



AQUACULTURE IN PENNSYLVANIA

Economic Impact:

\$126M
1,240 jobs

Each \$1 of sales from a farm supports \$14.2 of economic activity.

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 Types of Fish?

Pennsylvania is the 4TH largest trout producer in U.S. and lead producer of native brook trout. State fish farms produce more than 30 species and varieties of aquatic animals. Pennsylvania is also home to major producers of baitfish, sportfish, and tilapia, as well as feed companies.

The Most Sustainable Protein

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. Other forms of aquaculture like shellfish and seaweed farming require no feed inputs and 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 Pennsylvanians can be certain that the fish they're eating is safe. Up to 85% of the seafood consumed in the U.S. is imported, with 50% of that seafood coming from farms, so, why not grow our own local food?

State Aquaculture Businesses

The quality trout fishing in Pennsylvania attracts anglers from across the country. These anglers join Pennsylvania fishing and hunting clubs, purchase fishing licenses, and make other expenditures to local businesses during their stays. Pennsylvania fish farms play an important role throughout the state and provide economic activity as well as wholesome outdoor activities for Pennsylvania residents and visitors. The food to feed the fish is an important part of aquaculture. Zeigler®, based in Gardners, PA, is a leading innovator in the field of aquaculture nutrition and feeds for shrimp and finfish. Through collaborative associations with farmers, researchers and the feed industry, Zeigler is positioned to meet the changing needs of aquaculture. Founded in 1935 by brothers Ty and Leroy Zeigler, Zeigler is a 3rd-generation led company.

RESOURCES

[The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture](#)
[Zeigler](#)