

Department of Primary Industry and Resources

Expanding Oyster Aquaculture in the Northern Territory

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Agenda

1. Background
2. Farm expansion
3. Next phase of research





Background

1

Why Black-lip Rock Oysters

Historically harvested by Aboriginal communities for food and trade

Large oyster species that show promising growth rates

Found across the Northern Territory



Ongoing research program

Supporting Aboriginal aquaculture in the Northern Territory

Dedicated R&D project started in 2014

Major objectives:

- Hatchery production
- Grow-out production
- Shellfish quality assurance
- Business development





Trial farm at South Goulburn

2

Growing oysters at South Goulburn

Trial farm located at Fletchers Point

- Good oyster growth
- Pristine waters
- No user conflicts
- Accessible by car and boat

Installations:

September 2018- 200m longline

November 2019- 100m new experimental longline





Next phase of research

3

CRCNA Tropical Rock Oyster R&D Project

3 year, cross-jurisdiction collaboration between NT, WA and Qld.

NT Partners: DPIR, Yagbani Aboriginal Corporation, Anindilyakwa Land Council, Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia.

Supported by SEAPA and HEXCYL

Three sub-projects in the NT

1. Biosecurity and Translocation Risk Assessment and Species Identification
2. Securing consistent spat (juvenile) supply
3. Optimise grow-out methods and gear technology

Goals

Reliable production of commercial quantities of oyster spat

Pest & Disease risks for tropical oysters are understood and managed

Grow-out systems enable efficient production of premium oysters

A sustainable tropical rock oyster industry in Northern Australia!



Partners

Thanks to all partners for their support and participation



Yagbani Aboriginal Corporation



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