

**PHYTOPLANKTON CLEARANCE RATE BY THE OYSTER  
*CRASSOSTREA IREDALE***

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**ABSTRACT**

Clearance rate was investigated with respect to time of the day and salinities of 20, 25, 30 and 35 ppt. Three times a day, oysters were exposed to a dense diatom culture of *Sketonema coslatum* for 8 hours. No significant difference was obtained with regard to clearance rate and the time of the day. Significant difference in clearance rate was only obtained at 20 ppt salinity, compared to 25, 30, and 35 ppt salinities.