



Oyster spat collection update Shediac Bay

Last updated: August 22, 2023

Oyster spawn was observed for the first time this season on June 29, 2023

Oyster sampling for gonad observation began on June 15, 2023.

The average gonadal development percentage is currently - %.

The average water temperature at the time samples were taken was **20.2°C**.

**Presence of biofouling: mussels and barnacles larvae

Monitoring of oyster larvae in plankton

Sampling date	Size of the majority of the larvae observed (in microns)	Size range of larvae (in microns)	Presence of eyed larvae
August 22, 2023	-	-	-
July 25, 2023	156.0	72.8-312	Yes
July 17, 2023	145.6	104-312	Yes
July 14, 2023	104	72.8-260	No
July 10, 2023	72.8	72.8-238.4	No
July 7, 2023	72.8	72.8-145.6	No
July 4, 2023	72.8	72.8-114.4	No
June 29, 2023	72.8	72.8-83.2	No
June 26, 2023	-	-	-

Notice: When oyster larvae measure more than **300 microns** and have a distinctive black dot (“eyed” larvae), the collectors must be set in the water. Producers must therefore be prepared for this stage, which can occur two to three weeks after the oysters’ spawn.

Gonad observation

Sampling date	Gonadal development percentage
July 14, 2023	-
July 10, 2023	22.0
July 7, 2023	51.0
July 4, 2023	62.0
June 29, 2023	51.0
June 26, 2023	61.0
June 15, 2023	43.0

Monitoring of water temperature and salinity

Sampling date	Temperature (°C)	Salinity (ppt)
August 22, 2023	20.2	26.5
July 25, 2023	-	-
July 17, 2023	24.6	-
July 14, 2023	22.0	27.4
July 10, 2023	24.8	23.7
July 7, 2023	21.8	22.4
July 4, 2023	21.9	21.4
June 29, 2023	21.2	23.2
June 26, 2023	18.1	26.5
June 15, 2023	17.6	24.5

Monitoring of other larvae in plankton (biofouling)

Sampling date	Presence of mussels		Presence of barnacles	
	Pre-setting stage	Setting stage	Pre-setting stage	Setting stage
August 22, 2023	Yes	yes	Yes	Yes
July 25, 2023	Yes	Yes	No	No
July 17, 2023	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
July 14, 2023	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
July 10, 2023	Yes	Yes	No	No
July 7, 2023	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
July 4, 2023	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
June 29, 2023	Yes	No	Yes	No
June 26, 2023	Yes	No	Yes	No
June 15, 2023	No	No	No	No

Pre-setting stage: larvae are not ready to set yet.

Setting stage: larvae are ready to set.

Information

For more information on oyster spat collection in Shediac Bay, contact either of the following personnel of the Department's regional team:

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