Connect with Rotary members and friends of Rotary who discussed Rotary International and how to write effective grants.

Past Presidents Were Well Represented in Charlotte

Thank you, again, to all the students for submitting their proposals and for the reviewers for evaluating each of these proposals and student papers so thoughtfully.

Application deadline is November 1, 2024. Start planning now! Details are available at www.shellfish.org.

Lewis Deaton
Past-President

BioOne Self-Archiving Policy

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Book Review: The Soft-Shell Clam

Kenny, V.S. and Beal, B.F. (eds.), American Fisheries Society Bethesda, Maryland 2023, 595 P.

Many readers may be surprised to find that the knowledge of an abundant commercially important (at least in New England and previously in Maryland), widely distributed intertidal to shallow subtidal species such as Mya arenaria is remarkably thin. This may be due, in part, to the difficulty in bringing a deep-burrowing species into a laboratory setting. To the credit of the chapter authors, many offers suggestions for research to fill these gaps.

Overall, I found the chapters somewhat uneven in their depth of coverage. Some briefly summarized what is known, while others provided more detail on the methodology and experiments that elucidated the conclusions. As comprehensive volumes, there are also some inconsistencies because of source material, e.g., in one chapter only two studies on the numbers of eggs produced are noted, while in another chapter the numbers of eggs expected is discussed, but these data are not from the primary literature. The lack of some basic information on this species is illustrated in various chapters:

- The current flux in taxonomic systems is no longer recognizable and may no longer be used. For example, the species illustrated in this chapter are now Mya arenaria and the new science of systematics.
- The present distribution may represent multiple introductions into Europe, the West Coast of America, and the Eastern Pacific and Mediterranean.
- The basic anatomy and functional morphology are not as well known as for other commercial species.
- Few studies have indicated feeding rates of Mya relative to temperature.
- While not confined to Mya, many terms used in bivalve life history stages are ambiguous, and this ambiguity can lead to different interpretations or use of important processes in early life history.
- A list and illustrations of organisms that may infect Mya are provided, but the implications of these infections are not delineated.
- The relationship between the host and the parasite is not fully understood.
- The final chapter listing English names is interesting, and can be viewed in conjunction with Chapter 1 to elucidate how difficult it can be to assign a name to Mya either locally or scientifically.
- A list and illustrations of organisms that may infect Mya are provided, but the implications of these infections are not delineated.
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- The final chapter listing English names is interesting, and can be viewed in conjunction with Chapter 1 to elucidate how difficult it can be to assign a name to Mya either locally or scientifically.

In summary, Beal and Kennedy have done a great service to the research and management communities by gathering together authors to condense what is known about the softshell, Mya arenaria, the volume should be a treasure and should be used to identify other valuable volumes that attempt to condense the scattered literature on various bivalves.

John Kraeuter

The Aquaculture Information Exchange: Elevating U.S. Aquaculture through Collaboration

Imagine a social networking experience designed just for you, a member of the aquaculture community. That is the vision behind the Aquaculture Information Exchange (AIE), the new online home of the U.S. aquaculture industry. I’m Joe Caterine, the Community Manager of the AIE, and I’m thrilled to introduce you to a platform that is transforming how aquaculture professionals communicate and collaborate.

Launched last October through a NOAUSDA grant and developed by Virginia Sea Grant, the AIE is rapidly becoming the go-to platform for aquaculture professionals from all over the country who share your passion, and is easy to connect. It is one of the most exciting parts of the AIE – the collaborative problem-solving culture. As one example, a member recently posted an image of a mystery prawn in an oyster gill and quickly received assistance identifying it.

There is no cost, no ads, and no distractions. Scrolling down our activity feed, you will find industry announcements, videos about recirculating aquaculture systems, colleagues chatting about approaches to aquaculture education, and more. As one member put it, it’s “like LinkedIn, but without the noise.”

The AIE is not just a website – it is a community. You can send messages, share photos, write posts, and enroll in educational programs. Work with sea urchins? There is a group for that. Want to speak at a webinar? List it with us. Looking to take the next step in your career? Our job board is full of opportunities.

Speaking of opportunities, the creation of the AIE opens the door for the US aquaculture community to chart its course and face common challenges together like never before. Conversations that begin at conferences can continue in our discussion forums, where issues can be hashed out collectively. By joining the AIE, you are not just signing up for another social network; you are helping to shape the future of the aquaculture industry.

Sign up for the Aquaculture Information Exchange! Invite your colleagues and start making new connections. As aquaculture professionals, we play a crucial role in feeding our country, and through the AIE, we can amplify our impact, one post, one message, and one collaboration at a time. Register here: https://aquainfoexchange.org

Joe Caterine
AIE Community Manager