



# HURRICANE PREPARATION AND RECOVERY PROGRAM

Leslie Sturmer and Erik Lovstrand, Florida Sea Grant Extension



# Marker Tags for Oyster Gear

- Commercially available, durable markers to tag and identify gear
- Available to oyster growers with 2018-19 aquaculture certifications in Bay, Gulf, Franklin and Wakulla Counties
- If there are multiple leaseholders on one lease, only one order form can be submitted
- Growers may choose from following tag options

*This program was made available with Florida Sea Grant funding.*



# NELCO Flag Markers

22 Riverside Drive, Pembroke, MA 02359

Phone: 800-346-3526 Website: [www.nelcoproducts.com](http://www.nelcoproducts.com)

- Consist of flags available in two sizes: 5/8" by 1-1/8" and 1-1/8 by 1-7/8"
- Space for hot stamping choice of name, phone number and AQ certificate identification in black lettering
- Small flag fits 3 lines of 13 characters each, mid-size flag fits up to 23 characters for each line
- Attached to a nylon cable tie (6" in length), weather resistant, ultraviolet protected, and rated for 120 lb tensile strength with a double locking feature.
- Color choices are orange or yellow, no setup costs



# AQUA BAG Tags

*Pelican Oyster Company, 2779 Red Maple Rd, Tallahassee, FL 32301  
Phone: 843-291-9322, Email: holler@pelicanoyster.com*

- Plastic tags are waterproof and UV protected
- Approximately 1" by 2" in size with two mounting holes, tag attached to gear with hog rings or zip ties
- Comes in white or orange colors with black ink with 80 customized tags per sheet
- Maximum number of 5 lines allow for customized printing with up to 25 characters including spaces per line. Use the third line where mounting holes are located for aquaculture certification number (AQ#)



# TOP-ME Flat Tags

74 Orion Street, Brunswick, Maine 04011, Phone: 207-449-1180,  
Email: [info@topmetags.com](mailto:info@topmetags.com)

- Flat tag (1.0" by 3.75") has raised molded lettering with choice of name, phone number, or AQ certificate identification (approximately 30 characters maximum)
- Theft warning text is molded on each tag and cannot be changed
- Orange color, typically lasts over 10 years
- Aluminum template is kept on file for 10 years.
- Tags can be attached to gear by cable ties or hog nose rings (not included)



# Marker Tags for Oyster Gear Program

- Number of tags received will depend on the number of growers who participate and tag style selected
- All certified growers will be provided with at least 500 customized tags
- Samples made available at workshops on July 31 & August 15
- Once a tag style is selected, order form must be completed and submitted by September 15, 2019
- Tags shipped direct to grower within two months from the order date by supplier

**MARKER TAG ORDER FORM**

*Please print information legibly.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing/Shipping Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Please select only one marker tag.*

TOP-ME Flat Tags

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Custom Identification – one line, maximum of 30 characters including spaces

NELCO Flag Markers

Select flag size:  Small (5/8" by 1-1/8")  Mid-size (1-1/8" by 1-7/8")

Select color:  Orange  Yellow

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
Custom Identification – three lines, maximum of 13 characters including spaces per line for small flag and up to 23 characters including spaces per line for mid-size flag

AQUA BAG Tags    Select color:  Orange  White

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
4) \_\_\_\_\_

3) AQ Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
4) \_\_\_\_\_  
5) \_\_\_\_\_


Custom Identification – up to five lines, maximum of 25 characters including spaces per line, use line 3 for aquaculture certification number

Return form by mail to Leslie Sturmer, University of Florida/IFAS, P.O. Box 89, Cedar Key, FL 32625, by Fax to Leslie at 352-543-6958, or by emailing the form or information to [lstst@ufl.edu](mailto:lstst@ufl.edu).  
Order form must be returned by **September 15, 2019**.

# Other Program Assistance

- Replaced missing AUZ marker poles, large signs, and navigational beacons
  - Funding from Cedar Key Aquaculture Association and UF/IFAS Shellfish Extension program
- Workshop on Financial Assistance Programs to be held August 15
- Assistance in gear cleanup efforts along Wakulla County coastline

**Understanding Financial Assistance Programs for Shellfish Growers:**  
USDA Farm Service Agency  
SBA Small Business Development Center







**Thursday,  
August 15, 2019  
3:00 - 5:00 PM**  
**FSU Coastal and Marine Lab  
3618 Coastal Highway 98  
St. Teresa, Florida**

This workshop is being hosted by the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Division of Aquaculture and University of Florida/IFAS Extension

For more information, contact:  
Leslie Sturmer  
Phone: (352) 543-5057  
Email: [Lnst@ufl.edu](mailto:Lnst@ufl.edu)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) is responsible for the delivery of federal farm programs to help producers manage risks and recover from disasters. The Noninsured Disaster Assistance Program, or NAP, provides financial assistance to growers of non-insurable crops to protect them against natural disasters that result in crop losses. Learn about coverage levels for the 2020 crop year, application deadlines, and new oyster culture policy provisions. Heather Boyd, Agricultural Program Specialist at the FSA state office, and Melissa Rodgers, Director of the Wakulla County FSA office, will be available to answer questions and introduce several other FSA programs.

The Florida Small Business Development Center (SBDC) helps businesses grow and succeed by providing one-on-one consulting at no charge in areas of startup, business planning, market research, financial management, access to capital and other business related topics. Mark Yarik is a certified Economic Development Finance Professional with the SBDC. He will present information about financial management and access to capital and how these relate to business startup and expansion.

# Breakout Session



- Develop storm plans, management practices for securing gear types, and recovery plans based on lessons learned from Hurricane Michael

- 1) What preparations did growers do (or didn't do) prior to Hurricane Michael?
  - 2) Problems encountered, amount of time spent, time and labor involved?
  - 3) Outcomes – gear lost or damaged, oyster mortalities?
  - 4) What would you do differently in the future?
  - 5) Steps taken since the hurricane for recovery?
- Groups address each question 6-8 minutes
  - Summarize group comments 8-10 minutes per group



