

Marker Tags for Off-bottom Oyster Culture Gear

Oyster growers in Florida are required by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Aquaculture that their identification information be attached to all floating and off-bottom culture gear. In the event that the culture gear becomes unanchored and lost, gear tags allow the leaseholder's property to be identified and improve the likelihood of being returned to the owner. This can be especially important during severe weather events.

Following are several vendors of commercially available, durable markers to tag and identify oyster culture gear. There are many other types and designs of tags that can be used by growers.

TOP-ME Flat Tags

74 Orion Street, Brunswick, Maine 04011, Phone: 207-449-1180,
Email: info@topmetags.com



These flat tags (approximately 1.0" by 3.75") have raised molded lettering with your 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, environmentally neutral dye, typically lasts over 10 years. Aluminum template is kept on file for 10 years. The tags can be attached to culture gear by cable ties or hog nose rings (not included).

NELCO Flag Markers

22 Riverside Drive, Pembroke, MA
02359, Phone: 800-346-3526,
Website: www.nelcoproducts.com



These markers consist of flags available in two sizes: 5/8" by 1-1/8" and 1-1/8 by 1-7/8", which allow ample space for hot stamping your choice of name, phone number and AQ certificate identification in black lettering. The small flag can accommodate 3 lines of 13 characters each, while the mid-size flag can accommodate up to 23 characters for each line. The flags are attached to a nylon cable tie (6" in length), which is weather resistant, enduring additional ultraviolet light. The marker is used in continuous or extended exposure for outdoor use. These cable ties are rated for 120 lb tensile strength and have 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



These plastic tags are waterproof and UV protected, approximately 1" by 2" in size with two mounting holes. The tag is attached to the culture gear with either hog rings or zip ties. The tag comes in white or orange colors with black ink. There is a maximum number of 5 lines allowed 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#).

If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Sturmer (Phone: 352-543-5057, Email: Lnst@ufl.edu) or Natalie Simon (Phone: 352-543-1088, Email: Nsimon921@ufl.edu). This list is provided as a service of the UF/IFAS Shellfish Aquaculture Extension Program. We do not sponsor or endorse any of these suppliers over any others.

