Trying to Explain Cultured Oyster Mortalities in the Gulf of Mexico

Wednesday, May 27 – 3 pm (EDT) / 2 pm (CDT)

A discussion on what we know about oyster mortalities along the Gulf Coast, effect of ploidy, current efforts to address mortality issues, what growers are observing and priorities for future work

Sea Grant Mississippi-Alabama

Sea Grant Florida

Sea Grant LOUISIANA

AGENDA

Welcome & Introductions: *Leslie Sturmer, University of Florida and Bill Walton, Auburn University* **(5 min)**

What do we know about oyster mortalities? (40 min)

Florida studies comparing diploid and triploid oysters – *Leslie Sturmer*

Alabama studies comparing diploid and triploid oysters, and studying effect of handling – *Bill Walton*

Current studies in Louisiana and Alabama testing effect of broodstock in different environments – *Jerome LaPeyre, Louisiana State University*

Research findings in Chesapeake Bay – *Joey Matt, Virginia Institute of Marine Science*

Considerations beyond triploid mortality – *Ryan Carnegie, Virginia Institute of Marine Science*

Q&A: Opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns, note observations **(15 min)**

Bill Walton

Leslie Sturmer

Jerome LaPeyre

Joey Matt

Ryan Carnegie

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Current efforts to address mortality issues (40 min)

Development of new tetraploids – *Tom Rossi, 4Cs Breeding Technologies*

Development of Florida tetraploids and cryopreservation – *Huiping Yang, University of Florida*

Work at Auburn University Shellfish Lab – *Scott Rikard, Auburn University*

SALT consortium breeding efforts – *Kelly Lucas, University of Southern Mississippi*

Current work in Louisiana – Brian Callam, *Louisiana State University*

VIMS Breeding program efforts – *Stan Allen, Virginia Institute of Marine Science*

Collaborative efforts with commercial farms – *Leslie Sturmer and Bill Walton*

Q&A: Opportunity to ask questions, raise concerns, note observations **(15 min)**

Tom Rossi

Huiping Yang

Scott Rikard

Kelly Lucas

Brian Callam

Stan Allen