

SC-36: Anti-fouling material assessment.

Biofouling occurs as when structures and materials are placed in water environments, commencing as biofilms of bacteria, fungus and viruses, followed by settlement of larger species of fauna and algae. For aquaculture structures this must be regularly removed as it interferes with transfer of clean oxygenated water through culture systems and can add considerable weight. 360 Shrimp Limited have identified a potential additive to plastics (used for such items as tanks, boxes, oyster bags) that give the material anti-fouling properties that are non-leaching and non-toxic and extends life between needed cleaning. It has proven uses in non-aquaculture settings but has not been tested for such purposes in the UK.

Impact

The project will assess settlement of flora and fauna on this material, compared to more traditional plastics (HDPE) used in aquaculture. It is a proof-of-concept project that may lead to larger and longer investigations on its potential in aquaculture-related applications.



Project Officer

Dr Richard Corner is the lead researcher for SC-36

Project Partner

360 Shrimp



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The Shellfish Centre is a research and innovation initiative supporting development of the shellfish sector in Wales. The Centre will collaborate with businesses to deliver science to support growth. The main focus of the project is shellfish aquaculture and the related supply chain, with scope also for research to support new/ underexploited shellfisheries and aquaculture of non-shellfish species that are compatible with shellfish production

A Research & Innovation Initiative: Supporting the development of the Shellfish Sector in Wales

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