



## AQUACULTURE FACT SHEET

Sea Grant is a unique partnership between the nation's universities and its primary ocean agency, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Connecticut Sea Grant, based at the University of Connecticut, collaborates with maritime industries and coastal communities to identify needs, and fund research, outreach, and educational activities that have special relevance to Connecticut and Long Island Sound. Its mission is to foster the wise use and conservation of our nation's coastal and marine resources.

Contact by telephone:

Connecticut Sea Grant  
Extension: (860) 405-9127

# Guidelines for Utilizing Aquatic Organisms for Scientific/Educational Purposes in Connecticut

*David Carey<sup>1</sup>, Shannon Kelly<sup>1</sup>, Tessa Getchis<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>1</sup>*Connecticut Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Aquaculture*

<sup>2</sup>*Connecticut Sea Grant, University of Connecticut*

This document outlines the State of Connecticut's requirements for scientists, students and educators working with molluscan shellfish, finfish, crustaceans, and other marine animals.

### **TRANSPORT / IMPORTATION OF SHELLFISH**

A license is required any time that shellfish broodstock, larvae or seed are transported within, or imported into, the State of Connecticut. The applicant must submit an application for a Scientific/Resource Assessment license, which can be accessed at <http://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/pdf/science.pdf> or by calling the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Aquaculture (DA/BA) at (203) 874-0696. There is currently no application fee or charge for the license.

In addition, the importation of larvae, seed, broodstock or adult shellfish from a hatchery/supplier outside of Connecticut requires approval by the state shellfish pathologist. Health certificates provided by other pathology laboratories may be acceptable, but not without approval of Connecticut's State Shellfish Pathologist. Please contact Dr. Inke Sunila at DA/BA (203) 874-0696, [isunila@snet.net](mailto:isunila@snet.net), prior to importation activity to prevent shellfish diseases from entering into the State. Pathology testing may be done free of charge.

### **TRANSPORT / IMPORTATION OF FINFISH**

To import and/or liberate live fish or fish eggs into the State, an application for a Permit to Import and/or Liberate Live Fish or Live Fish Eggs from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) may be required. Please refer to the DEP regulations and application, which can be accessed at [http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/fishing/fishing\\_forms/implib.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/fishing/fishing_forms/implib.pdf). If a closed loop system is used and effluent is properly treated prior to discharge, no license may be required for the importation and use of some species.

### **COLLECTION OF SHELLFISH FOR SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION**

For the periodic collection of specimens from waters within the State of Connecticut, more than one type of license may be required. The type of license issued will be determined based on the proposed project. Please contact the DA/BA to obtain the correct license application at (203) 874-0696.

*continued on reverse*

### **HANDLING SHELLFISH AFTER LABORATORY USE**

Shellfish that are transported/imported or collected for laboratory studies must be destroyed once the experiment is completed. The State does not allow release to the natural environment. The maintenance and possible quarantine of imported species and treatment of tank water and disposal of animals once the experiment is completed must be explained in detail in the application for a Scientific/Resource Assessment license, which can be accessed at <http://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/pdf/science.pdf>. Questions regarding handling options for shellfish should be directed to the DA/BA at (203) 874-0696.

### **COLLECTION OF FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND OTHER AQUATIC ORGANISMS**

To collect fish, crustaceans, and/or other aquatic organisms (other than molluscan shellfish), the applicant must complete an application for a Scientific Collector Permit from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. An application can be obtained at [http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/fishing/fishing\\_forms/scicoll.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/fishing/fishing_forms/scicoll.pdf).

### **USING AQUACULTURE STRUCTURES IN COASTAL WATERS**

There is currently no experimental or research permit for aquaculture structures. All aquaculture structures, whether for research or educational purposes, must be permitted through the Application for a Joint Programmatic General Permit for Aquaculture. For instructions and an application, download the Guide to Permitting Marine Aquaculture in Connecticut at <http://www.seagrant.uconn.edu/permitguide.pdf> or by calling the DA/BA at (203) 874-0696.

