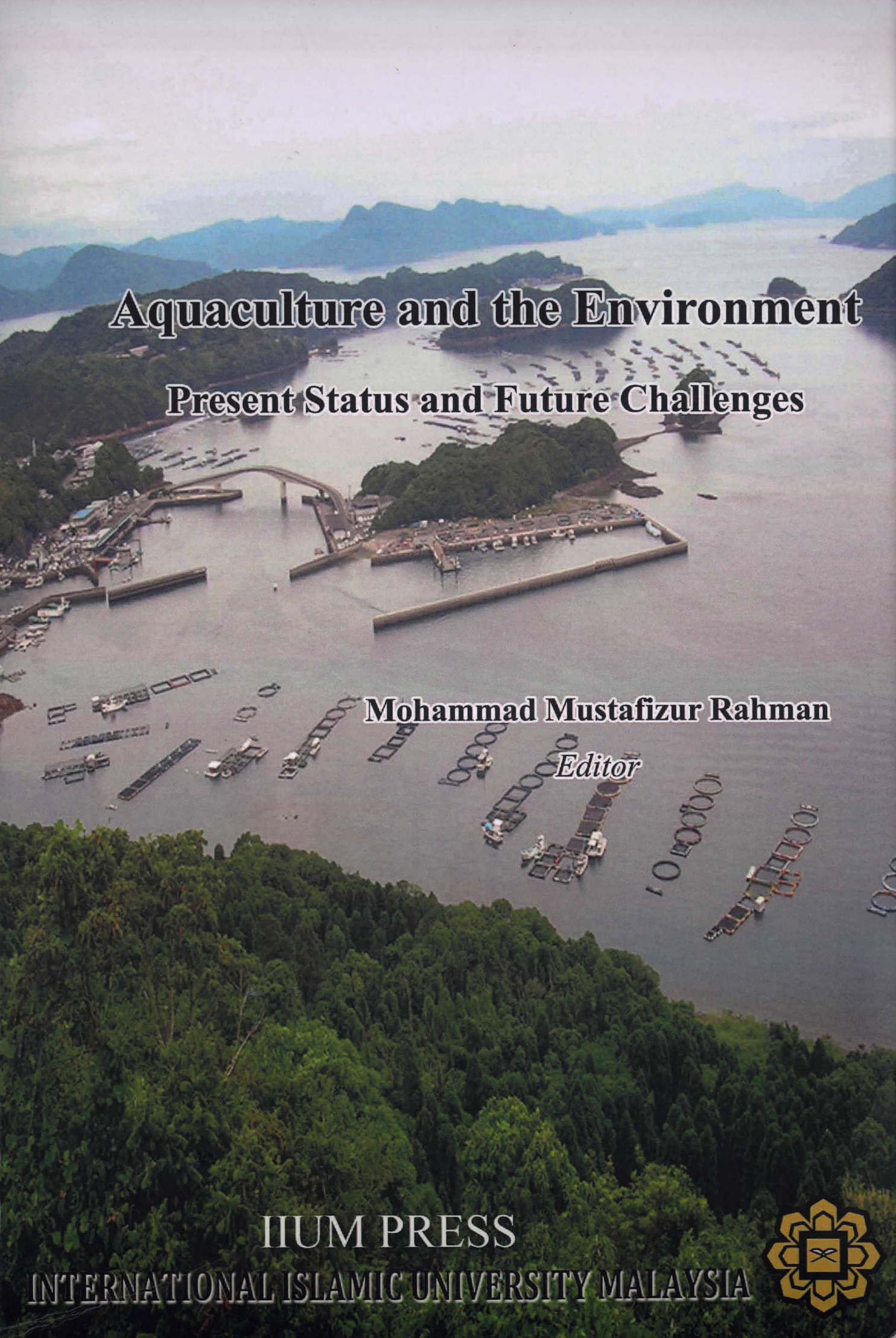

Aquaculture and the Environment

Present Status and Future Challenges

Mohammad Mustafizur Rahman

Editor

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Chapter 21

CULTURE OF *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*USING SOY BEAN MEAL IN HATCHERY REARED CONDITIONS

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INTRODUCTION

Macrobrachium rosenbergii, is one of the extensively studied fresh water prawn having received considerable attention for its utilization in aquaculture as a candidate species (New, 1995 & 2002). These giant water prawns commonly inhabits low saline water bodies in tropical and subtropical zones and are benthophagic omnivore in feeding nature (Weindenbach, 1982). Global aquaculture production of *M.rosenbergii* has increased from 24058 tons (year 1987) to 229417 tons (year 2009) (FAO, 2009). Shrimp feed is one of the most min factors to be considered to reduce shrimp production costs and their by increasing profitability in aquaculture practices The use of feeds with low levels of fish meal but high levels of less expensive sources from high quality plant protein is a possible method for achieve profitability (Oraporn et al., 2009).

At present, commercial production of shrimp feed contain expensive protein ingredient and include 25 % to 50 % fish meal (Dersjant-Li, 2002).