



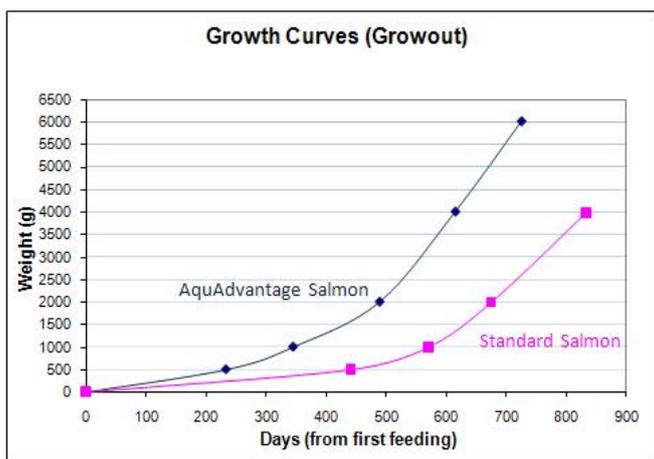
breeding for the future

Salmobreed challenges GMO Salmon

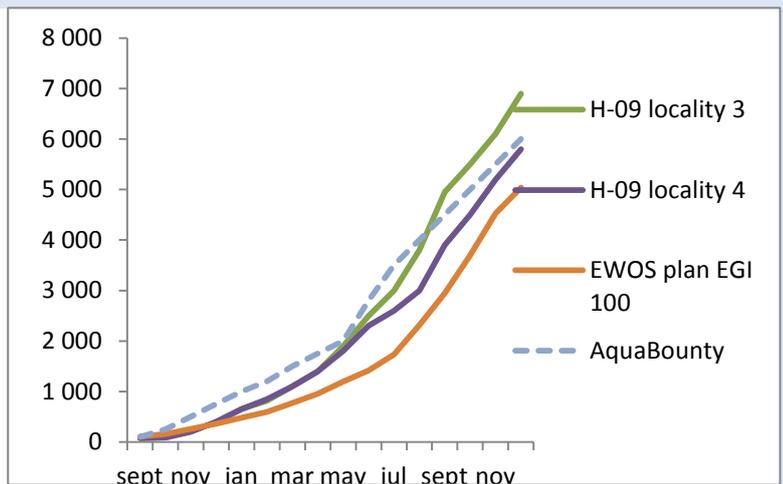
Salmobreed questions the producer of genetic modified salmon, Aqua Bounty's, claims that traditionally farmed salmon cannot compete with the GMO salmon's growth rate.

"Salmobreed, which uses a family breeding program in order to produce salmon eggs, is in addition to growth, focusing on a number of other attractive properties such as disease and parasite resistance, as well as several important production and slaughter properties", says the managing director of Salmobreed, OddGeir Oddsen.

Aqua Bounty Technologies, which is a biotechnology company most known for its "AquaAdvantage salmon" which includes a gene from the Chinook salmon. The Chinook salmon is the Pacific's biggest species of the salmon family, also named the King Salmon. According to the company, the referred gene can potentially grow to market size in half of the time of conventional salmon.



Graph 1: from www.aquabounty.com



Graph 2: Salmobreed growth curves vs. AquaBounty's

"As far as we can see, the published growth curves of AquaBounty, only give a faster growth in the freshwater phase. Fish that are farmed from Salmobreed eggs, and that are selected for faster growth, will take the lead again and more, if we look at the whole growth cycle", says Mr. Oddsen. "This fact is confirmed from our data for Salmobreed brood fish that was placed in sea in September 2009 (see graph 2)"

"We wonder what will be AquaBounty's next step to give even stronger growth to the salmon. More gene technology? Or maybe a family breeding program? For us this seems like finding the wheel reinvented", adds Mr. Oddsen.

It's obvious that there is a strong consumer resistance against gene modified food around Europe, and this will most likely also apply for both USA and the rest of the global market. At the same time, it's a strong growing market for conventional produced salmon eggs that offers consumers a healthy as well as faster growing fish. To seek genetic modification to find an advantage that really isn't there, seems to us as rather looking to find a problem", ends the Managing Director of Salmobreed.