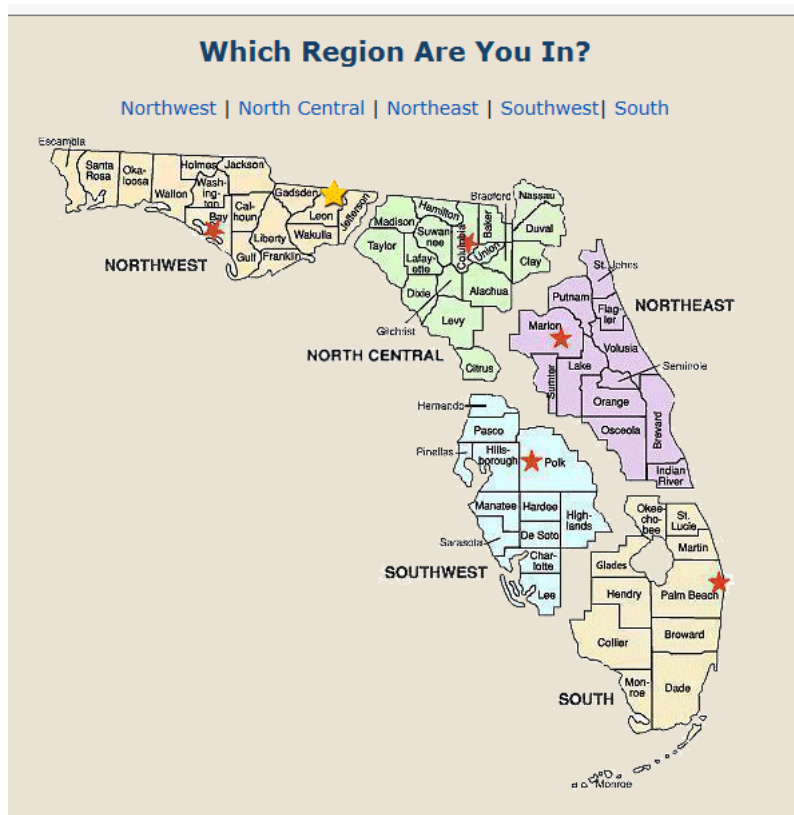


USE OF TILAPIA IN SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

1. NO tilapia may be possessed without a commercial aquaculture permit from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in the Northwest or North Central Regions of the state (except for Citrus County). A permit from FWC is also required for any tilapia grown in these areas. Therefore, if you live in one of the counties in the panhandle or North Central Region (except for Citrus County), you cannot do a science fair project involving tilapia unless you are working with someone who has both a commercial permit from FDACS and a permit from FWC for tilapia.
2. Blue tilapia may be possessed without a permit from FWC in the Northeast, South and Southwest Regions, plus Citrus County. All other species of tilapia require a commercial aquaculture permit from FDACS and a conditional species permit from FWC.
3. Wild-caught tilapia cannot be guaranteed to be blue tilapia (they are most likely hybrids) and therefore CANNOT be assumed to be blue tilapia and used in science fair projects (or home aquaculture/aquaponics systems).



4. As with any project involving non-native species, if tilapia are allowed to be used in a science fair project, they may **NOT** be released on completion of the project. All ISEF rules need to be adhered to.