

CSIRO introduces new white fish variety to Australia

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A new variety of white-flesh fish could soon be appearing on Australian dinner plates, potentially contributing over \$1 billion to the economy. This follows successful breeding trials conducted by CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, as well as promising initial market testing with both chefs and consumers.

As the demand for Australian-sourced white fish continues to grow, there is a significant opportunity to diversify aquaculture by cultivating these species efficiently and sustainably at scale.

The Pompano (*Trachinotus anak*) has been identified as the ideal white-flesh fish to develop in the tropical climate of northern Australia. Establishing a new Pompano industry would help reduce Australia's reliance on approximately 100,000 tonnes of imported white-flesh fish while sustainably satisfying the increasing demand for seafood.

Lead scientist Dr Polly Hilder will speak at CSIRO's AgCatalyst2024 event, emphasising the goal of producing a highly nutritious protein source while prioritising sustainability and animal welfare.

"The Pompano is a robust, sociable fish native to northern Australia. It grows rapidly and has a great taste, making it an ideal candidate for adaptation to our aquaculture environments," Dr Hilder stated.