



**Integrate Aquaculture: an  
eco-innovative solution to foster  
sustainability in the Atlantic Area**

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# **Freshwater Integrated Multi Trophic Aquaculture**

**AGROCAMPUS OUEST**

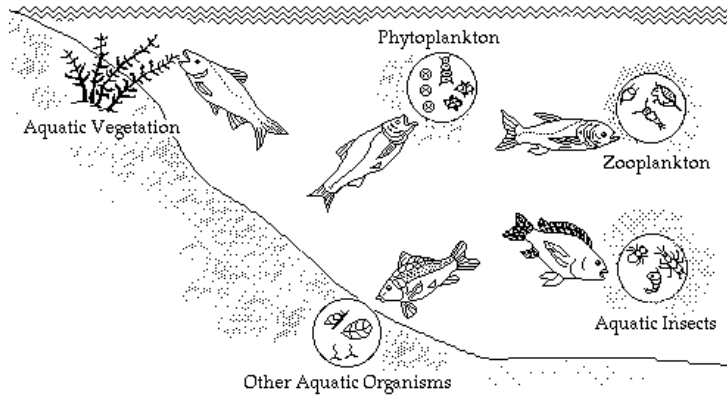
**20<sup>th</sup> December, 2019**



# Technical characteristics of Freshwater IMTA system

Based on carp polyculture

Open system in ponds



Source : agrisujan.wordpress.com



Source : lgsonic.com

**One fed species** and three living by consuming waste and the ecosystem consumption :  
making an other **valuable production**

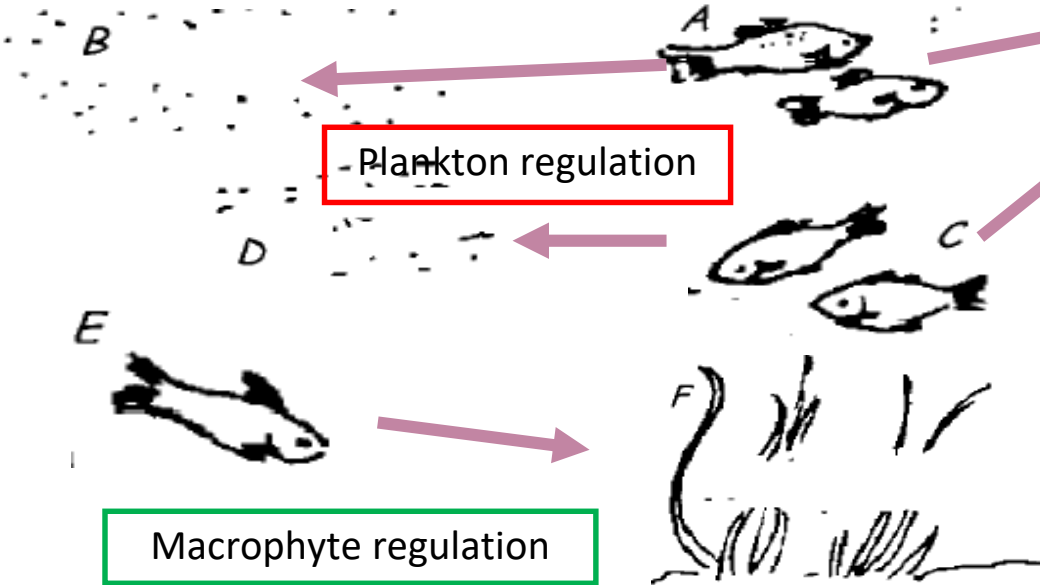


# Pond with carp polyculture: a multi-trophic system

Fed species: common carp  
50-60%



Each species has  
a different  
ecological niche




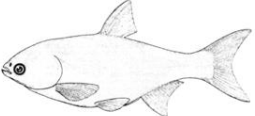
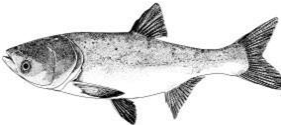
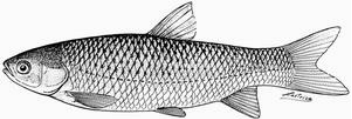
Waste regulation

*Trophic relations*

A : Silver carp      D : Zooplankton  
B : Phytoplankton    E : Grass carp  
C : Bighead carp     F : Aquatic plants



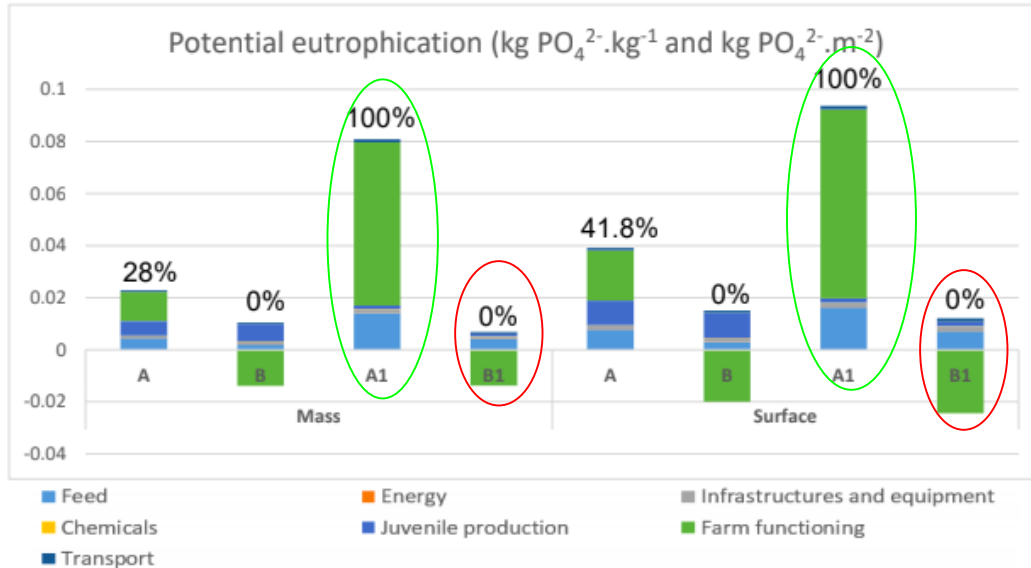
# Ecosystem regulation : different species and diets

<p>Common Carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>)</p> 	<p>Fed species</p>	<p>Main production Resuspension of sediment → increase pond productivity</p>
<p>Silver Carp (<i>Hypophthalmichthys molitrix</i>)</p> 	<p>Eat phytoplankton and Carp waste → <b>filter feeder</b></p>	<p>Control on phytoplankton populations and waste regulation → reduce oxygen consumption</p>
<p>Bighead Carp (<i>Hypophthalmichthys nobilis</i>)</p> 	<p>Eat zooplankton and Carp waste → <b>filter feeder</b></p>	<p>Control on zooplankton populations and waste regulation → reduce oxygen consumption</p>
<p>Grass Carp (<i>Ctenopharyngodon idellus</i>)</p> 	<p>Eat macrophyte → <b>herbivorous</b></p>	<p>Control macrophyte proliferation → reduced risk of die-off</p>

Source of pictures : FAO



# N, P and Organic Matter



Source: Favalier et al, 2019

A1: Traditionnal system  
B1: FIMTA

- FIMTA extracts phosphorus off the environment
- FIMTA practices lead to a lowest impact of nitrogen and phosphorus in comparison with traditional system (Favalier et al., 2019).

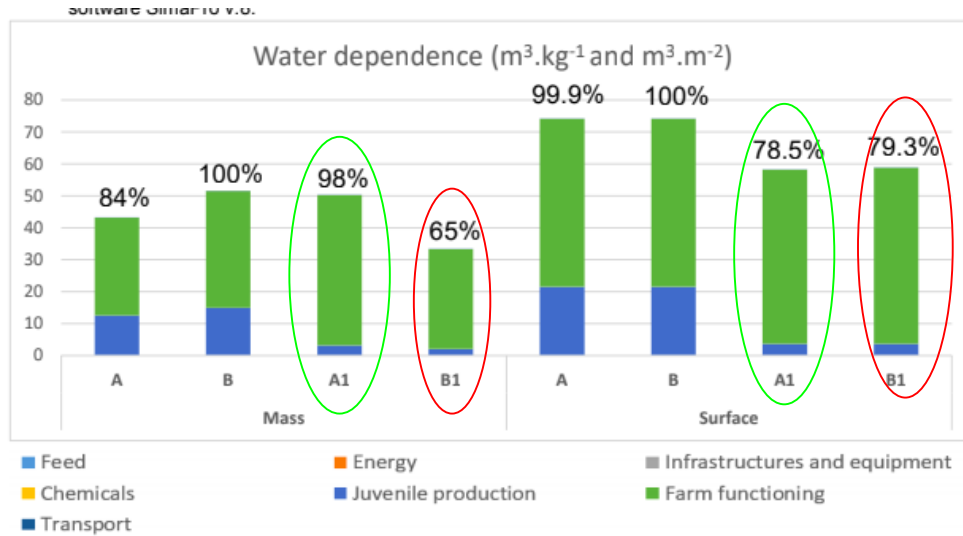


# N, P and Organic Matter

- The potential eutrophication led by FIMTA is negative, it extracts -6.8 to -101.2 kg/yr nitrogen and phosphorus off the environment (Aubin et al., 2014)
- Moreover, 1 ha pond in a year retains 3.8-8.4 kg Phosphorous, 96 – 560 kg Nitrogen and 1100 – 1600 kg Suspended Solids (Knösche et al., 2000).
- FIMTA reduces the environmental impacts directly through the uptake of dissolved nutrients by primary producers (e.g. plankton, algae) and of particulate nutrients and organic matter by suspension feeders (e.g. Bighead carp) (Cheng, 2014 )



# Water consumption



Source: Favalier et al., 2019 A1: Traditionnal system  
B1: FIMTA system

- Each system lead to different impact per kg of fish produced but not per  $\text{m}^2$
- FIMTA use less water than traditional system to produce 1 kilogramme of product but usually consume more water per square



# Water consumption

- Polyculture of carp = Between 78,702 and 219,985 m<sup>3</sup>/yr/ha (Aubin et al., 2014)
- The quantity of water for rearing fish is more efficient than a traditional system (Favalier et al., 2019)





# Energy expenditure

- Not enough data available
- Impact of energy often depends on feed, production system and species (Hornborg et al., 2014)
- Considering the fact that carps are fish with low trophic level (Cheng 2014) and FIMTA rely on natural production (Yeo et al., 2004), we hypothesised that we have the same level of energy consumption with those reports by Troell et al. (2014) : 1-25 J/J (energy use per protein energy output) for various carps pond



# Analysis of productivity gains and food optimization



Intensive carp monoculture in Asia : 5 to 90 t/ha/yr (Jian-Fang Gui et al, 2018)



Lorraine (France) polyculture : carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), common roach (*Rutilus rutilus*), rudd (*Scardinius erythrophthalmus*), tench (*Tinca tinca*) and pike (*Esox lucius*) :  
Total Yield = 0.16 to 0.72 t/ha/yr (Aubin, 2014)



Eastern Europe : Monoculture yields = 0.7 to 2 t/ha/yr (depending on manuring)  
(Woynarovich, 1979)

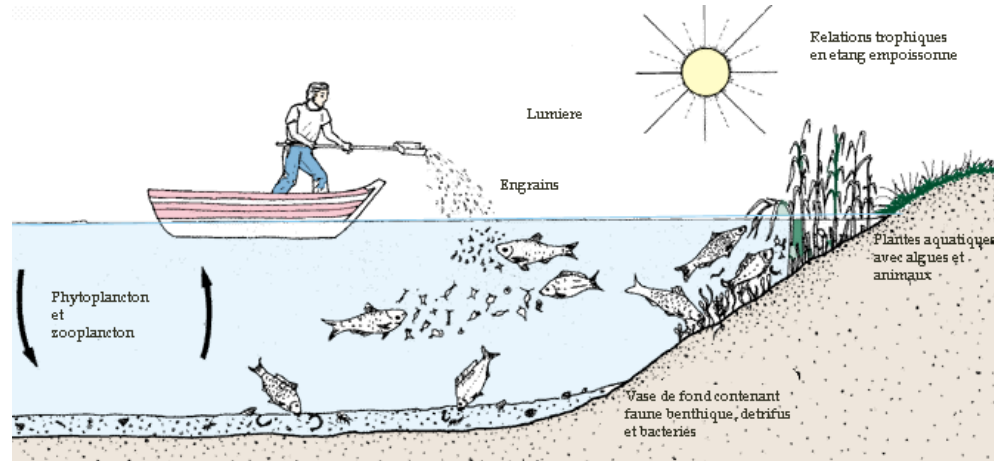


# Analysis of productivity gains and food optimization

Carp digging the sediment and resuspending nutrients (“Bottom-up effect”) boosts the primary production of ecosystems and productivity co-cultured fish (herbivorous fishes) (Rahman, 2015a)



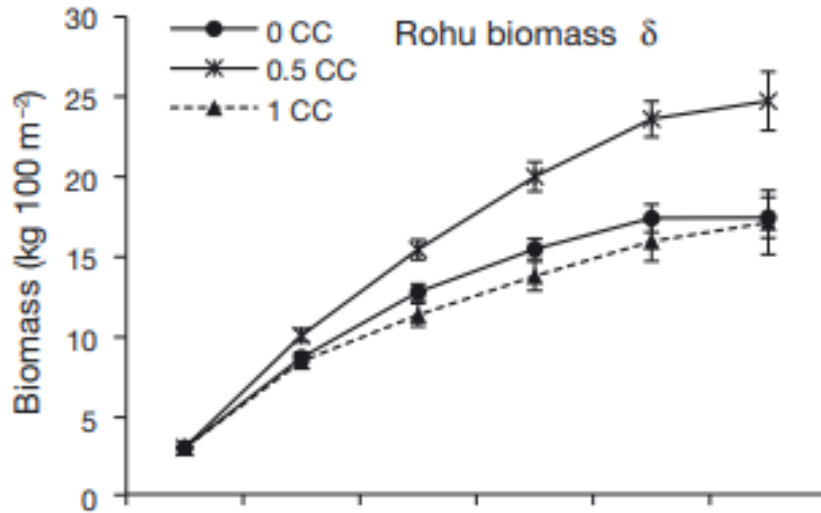
Carp digging the sediment and suspending nutrients from it



Source : FAO



# Productivity gain of Rohu (herbivorous cyprinid) with addition of carps



Rohu biomass increases significantly faster with 0.5 carp/m<sup>2</sup> (0.5 CC) than without carp added (0 CC) or 1 carp/m<sup>2</sup> (1 CC).

Source : Rahman, 2015b



# Economical analysis

Diversified production = diversified income,  
less affected by changing prices, diseases, weather conditions...  
⇒ resilience

Carp from China = 0,83 €/kg in 2002 (FAO)  
From Eastern europe = 2 to 3 €/kg (EUFOMA, 2016)

France can't be as competitive :  
Valorisation of freshwater fishes = living fish  
Price of living carp = 5 to 16 €/kg in France

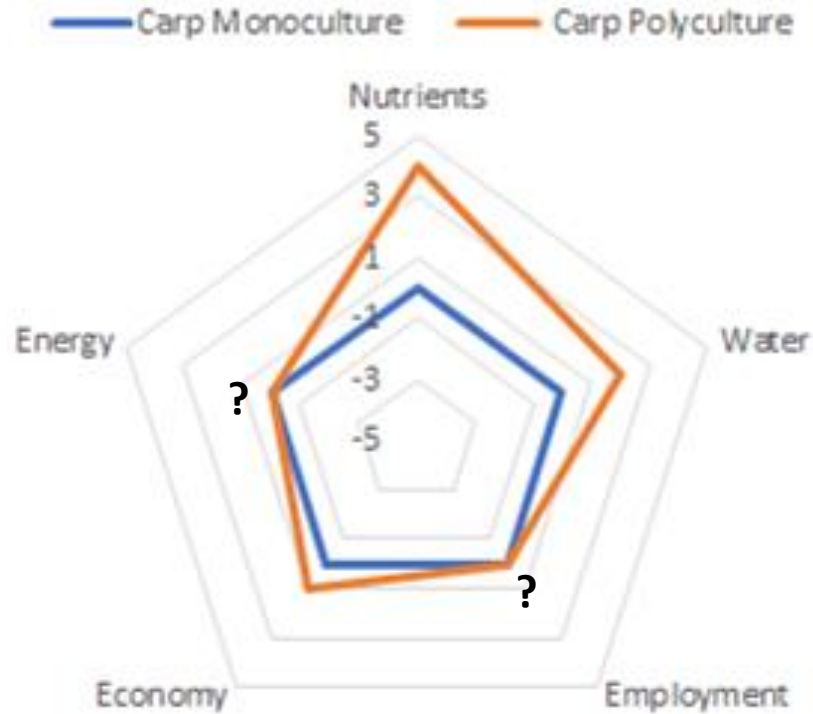
⇒ Less overall productivity but less costs (feed efficiency) and more resilience  
Polyculture fish production cost should be <2€/kg to be profitable.

POISSON	MOINS DE 10 KG	DE 10 KG A 50 KG	DE 51 KG A 100 KG
<b>Carpe 1 été</b>	8.06 € HT <b>8.50 € TTC</b>	6.82 € HT <b>7.20 € TTC</b>	5.88 € HT <b>6.20 € TTC</b>
<b>Carpe 2 et 3 étés</b>	6.64 € HT <b>7 € TTC</b>	5.97 € HT <b>6.30 € TTC</b>	5.21 € HT <b>5.50 € TTC</b>

Price of alive carp in France adapted from : Société Relot frères  
aquaculture continentale



# Benchmark



? : No data available



# Freshwater IMTA

	ASSETS	LIMITS
Technical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Less food for more production</li><li>Reuse of wastes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Predation at early stages</li><li>Need for space</li></ul>
Environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Less wastes and less nitrogen discharge</li><li>Wetland ecosystem preserved because less eutrophisation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Escape of fish</li><li>Difficulties in fish managing (which production for which species)</li></ul>
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Multiple productions → resilience</li><li>Not all species need to be fed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Low surface efficiency if extensive</li><li>Find a market for carp production in west Europe</li></ul>



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**MANY THANKS**

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