Division of Aquaculture Programs



Aquaculture
Certificate of
Registration
and Best
Management
Practices



Shellfish Harvesting Area Classification



Sovereignty Submerged Land Leasing



Shellfish
Processing
Facility
Certification



Aquaculture Leases

/	As of 10/1/2024	Number	Acreage
1	All Inclusive	795	2,827.6
4	Aquaculture (Bottom only)	506	1,173.9
/	Water Column	212	435.3
I	n-perpetuity	41	839.4
	Management Agreement	23	361.5
I	Live Rock	10	15.2
	Dock	3	2.3

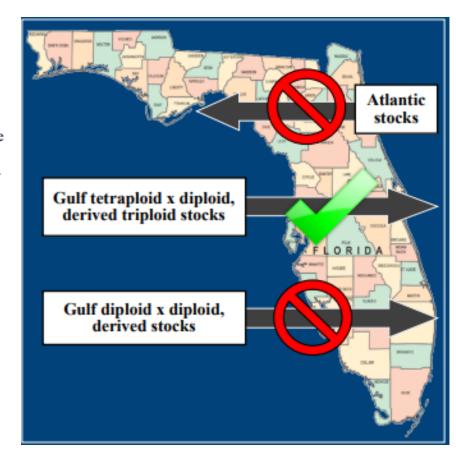
Oyster Seed Movement

Importing Aquaculture Seed or Stocks from Out-of-State

Note: These rules apply to shellfish seed or stocks intended for aquaculture purposes, not shellfish imported following processing for commercial sale.

All shellfish seed or stock intended for aquaculture imported from out-of-state must be accompanied by the following documentation:

- Diagnostic results, from an accredited laboratory, that identify the pathology test performed, test results and the dates of such testing
- A valid Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (OCVI) made on an official form from the animal's state of origin, issued and signed by a veterinarian licensed and accredited in the state of origin. An OCVI is valid for 30 days following issuance.
- 3) Documentation of broodstock origin
- 4) Ploidy verification, if applicable (i.e. triploid oyster stocks), that documents:
 - The methods utilized to create the triploids (i.e. tetraploid x diploid cross, heat shock or chemical induction)
 - The methods utilized to verify ploidy
 - Ploidy test results from a representative sample of the stock
- 5) Diagnostic results and the OCVI must show that no evidence of the following pathogens were detected:
 - Quahog Parasite Unknown (QPX) in clams
 - Haplosporidium nelsoni (MSX), Perkinsus marinus (Dermo) and Bonamia exitiosa in oysters
 - Additional pathogens as identified by the State Veterinarian, USDA APHIS Veterinary Services or the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) list may require additional testing.





Replanting/Resubmergence

- Aquacultured shellfish are only shellfish allowed to be replanted/resubmerged
- Shellfish processors must maintain a replant log of all replant activities including:
 - 1. Date of initial removal from water at lease site;
 - 2. Lease number;
 - 3. Date of replant;
 - 4 Replant lease number;
 - 5. Replant location on lease; and,
 - 6. Replant Quantity

All replanted shellfish must be segregated from other shellfish and clearly identified on the lease.

Replanted aquaculture oysters larger than 25mm that are removed during the course of routine oyster husbandry practices for more than 4 hours during April-October must be returned to the lease for a minimum of 14 days before they can be harvested and sold to a certified shellfish processing facility. Routine oyster husbandry practices include the use of suspended grow out containers that may be unsubmerged during natural tidal cycles.

