Farming Needs

The Aquaculture Division is here to help you in farming Tilapia (O. mossambicus).

For your farming need or advice on site selection, farming construction, grow-out of tilapia, pond maintenance and harvesting see us at our office @ the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources or call us by

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Theme
Sustainable Fisheries
Our livelihood
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* For a good taste choose Tilapia *
Below are some pond features that need to consider:

**Pond bottom**
The pond bottom must slope towards the outlet pipe, 0.1-0.2% is recommended.

**Pond depth**
The pond depth is usually in the range of 1-2m, however, the ideal pond depth should be about 0.8m at the shallow end and an increase to 1.2m at the deep end.

**Dyke (bank or wall)**
Dyke walls must be sloped to prevent erosion and avoid enlargement of the pond. Slope depends on the type of soil, for instance, dykes made of clay soil can be steeper than dykes made of soft soil such as sandy loam.

**Water inlet**
An inlet is to let water into the pond. The location of the inlet will depend on the shape of the land in relation to the water source. The types of inlets that can be used are PVC pipe, polyethylene pipe, galvanised pipe, open earth canal, concrete channel and pump...

The flow of water into each pond must be controlled by valves (if piped) or shut-gates (if channelled). Water inlets should have a screen to keep out wild fish, twigs, leaves and other trash.

**Water outlet**
The outlet should be at the deepest end of the pond so that all the water can be drained out easily. Outlets used can be a PVC pipe, siphon, or pump. The outlet has an upstand pipe mounted on an elbow fitting (Fig. 8) then it can control the water level in the pond. To drain the pond, the upstand pipe is turned on its elbow and laid down flat.

Layout of pond
This is important to allow further expansion in the future and also easy access to water source and drainage canal.

Pond size and shape
Smaller sized ponds are easy to manage, the standard sized ponds are 15 by 30 meters to suit the standard size of the seine nets used for harvest.