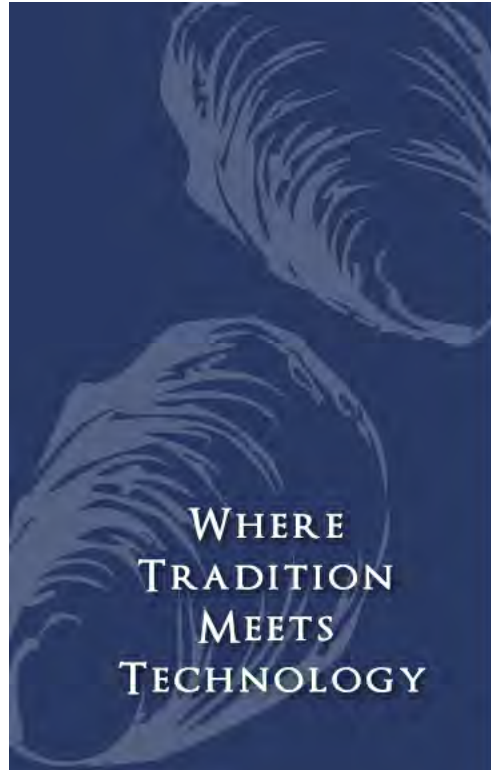


# NC Shellfish Industry: A Growers Perspective

Jay Styron

Carolina Mariculture Co.  
Cedar Island Select Oysters



# CAROLINA MARICULTURE CO.

PROVIDING CEDAR ISLAND  
SELECT OYSTERS

JAY & JENNIFER STYRON

CEDAR ISLAND, NC · 910.279.4686  
CAROLINAMARICULTURE@MAIL.COM

# Past:

- ▶ 100+ year Old Regulations
- ▶ Negative View of Shellfish Mariculture
- ▶ Cultural Objection to Intensive Shellfish Mariculture
- ▶ Wild Harvest Largest Source of Shellfish to Market

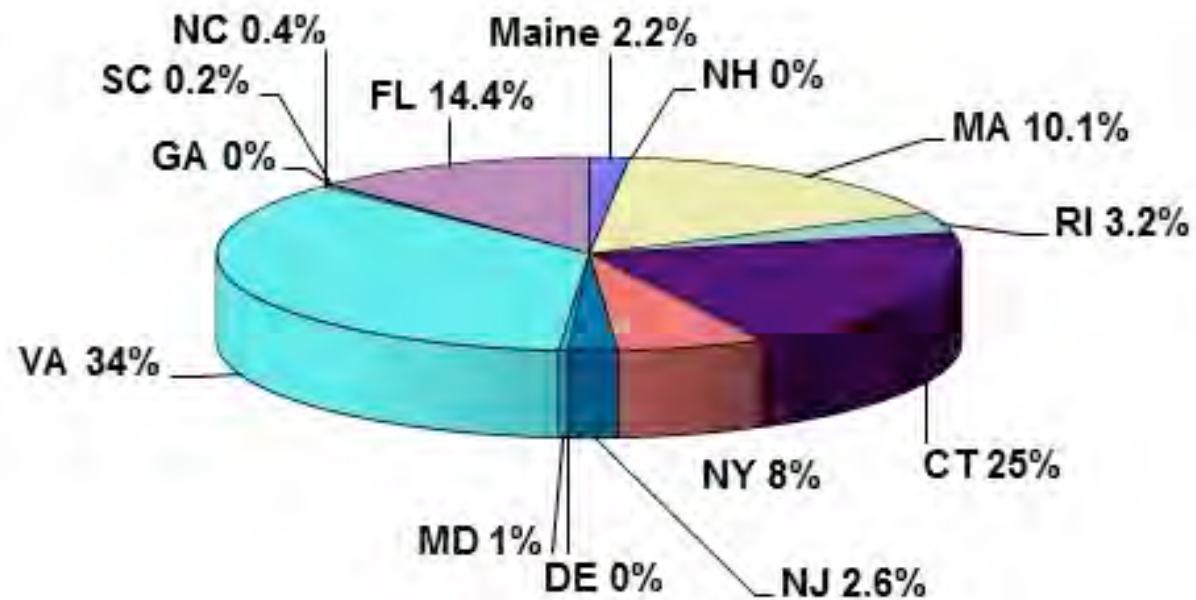
# Learning Curve



# Present:

- ▶ Shellfish Mariculture is gaining support due to:
- ▶ Job Production
- ▶ Environmental Benefits
- ▶ Economic Benefits
- ▶ Increased Market Demand for Farmed Shellfish
- ▶ Positive Changes in Legislation and Regulations

**Shellfish Aquaculture by State  
percent of total East Coast  
\$156 million farm gate**



Data provide by Bob Rheault, ECSGA

# Future

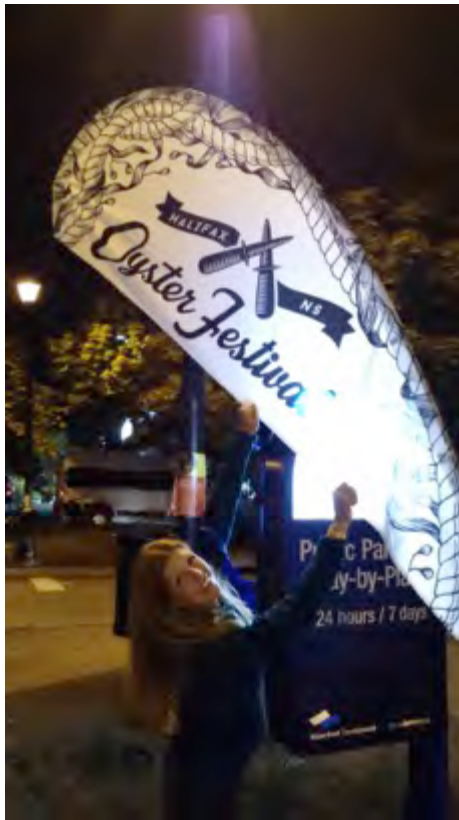
- ▶ As Market Demand Increases, Production Should Follow
- ▶ Still Needed Legislative and Regulatory Change
- ▶ Public Trust Issues Need to be Quantified
- ▶ Continued Work in developing NC Specific Lines of Oysters
- ▶ New and Novel Methods to Grow Shellfish
- ▶ Niche Shellfish
- ▶ Growers Should Work Together, Stronger Market Force

Trivia Fact: NC was the sole supplier for Campbell's Clam Chowder until the 50's





# 2nd Annual Halifax, NS Oyster Festival



# Promotion is Key



# We May Have Hurricanes...



# You Can Celebrate the Past While Embracing the Future



# Observations From the Culling Tray:

- ▶ Potential and New Growers Should Speak to as Many Existing Growers as Possible-Preferably one's in the Business over Three Years
- ▶ State Regulators Need to Continually Work with Growers to Assess Needs
- ▶ Growers Need to be in Contact with Regulators
- ▶ Growers Need to be involved in the Association that Represents them (NCSGA)
- ▶ A Shellfish Business isn't Something That can be done (WELL) at a Distance
- ▶ Know what Your Product is Worth
- ▶ New Growers Need a Realistic View of Shellfish Farming
- ▶ An Easy way to make a \$1M in Shellfish Farming is the Start with \$2M
- ▶ You really haven't Learned Anything Until You've Killed 1M Oysters

# Words of Wisdom

- ▶ “We can say that if God had intended anything to be more delicious than a fat oyster fresh from Core Sound, He would have made it--- but He saw no need of such redundancy. “ Raleigh News and Observer, January 9,2000,