

GROWTH OF OYSTER SPAT (*CRASSOSTREA BELCHER*) CULTURED IN TYRE TRAY AS A FUNCTION OF STOCKING DENSITY

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ABSTRACT

Stocking density was 1 spat per 6 L-l, and 19 cm<sup>2</sup> with 3 replicates. Average initial spat size was 3 cm. Growth and survival were checked once a month. Oyster spat were cleaned and water quality determined every two weeks. The growth of oyster spat in terms of length and width was not different ( $P>0.05$ ) for all stocking densities. But, the survival rates were significantly different ( $P<0.05$ ) between stocking densities of 1 spat per 6 cm<sup>2</sup> and 1 spat per 19 cm<sup>2</sup>. A stocking density of 1 per 6 cm<sup>2</sup> had the highest initial cost but gave the highest return per crop.