

Aquaculture

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Virginia Coastal Zone
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



Aquaculture

Status and Trends of Aquaculture Facilities and Activities

Type of Facility/Activity	No. of Facilities	Approximate Economic Value	Change Since Last Assessment
Private Hatcheries	9	Cannot Determine	No Change
Public Hatcheries	2	Cannot Determine	No Change

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Finfish Aquaculture	2 private 2 public	Cannot Determine	No Change

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Spat-on-shell-oyster growing	~ 36	Not Available	Increase

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Oyster shellfish aquaculture	352	\$ 11.1 M 2013 farm gate estimate	Increase: no. of permits, no. sold, no. planted, farm gate value \$

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Clam shellfish aquaculture	108	\$34 M 2013 farm gate estimate	Increase: no. of permits, no. sold, no. planted, farm gate value \$

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Shellfish aquaculture overall	460	\$45.1 M 2013 farm gate estimate \$81.2 M	Increase: no. permits, farm gate value \$

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Bay Scallop cultivation	1	Not Available	

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Algae production	11 (9 private + 2 public)	Not Available	

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Oyster gardening	1136 applications received to date. 685 permits are currently valid.	This is likely an underestimate of actual # of oyster gardeners	Unknown

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Virginia Marine Resources Commission
Engineering & Surveying Department
Oyster Ground Leasing

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Applications Completed & Assigned Per Year

Calendar Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
# Applications	55	112	70	130	85	111	124	96	148	129

Applications Entered Per Year

Calendar Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
# Applications	100	211	99	83	104	155	118	150	182	301

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Management Characterization

- March 2014, the General Assembly removed the power of localities to require special use permits for AG (definitions include aquaculture).
- In October 2014, York County passed new performance standards that apply to underwater farming operations.





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Management Characterization

- Water Quality is key
 - poor water quality threatens the potential for VA hatcheries to meet the production demand.

