

WORKING GROUP 3: EXERCISE IN AQUACULTURE

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In aquaculture, fish robustness eludes to the ability of the fish to thrive in the face of any perturbation during production, such as pathogens, handling and environmental stress, rapid growth and development, etc. Currently, exercise training by swimming is the only available strategy for industrial use, in front of other strategies involving genetic improvement and optimization of environmental conditions. Sustained exercise training by swimming is an effective proactive preventive strategy to improve robustness of farmed fish. Furthermore, swimming training may affect specific quality characteristics such as external appearance and fillet texture that have potential to be integrated in product labelling of exercised fish. However, to date, induced swimming has had little application in commercial aquaculture operations. Within Working Group 3 of the COST Action FITFISH, the aim is to gather expertise to evaluate existing swimming data, to identify gaps in our knowledge for targeting future research efforts and to design optimal swimming protocols for specific species and conditions. More information through: www.fitfish.eu.