

## Preliminary studies for the promotion of the introduction of tench *Tinca tinca* (L.1758) in the Santa Catalina region, southern Brazil

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The ACARPESC (Santa Catalina State Extension and Fishery Service) has set up various initiatives for the development of fish-farming in continental waters. In the 1970's there were few results, but in the 1980's there was a notable impact from what had been carried out for the promotion of fish-farming allied to the conditions of the region. It has been estimated that 10% of the medium and small sized rural establishments of the region work with fish from continental waters. During the 1990's, with the advent of the EPARGI (Santa Catalina State Research and Livestock-Agricultural Extension Enterprise), the practice of fish-farming has continued to present very encouraging levels of growth. Commercial ponds are generally 1000 to 5000 m<sup>2</sup> in size and constructed of earth. The water temperature of the region is between 10 and 29°C. Most of the species farmed are for social programs, of low market value, with the exception of trout which has a good commercial value but is restricted to a small region of the state, where the temperature is appropriate. There is a need for a temperate-water fish with good market value. Tench are the best option given their long domestication, resilience, adaptability, and high commercial value.