Sci-Art AquaWeek 2016
Description of Contests for High Schools

Conch Lab and Quiz: *"Mollusk architecture and identity"*
(26 July**,** Tuesday, 1–5 pm)

Conchology is the study of shells, and malacology is the study of molluscan animals. This conchology contest is open to teams (each composed of one teacher and two students) from all interested high schools. The main tasks are: (1) procure and study a collection of shells of 50 mollusk species from coastal habitats around Panay and Guimaras for morphology, similarities, and differences; and (2) learn the taxonomy of mollusks, especially family groupings and scientific names; (3) identify 50 mollusk shells by family and species during the Conchology Quiz on 26 July. Teams do the following:

Weeks before 26 July:

1. Teams buy TWO shell packs each with 50 labeled species (cost P250 each) from the FishWorld SeaStore. Each student must have a shell pack to take home and study.
2. The Teacher-Coach facilitates the study of the shells and other preparations for the contest.
3. Examine the 50 species, group them into two Classes (Gastropoda and Bivalvia), then into families within each Class. Discern the similarities of species within families and the differences among species in separate families.
4. Visit www.seafdec.org.ph and download the pdf file of the following book:
   Carpenter KE, Niem VH (eds). 1998a. FAO Species Identification Guide for Fishery Purposes. The Living Marine Resources of the Western Central Pacific, Volume 1. Seaweeds, Corals, Bivalves and Gastropods. Food and Agriculture Organization, Rome, pp 1−686.
5. Study the chapters on Bivalves (pp 123−362) and Gastropods (pp 363–648) starting with the illustrated morphology and terminology and the keys to families. Study the specimens from the shell pack against the FAO book. Learn to identify shells to families.
6. Use the scientific names in the shell pack to find the species accounts in the FAO book and learn the species' biology.
7. Fill out a draft Table of Mollusk Species (2-page MSWord table attached), listing the species by family and recording the shell height x width (measure your actual specimens!), habitat, and feeding habits (as given in the FAO book or from your own research). **All this is home work**, to be finished before contest day.
8. Each team prepares one clean final **Table of Mollusk Species**, computer-encoded according to the format of the attached table, checked for spelling, and printed as hard copy for submission upon registration on contest day.

On contest day, 26 July:

1. Bring to FishWorld the printed Table of Mollusk Species, and the individual shell packs complete with 50 species.
2. Register at 1 pm, get a team number, write it on the **Table of Mollusk Species**, and submit the Table. Get numbers for the two contestants in the Conch Quiz.
3. The Table will be scored as team output, 3 pts for every species with correct entries for shell size, habitat, and feeding habit (maximum 150 pts).
4. The **Conch Quiz** will be held in the Audio-Visual Room at 2 pm. Contestant will identify the 50 species they had studied (maximum 50 pts per contestant).
5. After the contest, teams take their shell packs home or to school.
6. Other notes for the contest:
   - Maximum team score is 150 + 50 + 50 = 250 pts. Teams must score >175 to qualify for prizes.
   - Top three teams with scores >175 get cash prizes: First (P1,500), Second (P1,200), and Third (P1,000).
   - Non-winners with scores $\geq$175 will receive P500 to subsidize the purchase of two shell packs and other expenses.
   - Contestants and coaches will receive Certificates of Participation on contest day.
   - Certificates of Merit and cash prizes will be awarded to the winners at 3 pm on Friday, 29 July.

Conch Lab: Table of Mollusk Species -- Class Gastropoda

Family	Species (scientific name)	Shell length x width (mm)	Habitat	Feeding habit

Conch Lab: Table of Mollusk Species -- Class Bivalvia

Family	Species (scientific name)	Shell height x length (mm)	Habitat	Feeding habit