

## **Can my old hog barn be converted for fish production?**

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The short answer is yes! Barns, hog, turkey, chicken, etc., can be converted for fish production. Growing fish indoors in recirculating systems at optimal temperatures allows for year-round production that cannot be achieved in ponds. However, there are several factors that one must consider before deciding if it is economically sound to convert a barn. First, you need a good supply of high quality water. Well water is best. Typically, fish culture is not economically feasible if you plan on de-chlorinating city water. Does your barn have access to high quality water? Second, you will need electricity. Recirculating aquaculture requires a lot of electricity. Does your barn have access to electricity? Third, given that you will be trying to keep your fish at their optimal growing temperature, your barn will need to be insulated. Your insulation will need to be waterproof due to the high moisture levels associated with indoor systems. Older barns are typically expensive to insulate. Some newer barns are already well insulated.

This IP video conference was held on March 8th, 2007 and featured **Charles E. Hicks** from Lincoln University of Missouri, **Laura Tiu**, The Ohio State University, and **Shawn McWhorter**, The Ohio State University, each of their presentations are hyperlinked to their names. A **streaming video** of this workshop is available (windows Media Player required).