



EWOS joins MariCal in new marketing alliance

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North American fish feed producer EWOS Canada Ltd. and Maine-based MariCal Inc. said Tuesday they have formed a new marketing alliance.

EWOS Canada, a subsidiary of Norwegian salmon farming and feed producer Cermaq, will be the exclusive West Coast manufacturer and distributor for feeds incorporating MariCal's patented "SuperSmolt" and "SeaReady" processes for increased production of salmon for both the commercial fish farming industry, and wild salmon enhancement programs.

Under terms of the agreement, EWOS and MariCal "will mutually support and encourage the growth and market positioning of one another in the North American salmon aquaculture and enhancement markets.," the companies said.

MariCal's key discovery is of a class of molecular extracellular ion receptor proteins, called calcium receptors (CaR's), that serve as the biological "thermostats," or "master switches" that enable fish and other aquatic organisms to sense and respond to changes in both water salinity and nutrients.

MariCal has used its CaRs in restoration efforts of endangered Atlantic salmon in Maine, Pacific salmon production on North America's West coast, and commercial Atlantic salmon production in various countries. Specific applications of these CaRs use neither genetic alteration nor the introduction of drugs or hormones, the company said.

The results of feed trials performed at EWOS' research and development facilities combining EWOS boost, a feed additive, and Marical's "SuperSmolt" and "SeaReady" additives showed improved smoltification and growth rate and reduced mortalities, the company said.

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