

Dear Colleague,

We warmly welcome you to the website of the 6th International Carp Conference.

Hungary is proud to host the conference, which will take place four years after the last conference in Germany due to the Covid pandemic. We believe that Szarvas is an excellent site for the carp conference. Here, in the valley of the Körös River, there has been a long tradition of fisheries and pond aquaculture. Common carp has always been the most important fish species in this region and the "Szarvas" carp strains have played an important role in Hungarian fish culture. The Research Center for Fisheries and Aquaculture (HAKI) which belongs to the Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences (MATE) is an internationally acknowledged center in the genetic improvement of common carp and the development of carp rearing systems and technologies. HAKI is a close partner of the Hungarian Aquaculture and Fisheries Inter-branch Organisation (MA-HAL) in the promotion of freshwater aquaculture in Hungary and at the international level. The joint organisation of the International Carp Conference fits well into the cooperation program between HAKI and MA-HAL, which is aimed at greater international recognition of the importance and opportunities of freshwater aquaculture, with special regard to carp culture.

You can see in the program of the conference that we apply a holistic approach to discuss the challenges and opportunities of carp culture. Besides considering carp as an important aquatic food, we also discuss the linkages of carp culture with recreational fisheries and the restocking of natural waters. The possibilities of recognition of carp farming by international organisations like FAO and UNESCO will also be discussed. We also strengthened the international character of the conference. Leaders and key experts of FAO, EIFAAC, FEAP, and EATiP will actively be involved in the program, and besides European participants, professionals from China and Central Asia will also attend the Conference. In the conference program, we provide more opportunities for discussions and dialogues through thematic panel sessions, which will be moderated by acknowledged international aquaculture experts.

Besides the program in the conference hall, we also organised visits to the HAKI live gene bank and experimental facilities, as well as you can join the 47th MA-HAL Fish Festival which gives a good opportunity to taste Hungarian carp dishes with matching wines.

You can find detailed information about the program on the conference website and can register online.

We shall look forward to meeting you in Szarvas at the end of August.



Dr. Béla Halasi-Kovács
Director
Research Center for Fisheries and
Aquaculture, HAKI



Dr. Németh István
President
Hungarian Aquaculture and Fisheries
Inter-branch Organisation, MA-HAL