

Mito: Os alimentos para peixes poluem o ambiente e têm má qualidade

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Nowadays, fish feeds should be considered at the forefront of sustainability criteria. Current aquaculture feeds rely on a delicate balance between its safety and quality for the fish and human consumption, its environmental burden and the impact on production costs.

Over recent years, a shift towards a lower usage of finite marine-harvest resources, such as fishmeal and fish oils, has been successfully achieved. Fish feeds contain now high levels of sustainable feed ingredients such as vegetable proteins and oils (e.g. soy, corn, wheat, peas, lupin, rapeseed, sunflower,...) and most marine ingredients still used are derived from fish trimmings (by-products of the fish filleting industry) and from certified well-managed fisheries from the Atlantic Ocean and South America.

Research contributed to the establishment of diets that adequately meet the nutritional requirements of each fish species, contributing to high standards of welfare to the fish and minimizing the environmental load associated to feeding. Aquaculture feeds are subjected to a highly stringent legal framework, in which all ingredients under use need to be approved by the European Food Safety Authority and are continuously controlled by the National authorities.

Aquaculture is vital for meeting the world's growing needs for fish and other seafood products. As part of a responsible growth of the aquaculture sector, the fish feed industry is taking all the necessary steps to insure that we achieve it in a safe and sustainable way.