

2. **Semi-Intensive Method:** Part of the production process is controlled, such as releasing fry from nurseries to supplement natural fry, giving supplementary food and controlling diseases and predators. The prawns commonly raised under this method are black prawns and "cha buai." Annual yields vary between 90 and 200 kilos per year.

3. **Intensive Method:** Requires skill, technology, good soil, water and electricity because all production processes are controlled. Fry direct from nurseries are fed special feed with ground fish and cray fish. Water is changed regularly, and oxygen is increased directly by swirling the water. There are strict controls on predators and diseases carried out. Farm size averages five-six rai and the rate of release is 24,000-48,000 per rai. Annual yields can reach 1,000 kilos per rai.

During the last three years, prawn farming has been transforming from the natural method to the more intensive method due to the successful development and application of technology in shrimp feedmills, processing facilities and post larvae development farms, and a decreasing number of natural fry.

In 1988, the production of black tiger prawns continued to rise to over 40,000 tons. The attractive prices, ranging from 200-300 baht per kilo, continued to lure more investors.

This dramatic increase in local production has made Thailand the world's fifth largest producer and exporter of black tiger prawns after China, Taiwan, the United States and India.

Table 21

SHRIMP CULTURE: Production
1983 - 1987

Species	Quantity: tons			
	1984	1985	1986	1987
Banana Shrimp	8,657	10,397	11,031	8,843
School Shrimp	2,653	3,635	3,672	2,703
Jumbo Tiger Prawn	171	106	897	10,544
Other Shrimp	1,527	1,702	2,286	1,476
Giant Seapers	75	72	59	25
Mulletts	387	268	260	306
Tilapias (Malayan)	1,924	1,369	846	463
Other Fish	51	11	15	44
Total	15,559	17,738	19,289	24,517

Source: Department of Fisheries