‘EXPRESSION OF INTEREST’ notification for partnership in rainbow trout feed production, field validation and subsequent transfer of technology

Based on the nutritional requirements of rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), ICAR-Directorate of Coldwater Fisheries Research has developed (formulated and scientifically validated) specific feed formulations for different life stages of rainbow trout. These formulations are a nutritionally balanced blend of marine and plant based ingredients, adequately supplemented with specific micronutrients and additives. Based on feed utilisation, growth response and other nutritional properties, these formulations were found to be highly efficient and cost-effective. Considering the importance of field validation at multiple locations before transferring this technology, we intend to partner with a commercial feed company (private or public) of proven track record and versatile capacity to custom produce our trout feed formulations with different physical and nutritional specifications, and evaluate their performance in farms/hatcheries located in Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Uttarakhand and Kerala. In this regard, ICAR-DCFRI invites expression of interest from fish feed manufacturing firms which meets the following requirements.

1. Ability to produce slow sinking or floating feeds with 40-50% protein and 12-20% lipid (composition will have 30-65% fish meal and 5-10% fish oil) in a single or twin screw extruder with accessory machineries.

2. Ability to produce feed crumbles (0.2-0.4 mm size) and pellets of sizes 0.5 to 8 mm

3. Ability to produce feed consignments from 50 to 5000 kg, based on requirement.

4. Nutritional composition and quality of feed and ingredients should be regularly tested and approved, to maintain feed standards.

5. Moisture content in the feed should not exceed 10% and the feed should have a minimum shelf life of 3 months.

6. In terms of physical quality, the feed pellets should be uniform, stable and durable.
7. Feed bag/package design should indicate the contribution of ICAR-DCFR and should follow appropriate labelling standards.

8. Confidentiality should be maintained with respect to feed formulations, production and validation feedback.

9. The cost charged for feed production during the field validation and demonstration phase should be reasonable and will be mutually decided while finalizing and entering into the first Memorandum of Understanding.

10. In the second phase during transfer of technology, aspects such as licence fee, royalty charges, exclusivity of technology and marketing rights will be decided.

Interested (registered) companies may send their expression of interest (EOI) by post and e-mail on or before 13th September 2019 to the address given below.

The Director,
ICAR-Directorate of Coldwater Fisheries Research
Bhimtal, Nainital, Uttarakhand - 263136.
E-mail: defrin@gmail.com; director.dfr@icar.gov.in

On intimation, the interested companies may be required to furnish additional details or clarifications on how they meet the above requirements. Final selection will be based on the ICAR policy of public private partnership and the discretion of the Director DCFR. The company with whom ICAR-DCFR enters into MoU shall be published in the official website of the Directorate, within 60 days of signing the MoU.