

Aquaculture September 2017 news alert (sent by email 12 October 2017)

This Seafish aquaculture industry news e-alert covers news items, legislation and reports.

Seafish publications and news

Aquaculture Common Issues Group meeting. 5 April 2017.

Thank you to all those who attended the Aquaculture Common Issues Group meeting at Friends House on Tuesday 26 September. The presentations are on the [website](#) and the minutes will follow in the next newsletter.

Seafish

Updated Seafish 'Who's Who in UK Aquaculture' guide. August 2017.

Seafish [UK Domestic Aquaculture - Reports](#) page

Seafish [Guides and information](#) page

Seafish Market Insight

Understanding the complex and ever changing seafood market is important for any seafood business. We provide market data on retail, foodservice and supply (imports, exports, landings) to help seafood businesses keep up to date with the latest market information. If you are a seafood business and wish to receive monthly updates please contact us to subscribe here. We also produce consolidated market summaries of the overall value chain, chilled, frozen and ambient seafood in multiple retail, foodservice, fish and chips, as well as summaries for key species such as cod, haddock and tuna. Go to our webpage for all our market summaries [here](#)

Consultations/reviews/funding opportunities/policy guidelines/surveys

SARF Call for Proposals – September 2017. Closing date is Friday 20 October 2017.

The Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum (SARF) is pleased to announce a call for proposals for research and development projects in the following areas:

- SARFSP011 - Closed Containment Sea Pen Production for some life stages of salmonids
- SARFSP012 - Bath Dispersion Model
- SARF113 - Marine Licensing

Further details of the required research, and the application forms, can be downloaded from the [SARF website](#)

EUMOFA Highlights: Global consumption of animal protein and the place of fish.
12 October 2017.

As reported in the most recent EUMOFA monthly highlights, fish protein consumption -- especially from aquaculture -- is growing globally, particularly in lesser-developed countries. From 1961 to 2013, global annual consumption of seafood increased 95%. Although capture fisheries depend on wild stocks, aquaculture production is done under controlled circumstances, allowing for the production volume to be increased at any time. Therefore, a shift in the production source is foreseen in the near future for seafood.

Aquaculture August news alert issued 12 October 2017.

[New feed guidance for salmon. 9 October 2017.](#)

THE Norwegian Institute of Fisheries and Seafood Research (NIFES) has produced new recommendations for the vitamin and mineral supplements in the feed for Atlantic salmon. It says this is necessary because of a shift from mainly marine ingredients to feeds where more than 70% cent comes from plants. For the past six years NIFES has been taking part in an EU project called Arraina, the goal of which is to find out how much micronutrients different species of fish need now that the composition of the feed has changed. Farmed salmon feed has changed dramatically the last 10 to 15 years. Plants contain anti-nutrients that can cause the fish to absorb less of the nutrients in the feed, and in some cases the salmon therefore need different quantities of vitamins and minerals. In a separate study, the Norwegian Food Inspectorate has submitted samples of Norwegian produced salmon for laboratory analysis and the results show that the omega-3 level in farmed salmon has decreased over the past 10 years, because large parts of today's salmon feed are plant- and not fish based.

Defra invites feedback on fisheries and/or aquaculture and EU Exit.

Defra are committed to listening to industries concerns regarding matters relating to fisheries and/or aquaculture and EU Exit. If you have any comments **E:** [FishEUexit](#)

Certification

[Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative's \(GSSI\) recognises Global Aquaculture Alliance's \(GAA\) Best Aquaculture Practices \(BAP\) Certification. 4 October 2017.](#)

The Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative has provided formal recognition of the two-star Best Aquaculture Practices Certification (BAP) for the scope of Aquaculture. GSSI's recognition shows that the two-star Best Aquaculture Practices Certification, for their Salmon Farms (Issue 2, Revision 3, October 2016), and Finfish and Crustacean Farms (Issue 2.4, 23 May 2017) standards, is in alignment with all applicable Essential Components of the GSSI Global Benchmark Tool (version 1.0, 8 October 2015). The Best Aquaculture Practices Certification is the fourth seafood certification scheme, and the first aquaculture scheme, to be benchmarked against GSSI's Global Benchmark Tool and to achieve recognition. [GSSI Benchmark Report for BAP](#)

[First blue mussel farm ASC certified. 27 September 2017.](#)

Loch Fyne Oysters has become the first mussel farm in Scotland, and the first blue mussel producer worldwide, to receive certification against the ASC bivalve standard. The farm received the certification for its responsibly farmed blue mussels after an independent assessment by certifier Acoura.

[UK retailer launches Scottish salmon farming standard, supplier group. 14 September 2017.](#)

UK retailer The Co-operative Group has launched a new Scottish salmon farming standard and supplier group, which also includes Farne Salmon and Trout, its processor of choice. The group "will enable the Co-op to build more strategic, long-term relationships with its Scottish suppliers in support of its new salmon farming standard". The Co-op only sells Scottish salmon and sales volumes are up 22% year-on-year, it said. According to the Co-op, the group will also look to invest in sector research to "help future proof the industry and also aims to work more closely with local communities" where Scottish salmon is farmed.

Aquaculture August news alert issued 12 October 2017.

[ASC Core standard development](#). 19 August 2017. Consultation open until 19 October 2017.

The ASC is seeking stakeholder feedback on the first draft of a proposed Core Standard of indicators. This document harmonises Principles, Rationale, Criteria and Indicators from the 7 current ASC species standards of Salmon, Trout, Pangasius, Tilapia, Shrimp, bivalves, abalone (the draft seriola/cobia standard is also being considered and will be included when finalised).

**[Reports/brochures/web sites/presentations](#)
[The Grower](#). October 2017.**

[Globefish: Moderate and positive production trends for farmed shrimp](#). 9 October 2017.

[European Parliamentary Research Service Briefing: Aquaculture in the EU](#). 4 October 2017.

Aquaculture means the rearing of aquatic animals and the cultivation of aquatic plants and algae. While, at global level, this industry has undergone significant growth for several decades, in the EU, aquaculture production, focused on the farming of fish and shellfish for human consumption, is rather stagnating. Subject to diverse EU policies, such as environmental protection or animal and consumer health, the development of aquaculture largely depends on measures taken by national authorities. The EU common fisheries policy requests Member States to put in place a strategic plan for sustainable aquaculture, which can be fostered with the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

[Scottish Fish Farm Production Survey 2016](#). 18 September 2017.

Marine Scotland Science has published the Scottish Fish Farm Production Survey 2016. The publication details statistics on the employment and production from Scottish fish farms. It is structured to follow industry trends within the farmed Atlantic salmon, rainbow trout and other species sectors. Some statistics are given for the 21-year period 1996-2016. The main findings are;

- In 2016, production of Atlantic salmon decreased by 8,905 tonnes (5.2%) to 162,817 tonnes.
- The total number of staff employed in marine salmon production in 2016 increased by 123 to 1,486.
- Production tonnage of rainbow trout decreased by 6% in 2016 to 8,096 tonnes. Production remained high with this being the second highest level of rainbow trout production recorded in Scotland.
- During 2016 there was an increase in the production of halibut but a decrease in brown trout/sea trout production. There was increased production of lumpsucker and wrasse which are used as biological controls for parasites.

[SSPO comment](#): The 2016 figures published by Marine Scotland reflect some of the production challenges of last year when fish were harvested earlier to protect against health problems. This was addressed by record investment in cleaner fish and new technology and the good news is that production is up in 2017 and looks set for 177,000 tonnes which will be great news for both UK and overseas demand.

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[Globefish Publication: Microplastics in fisheries and aquaculture: status of knowledge on their occurrence and implications for aquatic organisms and food safety. September 2017.](#)

This technical paper aims to contribute to the stock taking of scientific knowledge available on microplastics in fisheries and aquaculture. It provides information on the most likely pathways in terms of sources, transport and distribution in both marine food chains and seafood value chains and provides a framework to assess the risks that may (or not) affect commercial fish stocks and consumers, as well as review current practices and limitations of microplastic sampling techniques.

[Global fish industry set to scale record in 2017. 6 September 2017.](#)

The world fish trade is forecast to hit an all-time high this year, helped by the economic recovery in key European importers, as well as high prices of popular fish such as salmon, according to the UN Food and Agricultural Organization. The value of the global fish trade is expected to rise more than \$150bn this year, an increase of about 7% compared with 2016, putting 2017 on course to eclipse the previous record of \$149bn in 2014 as demand for salmon and shrimp increases. The global aquaculture market is expected to continue growing at 4 to 5% a year over the next decade, with global farmed fish production forecast to expand a third by 2026.

[Study: Mapping the global potential for marine aquaculture. 31 August 2017.](#)

Aquaculture can feed the world according to a new study by University of California, Santa Barbara marine scientists. Fish farming is now the fastest-growing food sector in the world, and is frequently cited as having the potential to address future global food security issues. In their study, the researchers estimated that 15 billion metric tons (MT) of finfish could be grown globally per year, which is 100 times more than current world seafood consumption. Both fish and bivalve aquaculture have potential for expansion in what the researchers termed “hot spots” – particularly in warm, tropical regions. Indonesia, for example, was found to have one of the highest production potentials for fish and bivalves. Developing just one percent of Indonesia’s suitable ocean area could produce more than 24 million MT of fish per year. If this was used entirely for domestic consumption, it would increase seafood consumption per capita six-fold. In total, more than 11.4 million square kilometres of the ocean were considered to be suitable for fish production and more than 1.5 million square kilometres were deemed viable for bivalves.

[General news](#)

[Aquaculture high on MASTS agenda. 12 October 2017.](#)

A study that could aid the search for the development of a vaccine against sea lice in salmon, how environmental enrichment can impact cleanerfish welfare, and plans to further the scientific assessment of Scotland’s wrasse fishery were among the highlights of the aquaculture-related content at the recent MASTS Annual Science Meeting.

[Environmental footprint project stands to benefit salmon producers and regulators. 6 October 2017.](#)

A collaborative project to improve understanding of the effects of salmon farming on the seabed in high-energy waters is underway in Orkney, with co-funding from the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre (SAIC). The three-year project, which sees Cooke Aquaculture Scotland partner with researchers from the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) and Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, Canada, will inform the environmental monitoring and management of more exposed sites along Scotland’s west coast and the Northern Isles and, potentially, unlock additional capacity.

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Currently, the benthic impacts of salmon farming – the impact of fish waste or uneaten feed on the seabed – are monitored by industry regulator, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), using the DEPOMOD model developed by SAMS, which is based largely on data gathered from sheltered, in-shore sea lochs.

[Study could unlock fresh aquaculture capacity](#). 5 October 2017.

A collaborative project to improve understanding of the effects of salmon farming on the seabed in high-energy waters is underway in Orkney. The three-year project will help inform the environmental monitoring and management of more exposed sites along Scotland's west coast and the Northern Isles and, potentially, unlock additional capacity. It is being co-funded by the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre (SAIC) and sees Cooke Aquaculture Scotland partner with researchers from the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) and Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia. The research team, led by SAMS, will field-sample and analyse data from up to three dispersive sites around Orkney over a complete production cycle. This data will then inform the development of the NewDEPOMOD model and its use in SEPA's proposed Depositional Zone Regulation (DZR).

[Mega mussel farm reveals ambitious expansion plan](#). 29 September 2017.

Offshore Shellfish Ltd plans to increase the size of its vast farm, which would contribute to take the creation of the 'United Kingdom shellfish capital' in South Devon a step forward. The firm, owned by John and Nicki Holmyard, intends its farm, located six miles offshore in Lyme Bay, Brixham, to be able to use all of the lease space of 1,540 hectares and thus, to tap into the European market – selling into main processors in Holland, who supply 100,000 tonnes a year to France and Belgium, DevonLive informed.

[AlgaPrime™ DHA Wins Global Aquaculture Innovation Award](#). 12 September 2017.

TerraVia and Bunge Oils are the recipient of the Global Aquaculture Alliance's fifth annual Global Aquaculture Innovation Award for their AlgaPrime™ DHA aquaculture feed ingredient. AlgaPrime™ DHA is rich in the long-chain omega-3 fatty acid DHA (docosahexaenoic acid). The aquafeed ingredient has been manufactured at a facility in Brazil since 2014, running off the steam generated by a sugarcane mill, as part of a joint venture with Bunge Oils. The microalgae is fermented, converting sugars into oils and other ingredients.

[Project: Risk factors for escalating saprolegniosis outbreaks in salmon farms \(RIFE-SOS\)](#). 6 September 2017.

A project to address one of the key challenges faced by Scotland's salmon farmers is underway, supported by grant funding from the Scottish Aquaculture Innovation Centre (SAIC) and UK research council BBSRC. *Saprolegnia* – a type of water mould that can harm fish eggs and juvenile fish – is thought to significantly reduce stocks at Scotland's salmon farms every year. Now, a multi-partner cross-sector collaboration is seeking to minimise those losses and boost the availability of farmed Scottish salmon by compiling a 'big data' resource that will increase understanding of *Saprolegnia* and its causative factors.

Update on the Blue New Deal initiative from the New Economics Foundation.

The Blue New Deal action plan, launched in November 2016, brought together over 600 people under a common vision, to co-develop concrete steps to create more and better jobs, and increased wellbeing, for coastal communities, whilst restoring and supporting a healthier coastal and marine environment. The key economic activities explored in the

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action plan include fisheries, aquaculture, tourism and energy. Now, NEF wants to build on this work to support the implementation of the Blue New Deal action plan. This new three-year project (2017-2020) will pivot on the establishment of the UK's first Centre for Coastal Economies. The Centre for Coastal Economies will empower coastal communities to really take control of their future – putting healthy seas at the heart of new economic plans, projects and businesses. For more information contact [Chris Williams](#) or [Fernanda Balata](#)

Events in 2017

17-20 October 2017 [Aquaculture Europe 2017](#), Dubrovnik, Croatia

23-25 October 2017 [IFFO Annual Conference](#), Washington DC, USA

26-27 October 2017 [Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers Annual Conference](#), Corran Halls, Oban, Scotland

Monthly fishmeal news alert

There is also a monthly Seafish fishmeal industry news e-alert covering news items, legislation and reports. To be added to the mailing list email E: k_green@seafish.co.uk

Seafood Ethics Common Language Group (Seafood Ethics CLG)

Seafish has set up a seafood ethics group to keep track of ethical issues affecting the seafood supply chain and to encourage dialogue and collaborative action across the UK supply chain. The main outputs will be communicated but if you would like to be added to this mailing list for news updates E: k_green@seafish.co.uk

See:

- **Seafish aquaculture web page:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture>
- **For guides and information see:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/guides-and-information>
- **For the Aquaculture Common Issues Group minutes and presentations see:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-groups/aquaculture-common-issues-group>
- **Fishmeal news:** <http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/fishmeal-and-fishoil>

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