

MERCURY ANIMAL FEEDS – FISH FEEDING GUIDANCE

Feeding Objectives

- Meet nutritional requirements for good health
- Maximize fish growth for high yields
- Minimize waste to minimize feed cost
- Assure all fish have access to the feed

Proper Feeding Techniques

- Assure uniform growth across the entire population
- Match the feed nutritional content with fish species and age
- Match pellet size with fish size for easy consumption
- Assure the correct amount of feed at the correct time of day
- Avoid compromising water quality when the feed is consumed promptly

When to Feed

- At least once a day, but usually twice (feeding half the daily amount)
- At the same times each day
- Feed young fish up to four times a day
- In rain and cool temperatures feed only every two to three days
- Around 10am
- Two hours before sunset

How to Feed

- Feed at the same spot
- If upon initial broadcasting of feed, the fish do not respond, stop feeding
- Continue feeding once most of the fish have come for feed
- If the feed is immediately consumed continue broadcasting large scoopfuls
- Stop after 20-30 minutes or when the feeding slows

When not to Feed

- When feeding response is poor
- When fish are sick
- During low temperatures
- Two days before harvesting
- Afternoon before sampling and after sampling
- When water is dark and transparency is limited (possibly due to over feeding)
- Darkened cage nets or pond bottoms
- Plankton turbidity is high
- Treatment has been applied

