

Maine State Program Update – 2019

Kohl Kanwit – Director, Bureau of Public
Health

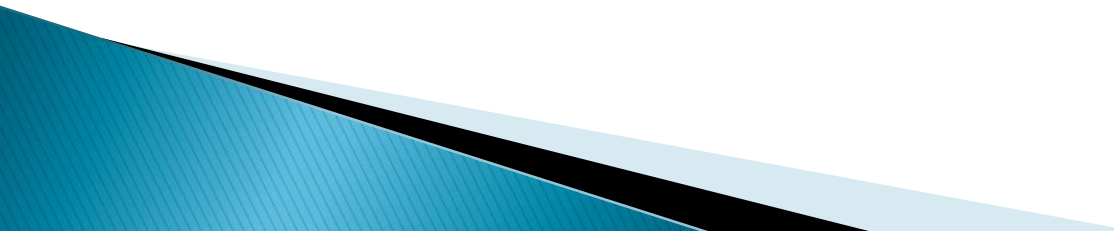


www.maine.gov/dmr

What's new in Maine

»» Program updates from 2018

Increased licensing fees

- ▶ Previously charged for wholesale seafood and supplemental licenses
 - ▶ New fees established for dealer certificates
 - ▶ New fees established for specific charges for wet storage, bulk tagging, buying stations
 - ▶ Auto-scaling
 - ▶ Dedicated fund
- 



NSSP MO Adoption

- ▶ Adopted NSSP MO by reference in new chapter of state regulation
- ▶ Eliminated 8 chapters of state regulations
- ▶ Future NSSP MO updates require 1 change in 1 chapter
- ▶ *B. Model Ordinance. The document entitled “National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish”, 2015 Revision, Sections I and II, published by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.*



Aquaculture regulations changes

- ▶ 138 leases and 538 Limited Purpose Aquaculture (LPA) permits
- ▶ The number of LPAs doubled in 2 years
- ▶ Mandatory education requirement
- ▶ Not eligible for biotoxin MOUs
- ▶ 300:1 exclusion zone
- ▶ Education about shellfish sanitation issues



Dealer inspection team

- ▶ Added a new seafood inspection specialist (3 inspectors and 1 supervisor)
- ▶ Necessary due to increasing demands
 - Increasing requests for aquaculturists wanting to sell their products commercially
 - Adequate inspection coverage for the number of dealers, required follow-up inspections, special permits
 - Lobster Health Certificates for foreign shipments
- ▶ 125 certified dealers
- ▶ Importance of supervisor position



Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning (ASP)

- ▶ Last closure from 2017 was lifted in Jan 2018
 - ▶ DMR hosted an ASP workshop in the spring to educate industry and discuss management strategies
 - ▶ Closures in 2018 started in Sept in eastern ME
 - ▶ Closures shifted to western ME in Oct and lasted through the winter
 - ▶ Biotoxin monitoring is now year-round
- 

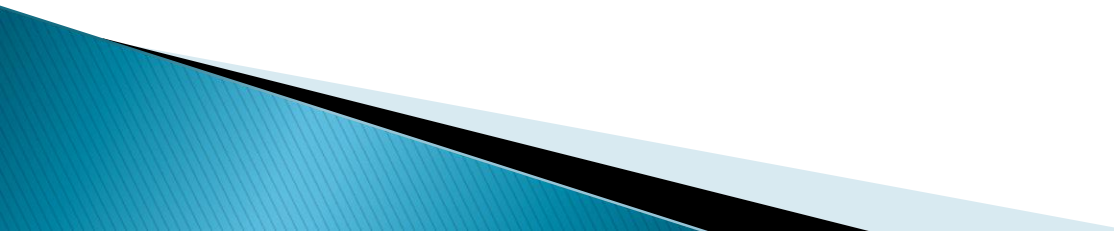


Diarrhetic shellfish poisoning (DSP)

- ▶ Bloom of *Dinophysis norvegica* in salt pond
- ▶ Toxicity detected with PP2A
- ▶ Toxicity (DTX1, DTX2 or okadaic) not detected with approved LCMS method
- ▶ FDA identified new compound with modified LCMS method
- ▶ Closure lasted 3 months
- ▶ Is the “new” compound toxic?



Laboratory

- ▶ Lab Quality Assurance Program checklist adopted in 2017
 - ▶ Requires laboratories to meet international quality assurance standards to further standardize NSSP laboratory methods and practices
 - ▶ The goal is to create a 'culture' of quality assurance integrated within daily lab activities
- 



Laboratory continued

- ▶ Main benefit is the organization of training
 - ▶ Employees sign and date when SOP's and checklist items are read, and are informed of their responsibilities for each critical point from sampling to reporting analysis results
 - ▶ Employees are more prone to look for answers to questions independently within the QA manual, ISSC checklists, or NSSP guide
 - ▶ Massive undertaking, long implementation process
- 