

Dear Dr. Ram,

Greeting and warm regards from the north of Vietnam. First of all, I am so sorry for not contacting you first after I had reached RIA 1. I was so caught up in life with Vietnam's aquaculture, there is just so much to see and do. I am really sorry.

I am extremely proud and happy as the day my plane touched down at Noi ba Airport. I am so glad that I will be having the unique privilege of doing my internship oversea for the first time in my life. To live in Vietnam and learn about the aquaculture in Vietnam for a period of 8 weeks starting on the 19th april to the 11th june 2010. Also not to mention to learn about the Vietnamese culture and learn about Vietnamese 's many years of experience in aquaculture.

Since the first day I stepped into RIA 1, my point of view regarding Vietnamese aquaculture has dramatically being changed. Every day in RIA 1 has something new in store for me to see and experience such as their advanced lab and intense research in aquaculture, their strong connection with the local farmers from the northern part of Vietnam, their many collaboration with other government on joint research program and also not to mention their functioning hatchery which is full of activities.

I had already been in Vietnam for almost 4 weeks now. During the time, I had the opportunity of visiting a few parts of Vietnam, spend few days with them in the field trip, going to the nearby hatchery to get the first hand experience about the technique used for breeding in tilapia, common carp, catfish and climbing perch, and also to understand the function of RIA 1. I am proud and happy to interact with the many officials in RIA 1 to get a better understanding of how things are done in here. The ultimate goal of me doing my internship in Vietnam is to see and learn each and every practice that is done in Vietnam and document it for my use in the future.

As of now, I will be continuing my internship at Haiphong province in the Center for Brackish Water for 1 week and then travel further north to the Center of Marine Water Aquaculture and Broadstock Management at Catba Island for 3 weeks to conclude my internship. According to Miss Thu, each and every center has different projects and focus. I am so thrill to be going there and looking forward to see and learn about it.

I think this is all for now. There are many other things for me to say and share my experience about Vietnam, but I think this will do fine. On the final note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for forwarding my application to RIA 1 to make my internship abroad possible. I also would like to thank Miss Thu for planning my internship and making arrangement for me. And lastly to particularly thank each and every member of CEDMA's staff, hatchery staff and many other RIA 1 staff that I had known for making my 4 weeks at Bac Ninh province in RIA 1 a memorable one. Also would like to thank my university for supporting me through the application and many lecturers that gave me good advises.

Thank you to all of you.

I would also take this opportunity to thank European Union under the program of European Aid for having this aqua-internship program to link students to the outside world of aquaculture.

Warm Regards,

JASON CHOY MIN SHENG

Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, Malaysia

13/5/2010