

## 18.0 Harvesting

### Script:

When it comes to harvesting from the Raceway System, because the fish are already caught, you don't have to have a big crew to go round them up out of that big pond. So the fish are right there. Since 2000, 3000 years ago, we've been using nets to gather up fish. Well, in this case, we've already got them gathered up.

So basically we just go in and remove them and whether they go into a live market or to an on ice market depends on how we handle them. Now we want to handle them well, whatever the market is because if you're not careful you can beat the fish up if you're paying attention.

Now how you harvest from the Raceways is you can actually use a crowder, it's the same as a grader or you can put in a, sort of a gate an angle and move the fish towards one end. Where you can then either use buckets or maybe, some farmers actually put cranes over there to actually scoop up the fish and then move the fish over.

The thing that I think is most important, again, is understanding your market and also when you harvest the fish. If you harvest the fish in midday in the highest sun, that may not be the appropriate time if you want to have live fish to market. It also may not be the greatest time if you want to even freeze the fish. Ideally you want to do either, usually early in the morning is the best time to allow you to gather all the fish up.

Another probably important aspect to keep in mind is also you probably want to stop feeding a few days before you actually harvested to ensure that you're not having a lot of waste inside the fish as well.

We can have going to market really, really high quality fish as compared to going out into a pond and getting them because they're used to confinement and they're not killing themselves when it comes to harvest. So because the fish are right there, they're confined, the cost of harvesting is probably reduced by at least 60%. Just in that part of the technology alone we're saving a lot of cost there because we don't have to go chase down the fish.

### Key Points:

- Because the fish are confined you don't need a big crew to round them up.
- Use a crowder to move the fish towards one end of the raceway.
- It's best to harvest your fish early in the morning.
- Avoid harvesting at the warmest part of the day to reduce stress on the fish.
- Stop feeding a few days before you harvest to reduce waste inside the fish.