

Korea abalone farms in 2021,
excerpts from:

Self-declaration for country freedom from infection with abalone herpesvirus by Republic of Korea.

Declaration sent to the OIE on 10 September 2021 by Dr Dongsik Lee, OIE Delegate for the Republic of Korea and Chief Veterinary Officer, Animal Health Policy Bureau, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

Korea produces both wild and farmed abalone. There are three cultured abalone species in the country: *Haliotis discus hannai*, *Haliotis discus discus*, and *Haliotis diversicolor* subspecies *supertexta*. As of 2020, the aquaculture production is 20,059 tons for *Haliotis discus hannai* and *Haliotis discus discus* combined and 4 tons for *Haliotis diversicolor* subspecies *supertexta*. Captured species include *Haliotis discus discus*, *Haliotis discus hannai*, *Haliotis madaka*, and *Haliotis diversicolor* subspecies *supertexta*, and the total capture production is 103 tons representing a negligible share in the total abalone production of the country.

Farms on the southern and western coast of Korea mostly use cages to culture *Haliotis discus hannai*, whereas in Jeju, farmers use land-based aquaculture system to culture *Haliotis discus discus* and small amounts of *Haliotis discus hannai* and *Haliotis diversicolor* subspecies *supertexta*. The different culture methods and species are deeply related to water temperatures in the cold season. With water temperatures below 12°C in winter, the southern and western coasts are suitable for cold-water species (*Haliotis discus hannai*). In Jeju, water temperatures are kept above 15°C in winter enabling the culture of warm water species (*Haliotis discus discus* and *Haliotis diversicolor* subspecies *supertexta*).

As of 2021, there are 660 aquaculture farms that culture *Haliotis discus hannai*. (Table 1). Among them, 652 farms culture *Haliotis discus hannai* using sea cages on the southern and western coasts of Korea, mostly being distributed in South Jeolla Province. The other 8 farms are located in Jeju Island. *Haliotis diversicolor* subspecies *supertexta* is only cultured by five farms in Jeju Island.

Table 1. Number of abalone farms in Korea (2021) (Source: NFQS)

Administrative unit	Gangwon	Gyeonggi	South Gyeong-sang	North Gyeong-sang	City of Daejeon	South Jeolla	North Jeolla	Jeju	South Chung-cheong	North Chung-cheong	Total
<i>Haliotis discus hannai</i>	0	0	12	0	0	635	0	8	5	0	660
<i>Haliotis diversicolor</i> subspecies <i>supertexta</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5
Total	0	0	12	0	0	635	0	10*	5	0	662

* Both *Haliotis diversicolor* subspecies *supertexta* and *Haliotis discus hannai* are simultaneously cultured in three Abalone farms, Jeju

Source: <https://www.oie.int/app/uploads/2021/12/2021-09-skorea-abalone-herpervirus-selfd.pdf>

