



Regional Regeneration Alliance

CASE STUDY: INLAND AQUACULTURE

Growing demand for protein food for thought for inland communities

Western Australia's Wheatbelt could be set to supply the world's growing protein demand, according to our report into inland aquaculture.

The Regional Regeneration Alliance uses a truly collaborative approach to stimulate the economy through diversified and sustainable, value-added enterprises.

Our report found aquaculture is one of the fastest growing primary industry sectors, with growing domestic and international demand and limited room for expansion in the "wild catch" sector.

An extra billion consumers globally are expected by 2030, needing an estimated additional 25 million tonnes of seafood.

Algae and fish produced from aquaculture is one of the most sustainable ways to meet the growing protein demand, with a lower feed factor combined with a much higher harvest yield.

Climatic conditions are favourable for inland production of algae, which can produce not only protein for human consumption, but also

high-value products, such as biofuel, health and pharmaceutical products.

Australia's aquaculture industry is small by global standards. However, it has significant advantages over its competitors, including a reputation for safe, sustainable and high-quality products, a wide range of climatic zones, access to land and water, and strong biosecurity.

Domestically, changing lifestyle trends and a steady rise in average incomes have also driven demand for fish and seafood, offering a premium alternative to meat as a rich protein source.

To take advantage of emerging opportunities, Australian aquaculture must focus on products that can command sufficient margin to offset higher production costs.

The opportunities identified in this report are an example of Regional Regeneration Alliance's work to diversify through value-adding industries in order to stimulate population growth and build flourishing communities.



Growing demand

An extra billion consumers globally are expected by 2030, needing an estimated additional 25 million tonnes of seafood.



Growing industry

Algae can produce protein for human consumption as well as biofuel, health and pharmaceutical products.



Sustainable protein

Lower feed rate combined with higher yield rate make aquaculture a much more sustainable source of protein than land-based animals.

Source:

A Background Report to Understand the Opportunities for Inland Aquaculture, 2019. Commissioned by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Regional Regeneration Alliance.

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