

Alabama Shellfish Aquaculture Situation & Outlook Report: Production Year 2022

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

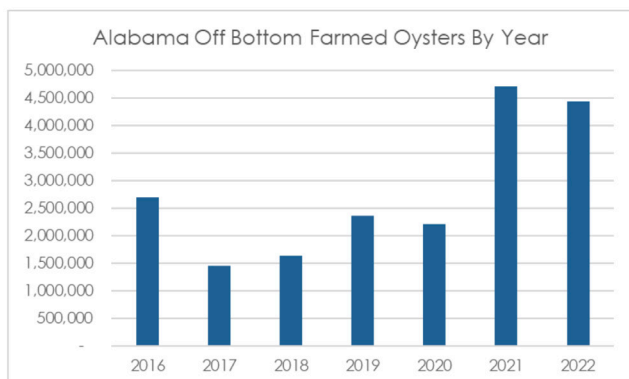
Highlights for 2022

- Ten commercial oyster aquaculture operations in 2022 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 \$3,200,000 based on personal conversations with farmers regarding wholesale prices.
- The number of farmed single-market oysters sold was similar to 2021, with a total of 4,451,015 harvested.
- In 2022, Alabama had at least one commercial hatchery and two commercial nurseries.
- At least 61 acres were permitted for commercial oyster aquaculture with at least 45 acres used in production.



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This update is based on data obtained from the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), the Alabama Marine Resources Division, the Auburn University Shellfish Lab, and the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium.



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