

# LOUISIANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Orleans Parish  
St. Charles Parish  
Jefferson Parish

1825 Bonnie Ann Drive  
Marrero, LA 70072  
341-7271

## SEA GRANT PROGRAM



Volume 6, Number 8  
August 23, 1982

## LAGNIAPPE

DEAR FRIEND

We are nearing the end of six years of publishing the LAGNIAPPE. I hope that you have found the newsletter to be of some help in keeping you informed on what is going on.

This month I'd particularly like to direct you to read over the section on new laws carefully. Some of these can be VERY IMPORTANT to you. For example, it is now law that all oyster licenses must be purchased between August 1st. and September 10th. If you don't get your license during this period this year, you can't fish until September, 1983.

If you have any suggestions on subjects that you would like to see covered in this newsletter, feel free to call me.

### HELP FOR SEAFOOD PROCESSOR FINANCING

A proposed rule change to help finance fisheries shoreside facilities was proposed in the Federal Register on August 3, 1982.

The proposed change is in the National Marine Fisheries Service Fishing Vessel Obligation Guarantee Program. Up to now the program has provided federally guaranteed financing for fishing vessels only. The new program, renamed the Fisheries Obligation Guarantee Program, will provide government guaranteed financing for fisheries shoreside facilities, including processing plants, cold storage facilities, unloading facilities and land for them.

There will be a 45-day comment period beginning August 31, 1982, before the rules are final. Under the new program, financing will be available for up to 87½% of the cost of the facility and the period of repayment up to 25 years long.

The program, if finalized, will have strict requirements on the ability, experience, and financial resources of those who apply.

### HANG FUND

With the white shrimp season kicking off, there will be many fishermen experiencing trawl or hull damage due to underwater obstructions. Both the State and Federal hang funds are available for a fisherman who suffers any such damage. The State hang fund was scheduled to hear 33 claims worth \$29,786 on their last schedule and paid off claims worth \$28,253 in July.

If you need more information on either of these funds call me at my office and I'll help you where I can.

### ANOTHER CHANCE TO PAINT YOUR POTS

For those of you that missed the chance to get some of your crab pots painted with the new experimental anti-fouling paint, you will have a second chance on September 9th.

Alan Matherne, the Marine Advisory Agent for St. Bernard - St. Tammany, will be painting pots at the Coastal Complex (the old school) in Delacroix. He will be there from 1 to 5 p.m. and you can bring 5 to 10 pots to get dipped free. Both galvanized and coated pots can be painted but the pots should be clean and the galvanized pots aged so they aren't shiney.

## VETOES

Governor Dave Treen has vetoed two pieces of legislation of interest to the seafood industry. The first veto was a line-item veto of \$330,000 to fund the Louisiana Seafood Promotion Board. This is the second year that the Governor has vetoed these funds.

The second veto was one of Senate Bill 421 by Senator Samuel Nunez. The bill would have established the Commercial Fisherman's Fuel Crisis Act. The Act would have created direct tax credits for commercial fishermen based on rising fuel prices. Included was a veto of \$500,000 to finance the act.

## FINANCIAL TROUBLE FOR CATFISH FARMERS

The catfish farming industry, which has a pretty strong effect on wild catfish prices and demand, is on the downswing again. Farm raised catfish had pretty much glutted the market in the last year because of a 38% increase in acreage in production since 1980. This caused a drop in price and demand for wild catfish.

The price that farmers received for catfish in mid 1980 when the period of growth in catfish farming began, was 60¢ per pound and feed costs were 25-30% lower than they are now. The price that the processors are paying right now for farm raised catfish has dropped to 50-55¢ a pound. Catfish farmers figure that right now it's costing them 58-66¢ a pound to grow them.

Obviously that's a money-losing situation that just can't keep on. If the same thing happens that has in the past, many of the catfish farmers, especially the newer ones, will get out of the business. This, plus some heavy advertizing by the Catfish Farmer's Association, should bring the price back up. It should also make it a little easier to sell wild catfish.

SOURCE: Delta Farms Press - July 16, 1982

## NEW FISHING LAWS

The following fishing and fur bills were passed by the 1982 State Legislature and are now law. Unless otherwise noted, each law will go into effect on September 11, 1982. If you need to know more about any of these new laws, feel free to contact me at my office in Marrero.

Senate Bill 417 (Act 406) - Nunez  
House Bill 266 (Act 685) - M. Hebert and others

Allows oyster water bottoms to be opened or closed for health reasons without going through the Administrative Procedures Act.

Senate Bill 418 (Act 378) - Nunez and others

Increases the number of people on the Louisiana Seafood Promotion Board from 11 to 13. Substitutes a representative from the Louisiana Restaurant Association for the representative from the Louisiana Catfish Farmers Association (which doesn't exist anymore). The bill also provides for a spot on the board for a seafood retailer, a seafood wholesaler, and a seafood processor. Effective immediately.

Senate Bill 859 (Act 417) - Nunez and others

Changes the mesh size of pompano nets in the waters of Breton and Chandeleur Sounds from a minimum of six inches stretched to a minimum of five inches stretched.

Changes the dates for pompano fishing in the same area from July 1st. through September 30th, to May 1st. through September 30th.

Also prohibits pompano fishing in this area at night.

Senate Bill 862 (Act 390) - Nunez and others

Requires proof of residency (Like a Louisiana Driver's license or voter registration card) for the purchase of a resident saltwater commercial fishing license. This is already required for freshwater commercial fishing licenses.

Senate Bill 863 (Act 467) - Nunez and others  
House Bill 1651 (Act 626) - Patti and Nunez

Provides that oyster vessel and dredge licenses must be purchased only during the period from August 1st. through September 10th of each year. The only exceptions are for a 30 day period after the death of a vessel owner, where the ownership of the vessel is transferred and within 45 days after registration of a newly built or purchased vessel.

Senate Bill 887 (Act 484) - Landry (by request)

Repeals the special law which prohibits the use of seines, nets and webbing in Lakes Des Allemands and Salvador and Bayou Des Allemands except for taking trash fish. Effective immediately.

House Bill 265 (Act 777) - M. Hebert and Chabert

Lowers the minimum mesh size for shrimp trawls during the white shrimp season from 1½ inches stretched to 1¼ inches stretched. Effective immediately.

House Bill 902 (Act 292) - M. Hebert and Patti

Changes the mesh size on the inner layer of webbing on saltwater trammel nets from a maximum of one inch square (two inches stretched) to a minimum of one inch square (two inches stretched).

House Bill 1099 (Act 790) - Williams and Bolin

Allows a single hunter without dogs to hunt racoons at night with a light on his own property.

House Bill 1259 (Act 727) - Hogan and others

Prohibits the use of monofilament wings or leads on hoop nets below the freshwater-saltwater lines. Prohibits the possession of fish caught in leads or wings. Provides that no pair of wings or leads shall be within 100 feet of each other and that no single lead shall be over 25 feet long. Effective immediately.

House Bill 1301 (Act 314) - Patti and others

Allows an oyster lease holder to put just his initials (along with the lease number) on the signs on his lease instead of his whole name.

House Bill 1302 (Act 315) - Patti and others

Allows the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to accept oyster leases when the survey plan exceeds by 10% the acreage of the initial application if the new lease does not overlap or impact surrounding leases or lease applications.

House Bill 1304 (Act 317) - Patti and others

Provides that the owner of an oyster lease up for renewal be given 10 days written notice of when the Department plans to resurvey his lease. Also requires that the leaseholder be present at the resurvey.

House Bill 1310 (Act 731) - Hogan and others

Reduces the license fee for nonresident commercial crab, finfish (except menhaden) and bait fishermen from \$1000 to \$200.

House Bill 1313 (Act 95) - Sour and others

Does away with closed season on bullfrogs in April and May. Also legalizes the use of spears and gigs that puncture the skin of frogs.

House Bill 1317 (Act 320) - Hogan and others

Provides that a legal slat trap have at least one one-inch crack on the two sides and the top. The old law required a one-inch crack between each slat and that no slat could be wider than six inches, top, bottom, and sides.

House Bill 1318 (Act 732) - Hogan and others

Gives the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission the power to prohibit the taking of any kind of fish in any part of the State and gives the Commission the power to make rules and regulations concerning commercial fish netting.

House Bill 1629 (Act 745) - Williams and others

Charges nonresident seafood dealers the same license fee as their State charges our residents to do business in their State.

House Bill 1714 (Act 746) - Patti & Nunez

Changes the mesh size for saltwater fish seines from a maximum of one inch square (two inches stretched) to a minimum of one inch square (two inches stretched). Also prohibits connecting two seines together to make one longer than 1200 feet.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 53 - Landry and Miller

Suspends the minimum size limit on channel catfish (eel catfish) until June 15, 1983.

House Concurrent Resolution 62 - Theriot and others

Requests the State Department of Agriculture to provide information to the State's farmers on the economic feasibility of crawfish farming and inform them of available markets.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE GUMBO POT

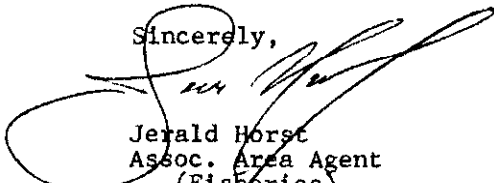
Eggs a Nouvelle Orleans

I got this recipe from Jean Duet, a Lafourche Parish 4-H club member. I found it very good and its simple and easy to fix.

- |       |                       |     |                            |
|-------|-----------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| 6     | boiled eggs (chopped) | 2   | cups crabmeat              |
| 3     | tablespoons flour     | 1/3 | cup parmesan cheese        |
| 3     | pats butter           |     | Hot Sauce and/or red peppe |
| 1 1/2 | cups milk             |     | Seasoned bread crumbs      |

Melt butter and stir in flour and then milk to form a white sauce. Add cheese and hot sauce and red pepper. Mix with boiled eggs and crabmeat. Pour into buttered casserole. garnish with breadcrumbs and sliced eggs. Bake at 350° - 30 minutes. Serves 6.

Sincerely,



Jerald Horst  
 Assoc. Area Agent  
 (Fisheries)  
 St. Charles, Jefferson  
 Orleans