

APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

Freshwater Fish Pond Culture and Management

Marilyn Chakroff | Peace Corps



INFORMATION COLLECTION & EXCHANGE

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Freshwater Fish Pond Culture and Management

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About this manual

Freshwater Fish Pond Culture and Management is the second in a series of publications being prepared by the United States Peace Corps and VITA, Volunteers in Technical Assistance. These publications combine Peace Corps' practical field experiences with VITA's technical expertise in areas in which development workers have special difficulties finding useful resource materials.

PEACE CORPS

Since 1961 Peace Corps Volunteers have worked at the grass roots level in countries around the world in program areas such as agriculture, public health, and education. Before beginning their two-year assignments, Volunteers are given training in cross-cultural, technical, and language skills. This training helps them to live and work closely with the people of their host countries. It helps them, too, to approach development problems with new ideas that make use of locally available resources and are appropriate to the local cultures.

Recently Peace Corps established an Information Collection & Exchange so that these ideas developed during service in the field could be made available to the wide range of development workers who might find them useful. Materials from the field are now being collected, reviewed, and classified in the Information Collection & Exchange system. The most useful materials will be shared. The Information Collection & Exchange provides an important source of field-based research materials for the production of how-to manuals such as *Freshwater Fish Pond Culture and Management*.

VITA

VITA people are also Volunteers who respond to requests for technical assistance. In providing solutions, their aim is the most appropriate answers for specific situations. Therefore, VITA specialists often must produce new designs or adapt technologies so that they are of value in developing areas.

Many VITA Volunteers have lived and worked abroad. Most VITA people now work in the United States and other developed countries where they are engineers, doctors, scientists, farmers, architects, writers, artists, and so on. But they continue to work with people in other countries through VITA. Thanks to their contributions of time and expertise, VITA has been providing technical assistance to the Third World for more than 15 years.

Requests for technical assistance come to VITA from many nations. Each request is sent to a Volunteer with the right skills. For example, a question about fish pond operation might be sent to a VITA Volunteer who has had years of experience working to develop fish ponds in Asia, and who is now a university professor. **THE PURPOSE**

Freshwater Fish Pond Culture and Management is a how-to manual. It is designed as a working and teaching tool for extension agents. It is for their use as they establish and/or maintain local fish pond operations. The information is presented here to 1) facilitate technology transfer and 2) provide a clear guide for warm water fish pond construction and management. A valuable listing of resources at the end of this manual will give further direction to those wishing more information on various aspects of fish pond operation.

THE PEOPLE WHO PREPARED IT

The strength of both Peace Corps and VITA lies in Volunteers. These manuals represent an excellent means of communicating important know-how gained through Volunteer experiences and inputs.

The author of *Freshwater Fish Pond Culture and Management*, Marilyn Chakroff, served with Peace Corps in the

Philippines for three years. in a number of fisheries programs. Ms. Chakroff, who holds a B.S. in Biology, now is an advanced degree candidate in the field of Environmental Communication at the State University of New York, in Syracuse. This manual is written out of her first-hand experiences as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Joan Koster, the illustrator, has been a VITA Volunteer for more than 3 years. She is a teacher, professional artist, and writer. Ms. Koster, who has travelled and studied in Greece for a number of years, currently is preparing a manuscript on looms and weaving.

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