

2022 Great Lakes Aquaculture Days

A Great Lakes Aquaculture Collaborative (GLAC) was created to address barriers to industry growth in the freshwater region that spans eight states. One of the goals of the group was to host an annual event, known as “Great Lakes Aquaculture Days,” to engage stakeholders. Feedback on how to better address the needs of the aquaculture industry from the first two such events in 2020 and 2021 identified fish health as a recurring theme.

New York Sea Grant (NYSG) helped develop the 2022 Great Lakes Aquaculture Days as a hybrid two-day workshop with a focus on fish health. The first day was held virtually; the second day took place simultaneously with in-person locations in each Great Lakes state.

On October 27, 2022, more than 100 participants “attended” the first day’s online event. On the second day, NYSG hosted 17 people at an in-person event at Cornell University. Participants included New York-based fish farmers, Cornell graduate students, and researchers. The day included the opportunity to conduct a fish necropsy, providing farmers with a unique way to learn and understand fish biology. The hands-on experience provided a look at healthy fish organs and at signs that may indicate fish are sick. The program included a lecture (University of Mississippi) on fish therapeutics, a NYSG overview of GLAC objectives and activities for promoting the development of coastal and inland aquaculture, and open discussion with Cornell University fish health specialists, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s fish pathologist, and NYSG aquaculture and fisheries extension specialists.

The knowledge, experience, and networking opportunities provided by Great Lakes Aquaculture Days fosters the growth of NY’s aquaculture industry.

Partners:

- Cornell University
- GLAC: • New York, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois-Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania Sea Grants (Great Lakes)
- Lake Champlain Sea Grant • North Central Regional Aquaculture Center



The 2022 Great Lakes Aquaculture Days in-person event in New York State engaged participants in a fish health workshop at the Cornell University School of Veterinary Medicine.

Photo: Emma Forbes/NYSG

*New York aquaculture industry resources:
<https://www.nyseagrant.org/aquaculture>*

The Sea Grant Focus Area for this project is Sustainable New York Fisheries, Aquaculture & Seafood Businesses.

New York Sea Grant is a joint program of Cornell University, the State University of New York, and NOAA.
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