to land tanks either with open flow or recirculation systems will increase. However, the implementation of these kinds of fish farms has a high cost, and for this reason from now on the salmon farming industry will welcome all those processes or methods that reduce costs. SuperSmolt is one of these processes, and the photoperiod is another possibility. When asked about the advantages of Marical compared with applying the photoperiod, Dr. Harris replied that the photoperiod above all requires expertise and also very specific timing. Dr. Harris and Eduardo Aguilera explained that using the photoperiod the decision must be made of when to transfer the fish to the sea about 10 to 14 weeks before the transfer. However, when the fish are ready, there is a timescale in which they must be transferred to the sea, otherwise there will be serious losses. "With SuperSmolt the transfer decision can be made 4 weeks beforehand and if there are errors or this needs to be halted, you can keep the fish in that state. This is a more flexible system," Aguilera told IntraFish. **Biotechnology workshop** Dr. Harris traveled to Chile on the invitation of the University of Concepción due to his wide background in the biotechnology field. This scientist and businessmen gave a lecture to the marine biology students at the university with which he keeps up ongoing contact. [Este artículo también está en español](#)

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