

Aquaculture news alert (sent by email 13 July 2016)

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

ACIG meetings

The presentations and [minutes](#) from the 14 April Aquaculture Common Issues Group meeting at Friends House are on the [website](#).

DIARY DATE – The next ACIG meeting is on 14 September at Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ. We are currently planning the agenda and using the ideas from the feedback forms. If you have any agenda ideas please E: [Karen Green](#)

Seafish news

[Seafish Social License to Operate workshop](#)

A social license to operate indicates the level of approval from the community that an industry has to operate. Seafish facilitated a workshop to explain the concept, how it works and the reasons for attaining and building high quality stakeholder relationships in this way. The presentation, the workshop notes and the handouts can all be found [here](#)

[Seafood 2040 strategy for England published by Defra](#). 13 July 2016.

In October 2015, a Task Force representing the seafood industry in England was established at the request of George Eustice MP, Minister of State for Farming, Food and Marine Environment. The Task Force was asked to explore the challenges and opportunities facing the English industry and to shape a long-term ambition that could realise its full potential. Seafood 2040, a high level strategy, was submitted to Defra in January 2016. In May 2016, the Task Force was reconstituted as a Ministerially appointed Expert Working Group, to take forward an action plan to help realise the ambitions set out in Seafood 2040

Consultations/reviews/opportunities

[Independent Review of Scottish Aquaculture Consenting](#). 5 July 2016.

The report of the independent review of the planning and consenting process for Scottish aquaculture, jointly commissioned by Marine Scotland and The Crown Estate in response to concerns expressed by industry, consenting bodies and regulators has been published. The consultants appointed to undertake the review were tasked with undertaking an objective review of the whole of the aquaculture consenting process; determining the concerns of the key actors in the consenting process; identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the process, examining the scope for improvement; and providing recommendations. The report provides an overview of the current aquaculture consenting process, notes the robust nature of the current planning and consenting regime, and makes 23 recommendations for change. Some of these could be implemented relatively quickly, while others would necessarily be longer-term.

Releases of Non-Native Crabs and Lobsters.

Defra has issued a guidance note regarding the release of non-native crabs and lobsters into UK waters. Species which are not native to the UK can be harmful to local stocks of crabs and lobsters, and wholesalers and retailers are asked to warn their buyers against such releases. For more information, please click [here](#)

[New Report Outlines Ireland's Sustainable Aquaculture Development Potential.](#) **17 June 2016.**

There is great potential for Ireland to develop its aquaculture in the coming decade, with a rich and varied marine landscape, and a long coastline. However, the sector is small in scale, relative to Scotland or Norway, and has been in decline somewhat over the last decade, as it has been across Europe. The report from the [National Economic and Social Council, Sustainable Development in Irish Aquaculture](#) argues that future Irish aquaculture development can be achieved that balances economic, environmental and social goals. Three key themes came out of the research: Diverse economies for development are required; environmental risk requires building resilience; and conflict resolution, engagement and decision-making can be improved.

[Tesco Future Farmer Foundation](#)

Tesco is now recruiting its fourth intake to its Future Farmer Foundation. This means two hundred young farmers from around the UK will have attended the programme to develop their future in our amazingly diverse farming and aquaculture industry. Closing date is 29 August 2016.

[Shellfish Production Area Classification 2016-2017.](#)

EMFF State of Play. Country files - Operational Programmes 2014 - 2020 **[United Kingdom fact sheet covering aquaculture.](#)**

Certification

[New GLOBALG.A.P. Aquaculture Standard Version 5.](#) 8 July 2016.

The key elements of food safety, environment, workers' welfare (including health and occupational safety) and animal welfare are well distributed in a balanced way. The scope of the GLOBALG.A.P. Aquaculture Standard Version 5 remains as in Version 4, and covers full production chain verification of: broodstock, seedlings, feed, farming and post harvest activities up to the point of sale for final consumers. To achieve and be able to claim GLOBALG.A.P. certified status of the final product, it is mandatory that all the stages of production are verified and assessed as compliant.

Reports/brochures/web sites/presentations

[The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2016 \(SOFIA\).](#) 7 July 2016.

The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture, the Fisheries and Aquaculture Department's flagship publication issued every two years, provides a comprehensive, objective and global view of capture fisheries and aquaculture.

- Global total fisheries production (excluding aquatic plants) reached 167.2 million tonnes in 2014, with 93.4 million tonnes from capture and 73.8 million tonnes from aquaculture.
- World aquaculture production continues to grow and now provides half of all fish for human consumption. Excluding fish destined for non-food uses, a milestone was reached in 2014 when, for the first time ever, the world's population consumed more farmed fish than wild-caught fish.

- When aquatic plants are included, world aquaculture production reached 101.1 million tonnes in 2014, representing 52% of total fisheries production (195.7 million tonnes).
- The share of commercially assessed fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels was 68.6% in 2013. Thus, 31.4% of fish stocks were overfished. Of the total number of stocks assessed in 2013, fully fished stocks accounted for 58.1% and underfished stocks 10.5%.
- The share of world fish production utilized for direct human consumption has increased significantly in recent decades, up from 67% in the 1960s to 87%, or more than 146 million tonnes, in 2014.
- Growth in the global supply of fish for human consumption has outpaced population growth in the past five decades, with world per capita apparent fish consumption doubling from about 10 kg in the 1960s to 20 kg today.
- In 2013, fish accounted for about 17% of the global population's intake of animal protein and 6.7% of all protein consumed.
- Moreover, fish provided more than 3.1 billion people with almost 20% of their average per capita intake of animal protein.
- In 2014, 84% of the global population engaged in the fisheries and aquaculture sector was in Asia. An estimated 56.6 million people were engaged in the primary sector of capture fisheries and aquaculture in 2014, while of the 18 million engaged in fish farming, 94% were in Asia. Women accounted for 19% of all people directly engaged in the primary sector in 2014, but about half of the workforce when the secondary sector (e.g. processing, trading) is included.
- In 2014, fishery exports from developing countries were valued at US\$80 billion, and their fishery net-export revenues (exports minus imports) reached US\$42 billion.

[Global survey of the omega-3 fatty acids, docosahexaenoic acid and eicosapentaenoic acid in the blood stream of healthy adults.](#) July 2016.

This paper by Stark et al that reviewed 298 separate studies that reported the omega-3 levels in the blood of people from around the world. They found that consumption of omega 3 is too low to prevent health problems in much of the world.

[The Working Waterfront film takes a new look at American aquaculture.](#) 6 June 2016.

'Why aren't we growing our own fish?' is the question posed by [The Working Waterfront](#), a new film from Living Ocean Productions, which aims to educate consumers on the current status of aquaculture in the United States. The film can be viewed on [YouTube](#). "The Working Waterfront" looks at four established farms raising catfish in Alabama, salmon in Washington state, and oysters and mussels in Maine. The farmers talk about their commitment to environmental responsibility, economic benefits to their communities, and producing locally grown, high quality products for their customers. They also discuss challenges to growing a robust U.S.-based aquaculture community.

[The Grower.](#) July 2016.

General news

[Bridging the omega-3 gap with methane, microalgae.](#) 9 July 2016

Non-marine sources of long-chain fatty acids hold promise for aquaculture. Microalgae are microscopic methane-munchers, these teeny bacteria that turn methane into

carbon dioxide, water and energy. And even omega-3 fatty acids, the primary hook upon which the nutritional benefits of seafood consumption hang. Scientists in the United States and United Kingdom are working to engineer methanotrophs — micro-organisms found in soils and sediments — that can produce the omega-3s that farmed fish currently get from fish oil sourced from forage fisheries. Until now, omega-3s have only come from marine sources. AlgaPrime™ DHA, which is said to offer nearly twice the omega-3 levels found in fish oil, launched early this year and secured its first customer BioMar, a major feed producer.

[Scottish Sea Farms invests £35m in new salmon hatchery.](#) 7 July 2016.

Scottish Sea Farms is planning to expand the Marine Resource Centre (MRC) site near Oban, Argyll, to create a new freshwater hatchery business. It has purchased the MRC Barcaldine site from Lithgow's Ltd for an undisclosed sum. The £35 million facility will include a new land-based Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) for rearing young salmon, which the firm considers will be “bio-secure and environmentally friendly conditions.” Cabinet Secretary for Rural Economy and Connectivity Fergus Ewing welcomed the project, stating it demonstrates long term confidence in the future of the farmed salmon sector in Scotland and reinforces their reputation as a great place to do business.

[Will Ablation-Free Shrimp Become a Reality?](#) 7 July 2016.

The eyestalk ablation procedure is used to induce reproductive maturation in crustaceans, but at the same time shortens the molting cycle, jeopardizes growth and leads to an eventual loss in egg quality and high mortality. But in light of these problems and various concerns surrounding shrimp welfare, it may soon be possible to produce large volumes of shrimp without resorting to eyestalk ablation. A joint collaboration between Lyons Seafood, Seajoy, GAA and the University of Stirling has found that shrimp aquaculture could still be successful without the removal of eyestalks. The next step is to come up with a project to validate all the benefits of going ablation-free

[Researchers investigate omega-3 needs of farmed salmon.](#) 29 June 2016.

The food research institute Nofima and NIFES have studied all available data concerning what should be a safe low marine omega-3 content in feed for farmed salmon, and what is, at the same time, adequate to ensure that the fish is healthy. Detailed results are available in a new report, and include data to support that a lack of omega-3 results in salmon that are less robust and more prone to developing viral diseases.

[Excellent fish on time, every time.](#) 23 June 2016.

Salmon is the most popular seafood among British consumers. Scottish provenance is driving sales of Scottish salmon as producers from the west coast, Highlands and Islands help meet demand for premium, healthy food at home and abroad. Salmon is the most popular seafood among British consumers with sales of fresh salmon reaching £762.8 million over 12 months. This news comes as exports of salmon grew by 2,000 tonnes in the first quarter of the year, generating an extra £15 million of sales for Scottish farmers.

[DIVERSIFY: New Species for European Aquaculture.](#) 21 June 2016.

Increasing halibut egg batch size, the training of meagre juveniles to feeding stimuli and the development of a vaccine for Viral Neural Necrosis, are some of the latest findings and developments to come out of the five year DIVERSIFY project which aims to acquire

the necessary knowledge for the diversification of European aquaculture production based on new and emerging finfish species, writes Rocio Robles, Dissemination leader of the DIVERSIFY project. The project started in December 2013 and is coordinated by the Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR). It has a total budget of €11.8 million, making it one of the largest research projects in the area of aquaculture funded by the European Commission.

Shouldn't aquaculture be judged by its potential to feed the world? 26 May 2016.

The U.S. foodservice community at large believes that aquaculture should be judged by its potential to feed the world in an environmentally and socially responsible manner and not by the misgivings that dogged the industry in its infancy.

New events

Scottish National Heritage Sharing Good Practice Event. Marine Non Native Species - practical biosecurity responses to the threat of invasive species. 31 August 2016. Scottish Marine Institute, Dunstaffnage by Oban

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 working 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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