

**Fourth Annual Oyster South Symposium  
February 21-22, 2020  
Wilmington, North Carolina**

**Program  
Draft, January 29, 2020**

**Sponsors**

**Gold**

South Atlantic Sea Grant Programs (NC, SC, GA & FL)

**Silver**

Florida Oyster Revival  
University of Southern Mississippi  
Thad Cochran Marine Aquaculture Center

**Bronze**

Evans Meats & Seafood  
FlipFarm Systems, Ltd.  
High’N Dry Outdoors  
Hoopers Island Oyster Company  
Inland Seafood  
Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium  
OysterGro  
Prestige Oyster  
R.A.P. Technologies  
SEAPA  
Texas Sea Grant  
WaterStreet Restaurants

**In-Kind**

Bax Miller Photography  
Wrightsville Beach Brewery

<i>Thursday, Feb. 20</i>		Tours (UNCW Shellfish Research Center, Cape Fear Oyster Company, N. SEA Oyster Company)
	2:00-4:00 PM	Seed Biosecurity and Hatchery Certification Workshop: Efforts to Rationalize the Regulations Regarding Interstate Transfers of Shellfish Seed, Salon III, Embassy Suites
	6:00-8:00 PM	Director's Reception at Embassy Suites (light appetizers and drinks)

<i>Friday, Feb. 21</i>	8:00	<i>Coffee</i>
	8:30-8:45	Welcome, Beth Walton (Oyster South)
	8:45-9:00	Research, Education, and Training at the NC Sea Grant/Carteret Community College Shellfish Mariculture Demonstration Center, Dave Cerino (Carteret Community College)
	9:00-9:15	Breeding a Better Oyster, Version 2.0, Ami Wilbur (UNCW)
	9:15-10:00	Alternative Species Panel, moderated by Leslie Sturmer (University of Florida) and Tom Bliss (University of Georgia)
	10:00-10:20	<i>Break</i>
	10:20-10:30	ECSGA Legislative Updates, Bob Rheault (ECSGA)
	10:30-10:45	Effects of Larval Growth Differences Upon the Field Performance of Cultured Eastern Oysters ( <i>Crassostrea virginica</i> ): 2019 Results, Kelsey Bisker (AUSL)
	10:45-11:00	A research update from the Louisiana Sea Grant Oyster Research Lab, Brian Callam (LSU)
	11:00-11:15	Effect of Farming Methods on Quality and Willingness to Pay, Sarah Hensey (AUSL)
	11:15-12:00	Lessons from Virginia's Experience Panel, moderated by Bill Walton (AUSL)
	12:00-1:00	<b><i>Lunch, Embassy Suites, with showing of the Shellfish Growers Climate Change Coalition's film, "Against the Tide: Shellfish Growers Push Back on Climate Change". Buffet is provided upstairs at STEAM, and participants may bring plates back to the meeting room, or sit down in the restaurant.</i></b>
	1:00-1:45	State Updates, moderated by Rusty Grice (AUSL)
	1:45-2:30	Guerrilla Marketing: Chimps, Champs, and Chumps Will Go Bananas for Your Brand, moderated by Becky Wasden (AUSL) and Beth Walton (Oyster South)
	2:30-3:00	Dealing with NIMBYs: A Case Study, moderated by Graham Gaines (SC Sea Grant Consortium)
	3:00-5:00	<b><i>Trade Show</i></b> Vendors include DePaola Consulting, FlipFarm, Formutech Inc., Go Deep Shellfish Aquaculture, High N' Dry Outdoors, Hoopers Island Oyster Company, Inland Seafood, Ketcham Supply, OysterGro, Oyster Seed Holdings, Oyster Tracker, RAP Tech, SEAPA, Shell Game, SmartOysters, and Ward Oyster Company.  As the trade show wraps up, shuttle busses to the Wrightsville Beach Brewery will be provided, but seating is limited.
	6:00	<b><i>Shuck and Tell Party</i></b> at Wrightsville Beach Brewery. Come to the party and then stay for dinner. The Brewery offers a wonderful variety of reasonably priced dinner options.

Saturday, Feb. 22	7:30–8:30	ECSGA Annual Membership Meeting, Marina Room, Embassy Suites (Coffee provided and breakfast available at STEAM)
	9:00–9:15	The FARM Model in North Carolina: Quantifying Nitrogen Removal by Locally Farmed Oysters, Beth Darrow (Bald Head Island Conservancy)
	9:15–9:30	Hardly Boring: Dynamics of the Oyster-Boring Sponge Relationship, Zofia Knorek (UNCW)
	9:30–9:45	Investigating the Genetic Basis of Triploid Mortality in the Chesapeake Bay, Joey Matt (VIMS)
	9:45–10:00	Finding a Focus on Summer Mortality in Oysters, Ryan Carnegie (VIMS)
	10:00–10:20	<i>Break</i>
	10:20–10:30	The North Carolina Oyster Trail, Whitney Knollenberg and Jane Harrison (North Carolina State University)
	10:30–11:15	Unusual Mortality Events on the Oyster Farm Panel, moderated by Brian Callam (LSU)
	11:15–11:30	Oyster Farms, Reefs and Watersheds: Stakeholders Partnering to Make NC the "Napa Valley of Oysters", Ted Wilgis (North Carolina Coastal Federation)
	11:30–11:45	Effects of Handling on Resubmersion Times in North Carolina, Vicki Prunte (AUSL)
	11:45–12:00	Extending Oyster Farmer Shelf Life: Staying Safe and Healthy Working on the Water, Andy Kane (University of Florida)
	12:00–1:30	<b>LUNCH (1.5 hours, on own)</b>
	1:30–2:15	Three Minute Tech Talks, moderated by Jason Rider (MS DMR)
	2:15–2:45	Beyond the Perfect Raw Oyster, moderated by Bryan Rackley (Kimball House & Watchman's)
	2:45–3:00	Oyster South Looking Forward, Beth Walton (Oyster South)
	3:00–5:00	<b>Trade Show</b> Vendors include DePaola Consulting, FlipFarm, Formutech Inc., Go Deep Shellfish Aquaculture, High N' Dry Outdoors, Hoopers Island Oyster Company, Inland Seafood, Ketcham Supply, OysterGro, Oyster Seed Holdings, Oyster Tracker, RAP Tech, SEAPA, Shell Game, SmartOysters, and Ward Oyster Company.
	8:00	<b>The 'After Party' in downtown Wilmington</b> , Location TBD