

Alabama Shellfish Aquaculture Update: Production Year 2023

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

Highlights for 2023

- Ten commercial oyster aquaculture operations reported harvests Alabama.
- The farm gate value for Alabama commercial oyster farms was estimated to be \$3,200,000 based on personal conversations with farmers regarding wholesale prices.
- The number of farmed single-market oysters harvested based on converting meat pounds was estimated at 5.2 million*.
- One commercial hatchery and two commercial nurseries were operational in Alabama.
- Sixty-one acres were permitted for commercial oyster aquaculture with 45 acres used in production.



*Estimate based on meat pounds reported from the Alabama Department of Marine Resources

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Alabama Off Bottom Farmed Oysters
By Year

