Meanwhile, Down on the Kelp Farm

In the previous issue of Wrack Lines, we ran a story on Sea Grant research that resulted in the establishment of a seaweed farm in Long Island Sound. We described the planting of the winter crop, kelp, in December. Now we’d like to show you the harvest in May! Charles Yarish, a professor at the University of Connecticut’s Stamford campus, holds here a portion of the kelp crop hauled up, which he estimated at more than 600 pounds. To grow the kelp, juvenile “seed” is deployed underwater on long lines at depths of 1 and 2 meters. This first crop of kelp will be chemically analyzed to determine its content and quality for use as food.