

Harald Sveier<sup>1</sup>, Sigfrid Tangen<sup>2</sup> and Sigurd Handeland<sup>3</sup>

## **POST SMOLT *Salmon salar* LPRODUCTION IN FLOATING RACEWAY SYSTEM – EXPECTATIONS AND PRELIMINARY RESULTS**

- 1) Lerøy Seafood Group, Box 7600, 5020 Bergen, Norway, has@leroy.no
- 2) Lerøy Vest, Box 7600, 5020 Bergen, Norway
- 3) Uni Research, Postboks 7810, 5020 Bergen, Norway

Currently, the majority of postsmolt Atlantic salmon production in Norway occurs in open sea cages where the fish are exposed to natural occurring pathogens and parasites which can generate significant losses. Most of the economical important pathogens are in the upper surface waterlayer (0-10 meter)

By extending the time fish spend in controlled environments, i.e. closed compartment systems (CCS) in sea, prior to being stocked in open sea cages, we expect to produce larger and more robust postsmolts, decreased fish losses, shorten production time and increased overall sustainability.

Based on more than 5 years of development and pilot testing a full scale version of the Preline Fishfarming System, was stocked with 160 000 smolts May 2015. The Preline system is designed as a 50 m long raceway where the water intake and outlet is located at 25 m depth. The raceway design secure a high water exchange rate within about 4 minutes and a approximate laminar water current which allow us to exercise the fish in a controlled way.

The performance of the fish will be compared with a similar group of smolt transferred to a traditional open cage at the same time. Data from the whole production cycle comparing performance from fish raised in the semi-closed system towards the control group in open cages will be presented as part of Ctrl-Aqua. Data from this to production system will be presented.

- 4) Lerøy Seafood Group
- 5) Lerøy Vest
- 6) Uni Research