



## More Chileans eyeing SuperSmolt process

Published - July 02, 2003

Paula Carvajal Puerto Montt, Chile: In an exclusive interview with IntraFish, David Hughes, president of Marical (represented as CienciaMar in Chile), said that he's optimistic about the prospects for his company's SuperSmolt technology in Chilean salmon farming.

As part of a weeklong visit to Puerto Montt, Hughes sat down with IntraFish, and said that there are already close to 10 companies testing out their SuperSmolt process in Chile, and that another 10 will soon be trying it out.

Hughes said the technology, a compound added to fish feed that promotes salmon growth, can reduce cost of production by up to 15 percent.

### *Why do you think that the SuperSmolt process will be so beneficial specifically for companies in Chile?*

"What first comes to mind, and what I consider to be a very particular situation in Chile, is that a great deal of smolts are currently being farmed in lakes and then are taken to estuaries. I believe around the world [producers are beginning to] realise that this will all have to change."

"I believe this is a trend that Chilean companies are also trying to follow. I think that this lake system has been a very good system, and a low cost system. Therefore, the decision to change will be hard. New systems can be very costly. But for the protection of the environment, as well as to avoid the spread of disease and keep the fish disease-free, change will be necessary."

"I believe that we can be very helpful in making this change, by making it less costly."

Hughes added that thanks to the SuperSmolt process, it's possible to transfer smaller-sized fish from the hatcheries directly to the sea, skipping the lake and estuary phases entirely. "This way, no major investments are needed for large tanks; since we can transfer smaller fish directly to the sea."

General Manager of CienciaMar, Eduardo Aguilera, pointed out that the SuperSmolt process is already being used in other countries, with excellent results. In fact, he said, tests have already been done in seven of the world's biggest salmon producing countries, including Norway, Chile, Canada and Scotland.

**See also:** -[SuperSmolt used in wild Atlantic salmon recovery \(7-5-2003\)](#). -[MariCal signs agreement with large trout producer \(29-4-2003\)](#). -['SuperSmolt' system burgeons internationally \(30-5-2002\)](#).

[Print](#)

Copyright 2005 IntraFish Media AS - All rights reserved.

<http://www.intrafish.no/global/news/article32898.ece>