

**10<sup>th</sup> International Abalone Symposium** 

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# PROGRESS AND PROSPECT FOR ABALONE RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY IN CHINA

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## **Abalone aquaculture production in China**



**Data: China Fishery Statistical Yearbook** 

## **Abalone production in different provinces in 2016**

Annual production ≈ 140,000 tons, value > 3 billion US Dollar each year.

1% production vs 15% value in mollusc farming



**Data: China Fishery Statistical Yearbook 2017** 

# **Abalone farming in China**



#### Abalone seed number stabilized around 7 billons in last 5 years



**Data: China Fishery Statistical Yearbook** 

# Why Fujian develop so quickly in recent years?

#### **1. Excellent natural conditions:**

Convenient culture environment, etc.

temperature

Many bays are suitable for sea-based grow-out

2. Abundant Seaweed resources:

The productions for Kelp and *Gracilaria* ranked 1st in China.

3. Genetic improvement and skillful culture techniques

Genetic improvement project supported by government since 2000

- 4. Skillful labors and update techniques
  - Low-cost seed production
  - Highly efficient sea-based culture systems



# Update process: from 3 steps to 7 steps



Update process



# **Seed culture technology**

Step 1: Hatchery and early juvenile (0-4 mm, 35-45 days)



**Polythene membrane** 



Nursing pond



Plate with juveniles



Peeling off early juvenile abalone

## **Step 2: Intermediate rearing (4 -18mm,4-5 months)**



**Rearing ponds** 



Seeds with shell length about 2cm



**Cement brick** 



## **Grow-out System**

## System 1 Land-based intensive farming







Basket size:  $40 \times 30 \times 30$  cm

Rearing density: 20-30 inds/basket

**Grow-out ponds** 

# System 2 Sea-based farming system





Provided by Dr. Fucun Wu (IOCAS)

# **Diet of abalone**







Diet for juvenile: artificial forage in serial Diet in grow-out : *Gracilaria* spp. and Kelp

### "South-North Relay" for Pacific abalone aquaculture



Winter: in Southern China (Fujian)Summer: in Northern China (Shandong,Liaoning)

#### **Advantages:**

- --- Grow at comfortable temperature the
- whole year; Shorten the grow-out period
- ---- High survival rate in summer,

avoiding typhoon and high temperature

## The further development of South-North relay mode

The South-north relay mode has been a common practice in China. The production was 9,000 tons in 2016 by this mode and it double in 2017.







Mode	Number of trips	Size	Starting time	Sales time	Purpose
S→N	1	large	spring	autumn	survival rate
S→N→S	2	medium	spring	next spring	large size abalone
$S \rightarrow N \rightarrow S \rightarrow N$	3	small	spring	next autumn	survival rate and large size abalone
N→S→N	2	small	autumn	next autumn	growth

S: South; N: North; The red sign indicated the dominant mode.

## IMTA for abalone, kelp and sea cucumber



- a. Kelp longline culture
- b. Abalone net cages hanging vertically from longlines
- c. Sea cucumber Apostichopus japonicus added directly to the abalone cages

Provided by Prof. Jianguang Fang (YSFRI)

# The advantages of IMTA system

#### NITROGEN DISSOLVED INORGANIC NITROGEN (NH<sub>4</sub>) ABALONE KELP -60 g N ASSIMILATION FEED 103 g N Excretion Excretion 0.7 g N 42 g N 41 % 0.7 % Kelp Abalone Sea cucumber 42 kg FW 0.055 kg FW FAECES 1 ka FW DETRITUS 103 g N 85 % 19 g N 0.5 g N 100 % 18 % 0.5 % 15 % SEA 2.3 % 1.2 % 26 % Erosion?: CUCUMBER 0 % Feed loss Faeces Faeces 15 g N 26 g N 1.2 g N SEDIMENT PON 40 g N

**IMTA** system

#### The effective use of nutrient

**Advantage:** 1. It is beneficial to the environment, because it lowers emissions of faeces and detritus.

2. It can increase profits, about \$14,000 per acre, from \$ 8,000 per acre for only kelp culture to \$22,000 per acre for the IMTA system.

# **Products forms and Sales**

 $\diamond$  Majority are sold live to market and many cuisines are developed





 $\diamond$  Processed products are steadily increasing  $\diamond$  Utilization of by-products are sprouting





Frozen

Canned



**Artware** 



Taurine

# Taurine



Provided by Prof. Minjie Cao (Jimei University)

# **Problems and Challenges**

- Deterioration of culture environment ( stocking density, red tide et al. )
- Seed quality degeneration
- Decline of disease resistance
- Summer mortality
- Market







# H. diversicolor and H. discus hannai showed disparate susceptibility to Haliotid herpesvirus 1 (HaHV-1)

Experimental infection with three different methods (injection, immersion and cohabitation) showed similar results.

- *H. diversicolor* was highly susceptible to HaHV-1 infection, and suffered from 100% mortality with an acute process after challenge.
- H. discus hannai was resistant to HaHV-1 infection, and no clinical signs or mortalities were found after challenging with all three methods.

# Mortality curve of *H. diversicolor* after challenge with different methods







The distribution of pustules on sick abalone



Provided by Prof. Jiangyong Wang

# **Toxicity with isolated dominant strain**

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	BV2		Abalone			
Сс	oncentration (CFU/mL)	Total	Death	Mortality rate (%)		
1	8.7×10 <sup>3</sup>	20	12	60		
2	$8.7 \times 10^4$	20	15	75		
3	$8.7 \times 10^{5}$	20	17	85		
4	$8.7 \times 10^{6}$	20	18	90		
5	$8.7 \times 10^{7}$	20	20	100		
control	0	20	0 0	0		

 $LD_{50} \approx 7.76 \times 10^5 \text{ CFU/mL}$ 





The foot morphology of sick (left) and normal (right) abalone (HE staining)

# **Novel varieties**

Three novel varieties were conferred by Ministry of Agriculture and now were large-scale cultured in China.







水产新品种(2003)新生物医产等。2 啓 记 문· GS-02-004-2009 培育单位:厦门大学 该品种业经审定,根据农业部《水产原、良 种审定办法》,特发此证。





(2015) MA HH 27 W 24 9





H. diversicolor "Dongyou 1" In 2010 **Disease resistance** 

Hybrid "Xipan abalone" In 2014 High temperature resistance

# **Pacific abalone**



JP population



JJ line



**KR** population



**Red shell line** 

# **Orange variety**



We identified two major kinds of carotenoid in abalones (*Haliotis gigantea*) are Zeaxanthin and  $\beta$ -carotene.

The concentrations of zeaxanthin and  $\beta$ -Carotene for orange-variety were significantly higher than normal abalones.

## **Facilities**



Family system



Selection system



Hybrid system



Parents improved system

# **Evaluation of stress**





The lab for stress tolerance assessment





Sensor

Amplifier



Powerlab

The non-invasive method to measure heart rate

# Heart beat rate and thermal tolerance



\*. diameter = 20.0 cm, height = 9.5cm

The schematic drawing for measurement of ABT

Arrhenius break temperatures (ABT) was calculated based on cardiac performance to verify the abalone thermal tolerance and it had been proven to be a effective method.





The ABT for different lines of Pacific abalone



5

0

0

200

400

800

600 1.1.1

Time (min)

1000

1200

There were breakpoints observed when the oxygen or salinity declined

## **Quantitative analysis of shell shape**







# **Genome assembly results of Pacific abalone**

	Conti	g	Scaffold		
	Size (bp)	Number	Size (bp)	Number	
Total	1,245,295,745	349,844	1,279,837,536	249,837	
Longest	265,314	-	6,125,885	-	
Number>=2000	-	74,608	-	13,799	
N50 *	22,360	14,939	616,844	542	
N60	16,667	21,386	427,240	792	
N70	11,637	30,307	261,770	1,173	
N80	6,812	44,134	107,506	1,914	
N90	1,798	77,761	6,019	7,019	

A high-quality reference genome was assemblied spanning 1.28 Gb with contig N50 of 22 Kb and scaffold N50 of 617 Kb using SOAPdenovo approach.

# Abalone genome landscape

3,531 assembled scaffolds were anchored on the 18 chromosomes and built a chromosome-anchored reference genome, covering about 1,038 Mb (81.09 %) of the assembled abalone genome.



#### **Ongoing project: Genome-wide Association Selection for Pacific Abalone**

# Thank you and enjoy your time in Xiamen !







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