

***\*Insert logos for CITES Viet Nam\****

***Seahorse Research in Viet Nam's Aquaculture Facilities***

Viet Nam has several aquaculture facilities rearing seahorses, and there is enormous potential to combine resources to produce valuable, high quality information on wild broodstock in support of a sustainable trade of seahorses from Viet Nam.

Millions of seahorses have been exported from Viet Nam every year – some of which are probably caught largely by hand, while most are obtained as incidental catch in trawl gear. As a result, seahorse populations in Viet Nam have been badly overexploited with consequences for their stability.

Aquaculture of seahorses for export is beginning to gather momentum in Viet Nam, but in most facilities the life cycle has not yet been closed; as a consequence the cultured seahorses are still regarded as wild.

Information on wild broodstock can be used to fill gaps in our understanding of the biology, ecology and pressures facing wild seahorse populations. This in turn will allow us to understand what protection existing management measures provide for Viet Nam's wild seahorses, and what additional measures are needed in support of seahorse management and conservation.

*Please complete the following form whenever new broodstock are brought into your facility, and send to:*

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Research Institute for Marine Fisheries  
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Hai Phong City, Viet Nam  
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**Basic information on wild seahorse broodstock:**

Date broodstock arrived:

Species<sup>1</sup>:

Where are the broodstock from? (location in the wild, if known):

Where were they bought? (location of the shop, fishing village):

How were they captured? (e.g. shrimp trawler, target caught, dive, hand catch at low tide, if known):

When were they captured? (month):

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<sup>1</sup> identification guide to Southeast Asian seahorses available in Vietnamese at:  
<http://seahorse.fisheries.ubc.ca/sites/seahorse.fisheries.ubc.ca/files/documents/SeahorseIDposter.Vietnam.2013Oct.pdf>

