

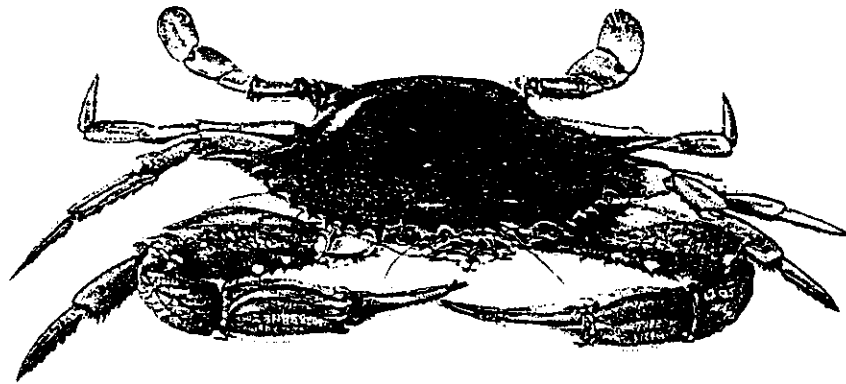


Louisiana State University  
**Agricultural Center**  
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service

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## SEA GRANT PROGRAM



### LAGNIAPPE

#### **SHEDDING CRABS IN WELL WATER**

Production of softshell crabs is a large business in Louisiana. Most of them are produced in float cars, and flow-through or closed systems. All of them have some problems. Float cars and flow-through systems depend on good water quality in the bayou or lake used. Closed systems can easily be overloaded with crabs, resulting in the loss of large numbers of them.

Another way of producing soft shell crabs is to use well water. This method avoids problems in water quality and overloading. I have copies of a North Carolina Sea Grant publication that describes how to build such a system. If you would like a copy, call or write my office in Marrero.

#### **FEDERAL REDFISH STOCK ASSESSMENT DELAYED**

The 1995 federal analysis on the health of the redfish population has been delayed a year. This analysis is of interest since the last two state of Louisiana assessments show the redfish population as easily being strong enough for an increased harvest. The redfish harvest was not increased either year because Wildlife and Fisheries Commission members cited the latest federal study which was from April, 1993.

The reason for the delay was to move up the stock assessment on red snappers by one year. Red snappers are of great interest because their rapidly growing population has resulted in recreational harvests which federal biologists say is over their quota. The next redfish stock assessment will take place in early 1996, possibly before the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries redfish report to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

### **FINFISH BYCATCH REGULATIONS COMING???**

The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council has an amendment to the Shrimp Management Plan scheduled for November of 1995. This amendment would require the use of bycatch reduction devices (BRDs) in shrimp trawls in all or part of the federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Presently the feds are considering 3 options for BRD requirements

- \*All waters within 100 fathoms, gulfwide
- \*All waters within 100 fathoms west of Cape San Blas, Florida
- \*All waters in the 10 to 100 fathom range, gulfwide.

National Marine Fisheries Service apparently feels that it has two BRDs that do a good job of excluding one year old red snapper, the extended funnel BRD and the top shooting fish-eye BRD. The big question is on shrimp loss. Several rates of acceptable shrimp loss (from 3 to 10%) have been discussed. Public hearings are planned for July to September at this time.

### **T.E.D. REGULATIONS CARDS AVAILABLE**

I have recently received a supply of laminated regulations summary cards (with diagrams) on TED construction and installation. These can be kept on your boat since they are waterproof. One is available for single grid hard TEDs and one for soft TEDS. Anyone who would like either one of these may call, write or come by my office in Marrero.

### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

We also have several other publications of interest. Notify our office if you would like a copy of any of them.

- \* Wallet-sized saltwater length and creel limit card
- \* Wallet-sized freshwater length and creel limit card
- \* Fishing regulations for Gulf of Mexico federal waters
- \* Louisiana 1995 fishing regulations booklet
- \* Louisiana boater's guide
- \* Defining fisheries: A users glossary (to technical fisheries management terms)
- \* Fisheries Management for fishermen: A manual for helping fishermen understand the federal management process
- \* Shrimp facts

**COAST GUARD COMMERCIAL VESSEL SAFETY SEMINAR**

The Coast Guard will have a safety seminar for all owners, operators and crewmen of commercial fishing vessels at the Coast Guard Air Station at 1:00 pm on Thursday, May 18th. The seminar will explain the safety regulations on all types of commercial fishing vessels along with hands-on displays of proper safety procedures when being assisted by a Coast Guard helicopter. This display will consist of proper procedures for use of emergency pumps that may be dropped by Coast Guard helicopters and how to evacuate individuals from vessels using Coast Guard helicopters. The Coast Guard air station is located at the Belle Chasse Naval Air Station in Belle Chasse, LA. for further information concerning this safety seminar please contact David Johnson at 589-4234.

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**THE GUMBO POT**

**Crawfish Jambalaya**

- |     |                          |   |                          |
|-----|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1/2 | cup margarine            | 1 | tsp salt                 |
| 1   | cup uncooked rice        | 1 | tsp cayenne pepper       |
| 1   | cup chopped onions       | 1 | tsp worcestershire sauce |
| 1/2 | cup chopped bell pepper  | 1 | lb crawfish tails        |
| 1/4 | cup chopped parsley      | 2 | cups boiling water       |
| 1/2 | cup chopped green onions |   |                          |

Melt butter in pot. Add rice and stir until rice and butter become golden brown. Add onions and bell pepper and saute until vegetables are limp. Add crawfish tails, salt and pepper. Cook 2 to 5 minutes on medium heat. Add boiling water, green onions, parsley and worcestershire sauce and bring to a boil. Lower heat, cover and cook for 20 minutes. Turn off heat and let stand for 5 minutes. Serves 4-6.

Sincerely,



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