Alabama Shellfish Aquaculture Situation & Outlook Report: Production Year 2021

Alabama’s shellfish aquaculture industry produces oysters (Crassostrea virginica) through off-bottom farming using adjustable long-line and floating cage systems.

Highlights for 2021

- Ten commercial oyster aquaculture operations in 2021 reported harvests in the state, per the Alabama Department of Public Health.
- The farm gate value for Alabama commercial oyster farms is estimated to be at least $2,400,000 based on personal conversations with farmers regarding wholesale prices.
- The number of farmed single-market oysters sold has more than doubled since 2020, with a total of 4,711,166 harvested.
- In 2021, Alabama had at least one commercial hatchery and two commercial nurseries.
- At least 75 acres were permitted for commercial oyster aquaculture with at least 40 acres used in production.

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Year Over Year Harvests

Source: Alabama Department of Public Health