



News and events

Fishermen and traders pledge to limit Palawan grouper catches

At the Live Reef Fish Summit held at Palawan State University 23 Feb 2009, agreement was reached to reduce the Palawan annual live grouper harvest by 25%, to no more than 516 tonnes, in an effort to arrest the decline in the resource. The summit was organised by the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development, the Philippines Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Palauan Provincial Government, and WWF. See this 9 March 2009 story posted by WWF: <http://wwf.panda.org/?158261/Endangered-groupers-to-stay-off-dining-plates-under-Philippines-deal>.

Museum selling clownfish

A science museum at Tokai University, which has bred 11 species of clownfish originating from the coral reefs of Australia, is selling the cultured fish to discourage people from capturing them in the wild. See the 1 April 2009 story in *UPI.com*: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/2009/04/01/Aquarium-selling-Nemo-fish/UPI-90581238597507/).

Oriental sweetlips bred for first time

According to *Taiwan News*, a research team at Taiwan's National Museum of Marine Biology and Aquarium Fish Reproduction and Larviculture Laboratory has succeeded in breeding the Oriental sweetlips, *Plectorhinchus vittatus*, a world first (see the 11 August 2009 story at: http://www.etaiwannews.com/etn/news_content.php?id=1016675&lang=eng_news).

Typhoon damages Taiwan's grouper farms

Typhoon Morakot hit Taiwan in August 2009. According to a 22 August 2009 story in *Taiwan News*, the typhoon damaged more than 90% of the 1,500 hectares of grouper culture ponds in Taiwan, production from which is worth USD 120 million, representing 58 percent of global production (see: http://www.etaiwannews.com/etn/news_content.php?id=1038468&lang=eng_news&cate_img=35.jpg&cate_rss=news_Business).

Taiwan's grouper aquaculture expected to benefit from new cross-strait trade pact

Under a new economic cooperation framework agreement, Taiwan's cultured groupers will be given zero-tariff treatment, which is expected to boost trade and production and help Taiwan's growers recover from the losses caused by Typhoon Morakot in August 2009. See the 28 June 2010 story in the *Focus Taiwan News Channel* (http://focustaiwan.tw/ShowNews/WebNews_Detail.aspx?Type=aECO&ID=201006280033).