

Oregon Aquaculture Association

Participant Evaluation:

Aquaponics in Oregon: Discover the Growing Potential

June 23-24, 2018

Western Oregon University, Monmouth

A. Saturday Sessions

	Not at all	A Little	Some- what	A lot	N/A
Commercial Panel: How Does Aquaponics Meet a Growing Demand for Veggies & Fish and Sustainability		2	2	13	
Aquaponic Tour		1	5	8	3
Aquaponics & Aquaculture		1	2	13	1
Organic Certification & Regulation			8	9	
The Challenges of Growing Commercially			6	8	
Business of Aquaponic Pricing		2	6	4	2
One Step Closer to Mars with Aquaponics	1	4	2	3	3
Networking Mixer, Raffle			3	3	8
Dinner & Keynote			2	3	10

B. Sunday Sessions

	Not at all	A little	Some- what	A lot
Panel Discussion: Beyond Fish & Veggies -- What Else Can You Grow		2	3	10
Small Farm/Growing Organic Story		2	6	6
Aquaponic Tour			3	5
Aquaponics: Removing the Barriers to Grow the Industry			2	6
How Aquaponics Can Drive Social Impact			3	9
Aquaponics: Community Building, Food and Medicine			2	8
Serving the Underserved		1	3	7

C. Overall Satisfaction	Not at all	A little	Some-what	A lot
Aquaponics in Oregon: Discover the Growing Potential			3	13
Quality of Breakfast	3	4	8	2
Quality of Mixer		1	5	3
Quality of Dinner		1		7
Workshop Volunteers			4	13
Registration Process			5	14
Registration Fee	1	2	7	9
Workshop Visuals and Audio		2	7	9
Displays		2	12	5
Adequate Time for Breaks and Lunch		1	3	14
Facilities at Western Oregon University	1	1	8	11
Adequate Time for Questions		1	2	16
What I learned at Aquaponics in Oregon: Discover the Growing Potential			4	14

D. Would You:	Not at All	A Little	Some-what	A lot
Attend a future conference about aquaponics with more depth and additional topics?			4	14
Attend a future conference about aquaculture with more depth and additional topics?		2	7	9
Recommend attendance at future similar conferences to others?		1	4	14

I am a:	
Retired veterinarian	1
Farmer, wholesaler, produce retailer	1
Researcher	1
Educator	4
Practicing aquaponics	6
Learning aquaponics	15
Pond owner	3
Fish hobbyist	1
Aquaculturist	2
Pond/Fish Retailer	1
Professional	4

Please list topics you would be interested in for a future conference about aquaponics.

- * any and all; especially design and commercial topics. More aquaculture specific topics.
- * fish breeding; more on medicinal herbs
- * introduction to aquaponics; introduction to fish health
- * FSMA compliance
- * nonprofit management; youth education
- * uses/effects of lots of plastics and styrofoam
- * chemistry, trouble shooting
- * "how to" start, build modest system, make a bell siphon workshop, maybe a swap meet as a part of conference
- * backyard aquaponics
- * more information on system design
- * small scale aquaponics; off-grid systems
- * show us the components of basic system, step by step
- * suitability of different pH on different veggies, how system design affects system health, how to promote and protect the health of your fish

How did you hear about Aquaponics in Oregon; Discover the Growing Potential?

- * Capital Press under Fish
- * from Kate Wildrick
- * from Kate and Aaron
- * through Kate's website
- * word of mouth
- * email
- * Kate and Aaron Meetup
- * aquarium science instructor recommendation
- * ODE
- * Google search, "aquaponics portland oregon"
- * Meetup group
- * internet
- * through a colleague in education
- * Oregon Agriculture Teachers Association
- * friend
- * Louis Hans
- * from my employer

Is there another location in Oregon that you think would be good for a similar future conference?

- * OSU or Hatfield Marine Science Center
- * perfect "middle of the state"
- * Portland (underlined) or Ashland
- * This was great. Central.
- * Portland (convenient for me)
- * it's fine.
- * higher elevation area-colder climate
- * Portland (closer for me)
- * WOU is a great central location for everyone

Do you have any comments regarding the displays?

- * Good - wish there were more
- * No, but room was very hot
- * Would be cool to have a 20+ gallon example system
- * More
- * More vendor companies involved, lighting for example
- * I expect there will be more in the future

Did this event meet your expectation?

Yes	No
8	

- * Excedingly!
- *Yes, but very expensive. Membership to OAA? Needs to have perks.
- * Needed more technical information and less philosophical.
- * Mostly. I think I hoped to see a more thriving example with the field trip. I wanted to see what was possible. I hoped to see verticle AP examples or info or vendors.
- * Wasn't sure what to expect so had no real expectations
- * Sure did! Great people, great networking

What did you like the best?

- * tour and several of lectures
- * hearing from the commercial growers and learning about everyones mistakes
- * local "grassroots community"
- * networking
- * meeting excited peers
- * breakfast
- * Bucky's enthusiasm
- * Sally Keasler's presentation
- * questions and answers
- * tour and networking
- * all of the "how-to" stuff
- * Sunday panel from 9 AM- 11 AM
- * tour
- * impromptu conversations and networking

What did you like the least?

- * confined to hot room
- * cost, too high
- * "constant dreamer theme"
- * not enough specific technical tips
- * there is obviously some negative views on traditional farming practices from presenters
- * too hot in facility
- * the kids were great but their presentation was painful

Out of 1 to 5, how would your rate the overall event (1 poor; 5 excellent) Scale: 1 2 3 3.5 4 4.5 5
 0 1 1 1 4 5 3

Are you interested in learning more about future events from OAA?

Yes	16
No	1

Do you want to be a member of OAA?

Yes	9
No	2

Additional comments:

* Thank you!

* This conference was so helpful and inspirational! We are so excited to continue with collaborate moving forward with the “dreamers and doers” from this conference! We look forward to future events!

* Location was too far, please relocate to Portland or Ashland. Lower cost, way too high. Provide better food options, gluten free and vegan. Great presenters! Raffle was cool.

* Thank you so much!

* Need more technical information and sourcing materials from vendors; where to get supplies

* Thanks for putting this together. I look forward to more.

* If you are charging money for a conference there should not be children running around the auditorium during presentations. Very distracting.

* Very nice job organizing this! Worst part was the warm room we were in on Saturday, you had no control over this. Also nice job adapting the schedule on the fly. Really appreciate all the work that went into this. Well done and thanks! Perhaps in the future choose a room with tables to facilitate note-taking.