

Aquaculture news alert (sent by email 5 April 2016)

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

ACIG meetings

AGENDA for next ACIG meeting on Thursday 14 April 2016 at [Friends House](#), 173-177 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ.

- **Aquaculture - The Bigger Picture. Aquatic food security: insights into challenges and solutions.** Grant Stentiford, Cefas.
- **Seafish-led projects and initiatives** with reports on the Several and Regulated (and Hybrid) Orders project; the Aquaculture Economic report for England, NI and Wales project; progress of the England Aquaculture Consultation Group and aquaculture profiles in the Seafish Risk Assessment for Sourcing Seafood (RASS); aquaculture under the Seafish Strategic Investment Fund and the Cefas regulatory toolbox.
- **Reports from the devolved administrations**
- **Research, projects, initiatives and issues** including the impact of salmon farming on wild fish – sea lice. Martin Jaffa, Callander McDowell; a new shellfish network, Andrew Rowley, Swansea University; the Blue New Deal, Chris Williams, New Economics Foundation.
- **Funding opportunities** including Aquaculture under EMFF; SAIC and SARF updates; and a BBSRC-NERC update.

E: [Karen Green](#).

Consultations/reviews/funding opportunities

UK Aquaculture Initiative: Innovation Projects call. Closing date: 26 April 2016.

Approximately £1.2M of funding is available for this call for projects that meet the needs of the UK aquaculture industry and create sustainable, tangible economic or societal benefits. For more information about the application process, scope and eligibility [see](#)

Environment Agency Consultation: Developing Spill Frequency Trigger Permits for Water and Sewerage Company Storm Overflows. 24 March 2016. Closing date: 3 May 2016.

The Environment Agency is seeking your comments on our proposal to develop a process to secure (through permit conditions) the performance of previously improved storm overflows discharging to coastal protected areas.

Covering letter

Consultation

Consultation reply template

Certification

[Brakes offers ASC certified prawns to its 50,000 customers.](#) 4 April 2016.

Brakes Group has become the first foodservice supplier to introduce Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) certified prawns in the UK. Launched at the end of March, Brakes' new ASC certified warm water prawns (F114100 M&J Seafood ASC King Prawns, 1kg nett (31-40/lb)) are a natural compliment to its already industry leading range of sustainably and responsibly sourced fish and seafood.

[GAA, IDH Further Collaborative Relationship.](#) 7 March 2016.

The Global Aquaculture Alliance and IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative announce at the Seafood Expo North America that they are furthering their collaborative relationship. GAA is to build an iBAP "pillar" within the IDH operated FIT Fund, which is designed to catalyze change and co-fund aquaculture improvement worldwide. GAA intends to act as an "implementing partner," being responsible for technical supervision, monitoring and reporting and execution of the iBAP projects qualifying for the Fund.

Reports/brochures/web sites/presentations/events

[The Grower.](#) April 2016

[Globefish report. March 2016.](#) 2015 closes with markets flooded with low-value tilapia.

During the first nine months of 2015, national sources report that nearly 170 000 tonnes of frozen tilapia fillets were imported into major markets. Import prices declined in most markets during the period under review. Imports of lower priced whole frozen tilapia appear to be more popular in the USA.

[Globefish report. March 2016.](#) Positive growth trends for oysters during the first 9 months of 2015.

During the first nine months of 2015 compared with the same period in 2014, imports of oysters recorded by the world's seven largest importers (excluding Japan) increased by 8% (+1 900 tonnes).

Recent research: Irish oyster industry

The Irish Shellfish Association (ISA) commissioned a study on the Irish oyster industry. The main conclusions stressed that in 2014, the industry generated 564 full-time equivalent jobs, demonstrating 20% growth compared with the number of jobs the sector employed in 2010. The vast majority (88%) of the production is exported to France, while growing Asian markets provide the main growth opportunity. The industry contributed EUR 58 million to Ireland's economy with an estimated 9,500 tonnes produced in 2014.

North Atlantic Seafood Forum. Presentation by Árni M. Mathiesen Assistant Director-General, FAO. March 2016.

[Global Policy and Trade Session: Outlook for world seafood trade 2030 prospects and challenges](#)

[Global salmon sector facing first supply contraction in six years, analyst says.](#) March 2016.

The global salmon industry is currently experiencing one of the lowest supply periods it has seen for the last few years with Norway facing lice and licensing challenges and Chile in financial difficulties once again. Despite Norway seeing a huge volume increase at the start of 2015 due to the Russian embargo and ideal growing conditions, the opposite will be true in 2016 with volume growth "strongly negative" due to early

harvesting in late 2015, said Gorjan Nikolik, senior analyst at Rabobank at this year's Marel Salmon Show in Copenhagen.

[SARF Report 106. A Risk Benefit Analysis of Mariculture as a means to Reduce the Impacts of Terrestrial Production of Food and Energy.](#)

The Scottish Aquaculture Research Forum (SARF) and WWF-UK commissioned this study to investigate whether the pressure on land and freshwater for future food and energy resources, and impacts on the climate, related to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, may be reduced through expansion of global mariculture.

[Farm-Raised Seafoods Fed Plant-Based Diet Have Lower Levels of Omega-3 Fatty Acids.](#) 14 March 2016.

Researchers found that farm-raised fish that are fed a plant-based diet have different fat content from other types of seafood, which could affect human nutrition. A change in how farmers are raising seafood is expected to affect human nutrition, a [new study](#) found. According to the research team from the Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future (CLF) at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment and McGill University, there has been a global shift in the type of feed that is being used in fish farming. The team explained that prior to this shift, farm-raised seafood ate feed made from fish meal and fish oil, which came from wild fish. However, since catching wild fish to use as feed was no longer sustainable, farmers have been relying on plant-based options, such as soybean meal. The researchers noted in 2008, aquaculture feed contained 50% more soybean meal than fish meal. They estimated that from 2008 to 2020, the use of plant-based ingredients could increase by 124%. This change in ingredients appears to be altering the fat content in the fish, which can then affect the amount of nutrition that people are getting from eating these sources. The researchers reported that vegetable oil-fed fish had "lower relative fractions of omega-3s" and higher relative fractions of monounsaturated fatty acids (MUFA), omega-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) and overall PUFA, which include omega-3 and omega-6, in comparison to the fish oil-fed fish.

[Editorial](#)

[Aquaculture Exchange: Melanie Siggs.](#) 4 April 2016.

Always seeking to understand the role of business and politics in stewarding the environment, Melanie Siggs has high hopes for the seafood industry. The independent advisor discusses what makes aquaculture investible, the importance of strategic, global thinking and the role of NGOs

[Aquaculture industry should have 'moonshot' goals.](#) 10 March 2016.

As technical director for Seafish, Tom Pickerell puts his diverse experience — including stints with government, industry and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) — to work on a daily basis. Seafish, the U.K. seafood industry authority, aims to secure a sustainable and profitable future for its stakeholders through expert guidance and support. Pickerell said aquaculture development is one of the organization's priorities. With crowded coastlines in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, prime fish-rearing areas are a finite resource. The region's salmon, trout and shellfish growers, however, still see major production growth — even doubling production within five years — as realistic short-term goals. With the guidance and support of Pickerell, a former Monterey Bay Aquarium senior science manager in charge ensuring the integrity of

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Seafood Watch recommendations, the industry is well informed as it works toward its aspirations.

General news

Norway targets offshore fish farm innovation. 5 April 2016.

The Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Fisheries has approved Norway's first development concession enabling Ocean Farming AS, supported by Kongsberg Maritime AS, to build the world's first automated, exposed aquaculture facility. Situated outside of Trondheim, facility has been designed to overcome the challenges of more traditional inshore fish farming facilities by being located in deeper waters, further from the coast. The submerged, anchored fixed structure will float steady in the exposed ocean and is suitable for water depths of 100 to 300 meters (300 to 1,000 feet,) where the aqua biological conditions are more ideal for aquaculture on the fish's terms.

Marine Harvest settles on Isle of Skye, Scotland for new feed plant. 31 March 2016.

Marine Harvest, the world's largest fish-farmer, has identified a quarry on the Isle of Skye in Scotland, to build its new GBP 80 million (USD 115 million) fish feed plant.

Stirling uni kicks off €7m aquaculture study. 10 March 2016.

A team of European aquaculture experts is to commence a four-year study, worth almost €7 million, to establish new strategies and models for sustainable growth in the industry. Led by the University of Sterling, the Tools for Assessment and Planning of Aquaculture Sustainability (TAPAS) project aims to create cost-efficient management tools and practices for the European aquaculture sector to investigate the scope of fish and shellfish farming activity in a location, social interactions, potential environmental impacts and any future risks.

Dutch shellfish farmers bringing the sea onto land. 8 March 2016.

Bivalve shellfish culture is widely considered a low-impact form of protein production, and in many cases is a net-positive for water quality. So why move it indoors? Smit & Smit in the Netherlands has a good argument for doing so.

Events

Shellfish Association of Great Britain 47th Annual Conference, Dinner and AGM.

Fishmongers' Hall, London. Tuesday 24 May and Wednesday 25 May 2016.

Programme [see](#)

Delegate booking form [see](#)

A good array of speakers has been lined up and in addition to the usual exhibition the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) will be promoting the European Maritime and Fisheries Funds (EMFF). The MMO staff will be available to offer general advice and, in addition, are running 'one to one surgeries' offering specific advice on specific possible applications – all aimed at helping industry access the funding.

AquaVision 2016 programme launched. 13 – 15 June 2016.

The theme for AquaVision 2016 is 'Meeting tomorrow today' and the two day programme will discuss on the main topics. Speakers include Professor Louise O. Fresco, Wageningen University who will discuss the aquaculture industry's role in the world's food supply; Professor Ragnar Tveteraas, University of Stavanger, will look at the cost development within the industry, as well as global lessons and future prospects; and Andrew Mallison, IFFO, will provide insight into the development of the fish oil and fish protein market in the years to come.

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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