

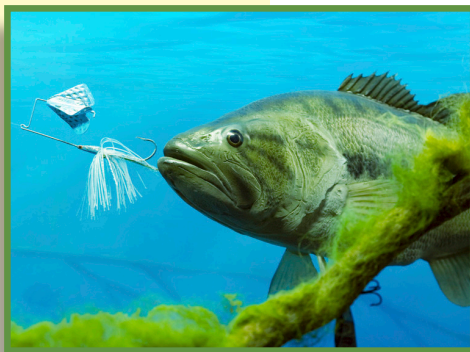
# Aquaculture is the Fastest Growing Section of Missouri Agriculture!

Missouri has over 300,000 acres of private lakes and ponds that are constructed for many uses. Mostly, they are used to produce freshwater, high quality fish such as largemouth bass, hybrid bass, sunfish, crappie and catfish for recreational purposes.



*The In-Pond Raceway at LU's Carver farm, near the new aquaculture facility.*

*Bass are one of several species of fish that are currently being studied at LUCER.*



## Keeping Pace in the Race for More Seafood

Aquaculture, the breeding of living animals (such as fish or shellfish) in water, especially for food, is the fastest growing section of agriculture!

The mission of the aquaculture program at Lincoln University Cooperative Extension and Research (LUCER) is to provide leadership for extension, research and

education of aquaculture in Missouri.

In-Pond Raceways may drastically increase pond production. The system works by increasing air and water flow through a raceway placed in an existing pond. This allows increased concentration and intensive management of fish. Production could potentially increase from 200 to more than 2,500 pounds per pond-acre. Income from species such as



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largemouth bass could increase from \$800 to \$10,000 dollars per acre.

Aquaculture goods will play a key role in meeting the high demand for aquatic products, such as freshwater fish. LUCER provides science-based information for successful aquaculture production and by working closely with farmers and other universities, farmers groups, and the Missouri Department of Agriculture,

we have improved the lives of several limited resource audiences and farms.

Most systems can be paid for within a couple of years, with a total cost of about \$6,500.00.

LUCER recently received USDA facilities funds to build a new aquaculture facility located on the George Washington Carver Farm in Jefferson City, Missouri. The new building is 8,560 square feet, modern and well-equipped to provide the tools needed to create opportunities for new markets for many years to come.

Our program provides advice, demonstrations and workshops.

For more information on our Aquaculture program, contact Lincoln University Cooperative Extension and Research at (573) 681-5543 or (573) 681-5380.



*In-house aquaculture tanks at the LU aquaculture facility.*