



AQUACULTURE IN MINNESOTA

Aquaculture contributes about \$5M annually to Minnesota



As demand for seafood continues to increase, aquaculture, or farming in the water, is an environmentally responsible and especially efficient method of protein production, and an option we must consider to complement our sustainably managed wild fisheries.

What does Minnesota Grow?

Bait and stock fish, and a small amount of farmed food fish. Soybean is also a top crop in the state and is widely used for food for farmed fish.

State Aquaculture Businesses

Minneapolis-based [Cargill](#) has a significant global aquaculture footprint. Cargill has 38 aquaculture feed facilities in 20 countries. It invests in aquaculture research and development at its innovation centers in the U.S., Norway and Chile and through its technology application facilities around the world. Cargill provides sustainable solutions for farmers of salmon, tilapia, shrimp, carp, catfish and other species of fish and seafood.

- [TruShrimp, Balaton, MN](#)
- [Blue Water Farms, Welch, MN](#)
- [10,000 Lakes Aquaculture, Inc., Osakis, MN](#)

The Most Sustainable Protein

Now more than ever, efforts to combat climate change and create resource efficient food systems are taking center stage. We must look to the ocean for alternative means to produce a sustainable food supply. The aquaculture industry utilizes science-based practices to produce farm-raised seafood in the most efficient way possible, which helps protect and preserve our natural resources in a changing climate. Finfish aquaculture is the most sustainable and efficient method of animal protein production.

Further, technological advancements in feed production, using soy and microalgae oil, have led to the development of new plant-based feed solutions. Shellfish and seaweed farming require no feed inputs, and actually act as filters to clean the ocean environment.

How Does Aquaculture Address Food Security?

Food security and food safety start locally. U.S. aquaculture producers must adhere to strict environmental and product safety rules and regulations, so that Minnesotans can be certain that the fish they're eating is safe. The U.S. ranks 16TH and contributes a mere 0.6% to global aquaculture production resulting in up to 85% of the seafood we consume being imported. 50% of our seafood comes from farms, so, why not grow our own local food?

RESOURCES

- [Minnesota Aquaculture Association](#)
- [Minnesota Department of Agriculture](#)
- [Minnesota Sea Grant](#)
- [USDA](#)
- [Cargill](#)