

**Prof. Donald V. Lightner**

OIE Reference Laboratory expert  
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Professor Lightner's career in diseases of farmed aquatic animals spans more than four decades. After completing his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Fish Pathology in 1971, he began the first shrimp pathology program in the USA at the NMFS Laboratory at Galveston, Texas.

In 1975, he accepted a research position with the University of Arizona where he applied shrimp disease management methods in a prototype super-intensive system. Since 1989, he has been a professor of Veterinary Science and Microbiology.

He has authored or coauthored more than 500 publications and presentations on pathogen detection, disease diagnosis and pathobiology in penaeid shrimp. He has trained over 20 graduate students in shrimp pathology, and over 1500 professionals from 59 countries have received formal training in UAZ shrimp pathology and diagnostic methods in 22 Shrimp Pathology Short Courses and special international workshops since 1989.

These courses have provided an important first step in standardization of shrimp diagnostic methods used globally. His laboratory became an OIE Reference Laboratory in 1993. He has served as a member or advisor to the Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission for the past 10 years and contributed to the development of the current editions of the Aquatic Animal Health Code and Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals.