

Shellfish farming: A keystone in the European Turquoise Aquaculture Revolution MAKING AQUACULTURE A VITAL PART OF THE EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM

HUNATIP WORKSHOP

14/10/2024



EMPA & Molluscs production in Europe



The European Mollusc Producers' Association (E.M.P.A.) brings together national or regional associations and bodies representing mollusc producers within the Europe and European Union.

90% of the companies or operators involved in the production and marketing of shellfish in Europe.

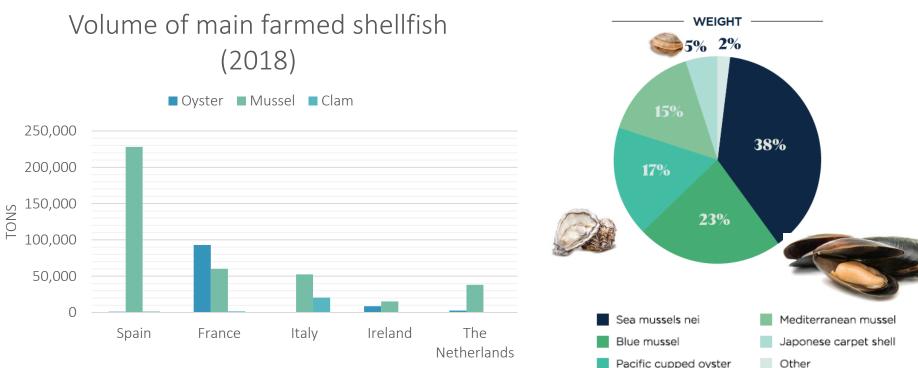
The mollusc production is **the biggest segment of Aquaculture in the EU and in Europe**,



584,000 T TOTAL PRODUCTION VOLUME (TONS)

OUT OF 1,157,000 T EUROPEAN AQUACULTURE

EMPA & Molluscs production in the EU



Other

COMPOSITION OF THE MAIN SHELLFISH SPECIES PRODUCED BY THE EU AQUACULTURE SECTOR (2020)

Source: STECF 2020 and 2022

Sustainable aquasystems to support

To food security

Production of rich sane and safe food, while using less space and water inland

To climate change mitigation

Reducing the emission of GHG by 70% if people adopts a diet based on shellfish and algae, like a full vegan diet (*Brent F. Kim, and al. – 2019 – [Elsevier] Country-specific dietary shifts to mitigate climate and water crises*)



To human health

High level of natural important components, poor in salt, poor in calory

To sustainable development

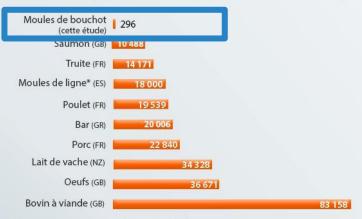
Very low impact cultures, with with no need for feed or antibiotics Coastal employment, balanced economical enterprises, and ecosystem services provider at same time **contributing to the 3 pillars of sustainability**

Low trophic cultures: « exceptionnaly low carbon footprint »

The GHG emissions : rope grown mussel (Ir) : 107 kg CO2 eq./tonne oyster (Ir) : 235 kg CO2 eq./tonne bottom grown mussel production (Ir) : 824 kg CO2 eq./tonne



(kg CO₂ par tonne de protéines consommables)



* Stockage de carbone dans les coquilles non considéré D'après J. Aubin et al. Int. J. Life Cycle Assess. (2018) 23: 1030.



BIM (IR) Study

'Shellfish and seaweed aquaculture have exceptionally low carbon footprints'



INRAE (FR) Study

Key socio-economic segment on the European Aquaculture scene



€ 1,051 Mrd

TURN OVER 30% OF AQUACULTURE



584,000 T

TOTAL PRODUCTION VOLUME (TONS)

OUT OF 1,157,000 T EUROPEAN AQUACULTURE 6,183

NUMBER OF ENTERPRISES

(47% of European aquaculture companies)

Source STECF 2022

Average 2.4 FTE/ent.

40,620

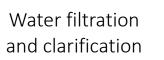
NUMBER OF WORKERS IN THE MS AQUACULTURE SECTOR IN 2020



women Gender equality 24%

9,993

Ecosystem Services



Bloom algae reduction



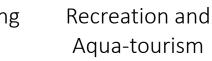
Nitrogen sink

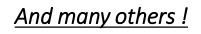




Habitat creation for biodiversity



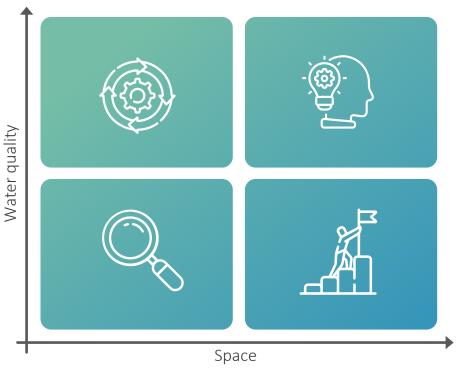






EU Shellfish priorities

Cependant, de multiples défis ont conduit à la diminution de deux des productions en 20 ans.



Revise basin's plans

Watershed management plan under WFD should be revised, include specific analyses and actions, including NoV and pathogens predictive tools

Recover water quality

Implement the actions, improve functioning of the treatment plants, and recover the quality of shellfish waters, decrease the mortality observed

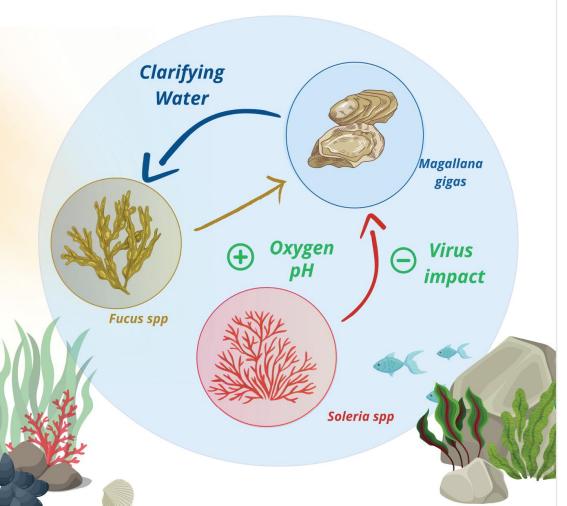
Identify new areas

Each MS should identify the best locations for new shellfish licenses, including in relation with offshore wind farms, and classify these areas as protected

Operate new licenses

Attribute new licenses in the areas identified, improve the exploited surface, and increase the domestic production, reduce import and improve EU food security

Extensive systems compatible with AMTI systems and tomorrow systems





Positive synergies between Algae and Oysters productions

Other EU Shellfish needs



RDI

Horizon Europe should publish a call on shellfish farming feasibility and supporting innovative systems to face global changes



Communication

Ecosystem services provided by, and benefits of shellfish should be recognized and disseminated to citizens



Planification

Decision makers should allocate more space to shellfish farming in EU costal planification documents

3 principal needs to unlock the potential

Shellfish farming is welcomed in the Green Deal as a part of the Vision, a better recovering of the water quality and more space offshore are identified as key objectives, 3 tools at least are now necessary to reach this objectives, and make the dream true...

As outlined in the "Strategic guidelines for more sustainable and competitive aquaculture in the European Union 2021-2030", shellfish farming is a sector with a promising future for food production, offering solutions to many environmental and climatic challenges.



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t.pivetta@cnc-france.com General Secretary You can now find all these information in our new EMPA Manifesto !

Thank you for your attention

2024 OCTOBER

Manifesto for the Sustainable Development of the European Shellfish Sector





The European Mollusc Producers Association (E.M.P.A.) brings together national or regional associations and bodies representing mollusc producers within the European Union.

With members from six European Countries - Spain, France, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Italy and reliad - the EMPA. Boys a crucial role in the European belifish industry representing 90% of the companies or operators involved in the production and marketing of shellfish in Europe. The EMPA is currently chaired by Mr Addy Risseeuw from the Netherland Producers Association.

The Moliusc production is the biggest segment of Aquiaculture in the EU, with an annual value of over 500 million euros. At European level, the shelfth production sector represents an annual production worth 170 million euros, and more than 50% of aquaculture production. However, this key player in the aquaculture industry has been in steady decline for 20 years.

The EMPA is a member of the Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC) and the Market Advisory Council (MAC).