

BIOTECHNOLOGIST IN MARICULTURE ——PROFESSOR ZHANG GUO-FAN

Professor Zhang Guofan, born in Haicheng, Liaoning Province, China in April 1954, graduated from Xiamen University majoring in marine biology, gained his MS degree in South China Sea Institute, the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1982 and his Ph. D. in Institute of Oceanology, the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1992. Now he is professor of shellfish mariculture at Dalian Fisheries University and director of Key Laboratory of Mariculture Ecology, Ministry of Agriculture.

Dr. Zhang has engaged himself in the research of mariculture biology and biotechnology of shellfish since 1982 and worked as principal scientist in 12 projects including the key project of National High-tech R & D Plan and National Natural Science Foundation of China. His research field covers mariculture biology, genetics, biotechnology and disease of shellfishes. He had perfected culture technology of *Scapharca broughtonii* and found 5 populations of Zhikong scallop in Chinese coastal waters and compared the genetic relationship between the 5 populations. Results show that Haiyangdao population which was about 100 km far from Dalian has a tendency to deviate in genetics from the coastal populations, and in certain range heterozygosity has a positive correlation with growth. Based on this he produced a model between genetic variation and growth. He is one of the few scientists who had first explored shellfish triploid since 1986 and achieved remarkable success in the industrialization of triploid oyster and abalone under strong financial support by National High-tech R & D Plan.

Dr. Zhang has published more than 25 papers in important international and domestic academic journals and co-authored 2 books, supervised 10 post-graduate students in shellfish aquaculture and marine biotechnology. He won the first award of Science and Technology Progress in Ministry of Agriculture and second award of National Progress in Science and Technology, was among the first group of national engineering of highlight cross-century specialists and receives special subsidy from national government because of his contribution to shellfish research. He was also selected as scientist with outstanding contribution, joined the national advisor group in mariculture and was invited as the mariculture specialist by Asian Development Bank. Dr. Zhang is a board member of Chinese Malacology Society, member of National Shellfish Society (USA), member of editorial board of "Marine Sciences", "Marine Environment Sciences" and "Chinese Fisheries Sciences".

Prof. Zhang has become one of the famous scientists in shellfish culture and marine biotechnology in China, and his achievement is widely recognized in the international academic circle.

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