Crushed ice and ice flakes in cooling fish

Ice blocks/crushed and ice flakes are two forms of ice used for cooling fish.

Ice blocks are manufactured by freezing potable water in galvanized steel cans.

Ice flakes are smooth pieces that are either flat or slightly curved and are made in a scraped surface evaporator.

While ice flakes are used at the shape they were produced, the ice blocks should be crushed before use; its cooling efficiency will be based on sizes of ice pieces.

Abdel Rahman El Gamal

Cooling efficiency of crushed ice/ice flakes

Cooling efficiency of crushed ice is influenced by their sizes which can vary from very small coarse pieces for rapid cooling up to thick pieces that suits better extended storage in warm environments.

Large pieces of crushed ice make poor contact with the fish; may melt less rapidly; and can mark and bruise the fish.

Ice flakes melts rapidly during transport which is considered disadvantages. However, their flat shape leads to a closer contact between fish and flakes and makes the transfer of heat from fish to ice more rapid. In addition, being smooth and small, no damage to the fish could occur.

Abdel Rahman El Gamal