

PREFACE

In recent years the Brine Shrimp Artemia has gained considerable importance, as the successful development of many aquaculture projects depend on continuous supply of quality brine shrimp cysts. The nauplii of brine shrimps form an important live feed for the developing stages of many cultivable organisms. Realising this, the National Aquatic Resources Agencies (NARA) has taken up a lead role in developing Artemia culture in Sri Lanka. Basic information on the Sri Lankan strain of Artemia is now available. A pilot scale Artemia field culture trial has been recently initiated at Palavi salterns by this Agency.

This manual on Artemia is intended as a compendium of the state of art of brine shrimp culture which I am sure will be a useful guide to researchers, students, aquaculturists and ornamental fish breeders who use Artemia exclusively.

In this manual an attempt has been made to outline the methodology involved in collection and processing of cysts; decapsulation technique; batch culture and field culture procedures. Information on the Sri Lankan strain of Artemia has been included wherever possible.

I wish to thank Dr. Joseph P. Royan, National Institute of Oceanography Goa, India who has been with this Agency for the past two years and initiated work on the brine shrimp Artemia. The present manual is prepared by him with the assistance of Dr. Mrs. Sumitra-Vijayaraghavan and Mrs. Malkanthie Fonseka. I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. L.B. Werapitiya, Chairman, National Salt Corporation, Sri Lanka for the co-operation extended in carrying out studies on Artemia at Hambantota and Palavi salterns.

Colombo - 15.

May 1985.

Dr. Hiran W. Jayewardene
Chairman.