

In Memoriam  
Professor Boaz Moav  
(1938-2002)



On January 28, 2002, Professor Boaz Moav passed away after a long and valiant struggle with his ailment. We have lost both a good friend and a dedicated scientist who contributed greatly to the scientific aspects of fish culture.

Boaz studied microbiology at Tel Aviv University (B.Sc. and M.Sc.) and at the University of Pennsylvania (Ph.D.), where he continued his training in immunology. Upon his return to Israel and his first academic appointment as a lecturer in the Zoology Department of Tel Aviv University, Boaz became interested in the chromatin of fish sperm during maturation, and he and his students studied the biosynthetic patterns of developmental histones in tilapia species.

It was then that he began his cooperation with aquaculturists and aquaculture scientists studying chromosome set manipulation, especially in tilapia. During his last decade, he was engaged in investigating the expression and inheritance of exogenous genes (such as GH) in transgenic fish.

His vast knowledge of biology and his inquiring and critical mind were invaluable to the work of evaluating committees on which he served and contributed significantly to improving the scientific quality of aquaculture research in Israel.

In addition to his academic activities, Boaz was involved in public and community work on a national scale. He was an unyielding fighter for human and civil rights. He served four years as a Member of Knesset (the Israeli Parliament), representing a civil rights party. In his public activities he advanced a variety of environmental and civil issues, devoting his time, optimism and boundless energy into these activities just as he did into science and everything else he touched.

With the death of Professor Boaz Moav, Israeli aquaculture will surely miss his guidance and always good-humored constructive criticism; his colleagues at the university have lost a good friend and truly wise advisor.

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