

What does food have to do with Invasive Species?



AQUAWALES Public Engagement Event 18th September 2015

Venue: First Floor Foyer, Sir Martin Evans Building, Cardiff University, Museum Place, Cardiff, CF10 3AX (<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/biosciences/about-us/our-location>)

Time: 9:30 am-12:45 pm. Followed by workshop on: Using science to deliver food we can trust (Food Standards Agency)

Motivation: Aquaculture and Fisheries are on the rise. Our growing population demands healthier food, and seafood consumption is increasing due to their high content in Omega 3. Traditional Fisheries cannot fulfil this demand, and much of the fish and seafood we currently consume come from Aquaculture. But Aquaculture and Fisheries can be a vehicle for the introduction and dispersal of non-native species (for example tilapia, signal crayfish, Pacific oyster) that can become invasive, displace our native species, bring new diseases and alter the environment. How can we help to alleviate the environmental impacts of Aquaculture and make it more sustainable? This is the research topic of AQUAWALES (<http://aquawales.wix.com/aquawalescluster>), a collaboration between Welsh Universities, government organisations, NGOs and industrial partners funded by the Welsh Government and HEFCW.

We are organising a hands-on workshop to engage with public interested in the topics of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) and Food Sustainability. The workshop will consist on two sessions: a morning practical session on the identification of AIS frequently found in Welsh rivers and coast and the use of smartphone Apps (<http://naturelocator.org/aquainvaders.html>) to help with their control and an afternoon session in collaboration with the Food Standards Agency looking at Welsh politics concerning Food Sustainability.

Agenda:

9:30-10:00 am Arrival and Registration. Coffee provided

10:00 -10:30 am Introduction on Aquatic Invasive Species impacts and identification

10:30-12:15 pm Practical demonstration on the use of smartphone Apps for the detection of AIS

12:15-12:45 pm AQUAWALES project presentation and Wrap-up

12:45- 13:30 pm Lunch, networking & poster session

13:30- 15:30 pm Using science to deliver food we can trust. Developing the FSA Science Evidence and Information Strategy 2015-20

To register for attendance send an email with your name and organisation to: aquawalesresearchcluster@gmail.com by the **16th of September**.