

## **Abstract**

Research in Tilapia began in the early 1950's with the introduction of the Mozambique Tilapia at Bamboo Grove Fish Farm, no significant production took place due to the lack of proper understanding of production systems. Later in the 1980's the Red Hybrid and Silver Hybrid Tilapia were introduced; the Red being accepted as a food fish by the local population. In 1998 production reached 26 tonnes attributed to Caroni 1975 ltd a state company and has declined soon after with its closure. Tilapia farmers and private producers have not been able to make any significant contribution to production and are very vital to the success of the industry. Increasing tilapia production would help to reduce food imports and reduce pressure on marine resources. A census into all Tilapia producers was undertaken to assess the constraints to production and also the quantity at present. It was found that lack of inputs such as mono-sex fingerlings, quality feeds for all stages of growth, production systems challenges, technical support and marketing are some of the key issues that have kept production low in Trinidad.