

# VIRGINIA SEAFOOD

## Agricultural Research and Extension Center



Naser Bayoumy works to improve hatchery live feeds production in support of a growing aquaculture industry. (Photo courtesy of Virginia Sea Grant).

The VSAREC is actively engaged with industry and research partners to address a variety of stakeholder needs. A major pillar of our program is ensuring seafood safety and product quality. We engage in product testing, sanitation, technical assistance, validation of processes, value-added product development, and employee training in an effort to help our stakeholders ensure the quality and safety of their products.

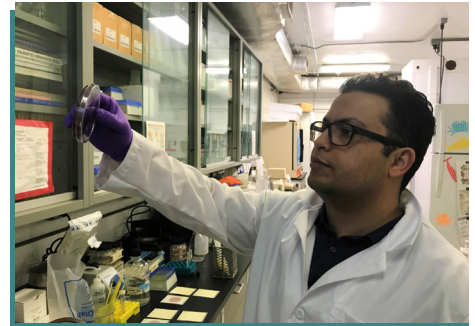
In addition to food and seafood safety, the VSAREC is also involved in aquaculture research and development. Recognized as a center of excellence for live feeds and hatchery production technologies, the VSAREC is venturing further into the microbiology of aquaculture production systems. The aquaculture program is highly adjustable and responsive to stakeholder needs, with the capacity to operate freshwater, brackish, and saltwater systems.

VSAREC programming also covers the areas of economics, business development, and marketing. Current research activities include assessing the regulatory challenges faced by U.S. aquaculture producers at the farm level.

### PARTNER WITH US

102 S King Street Hampton, VA 23669  
(757) 727-4861

[www.ares.vaes.vt.edu/ares/virginia-seafood](http://www.ares.vaes.vt.edu/ares/virginia-seafood)



“VSAREC Extension and research activities assist our seafood industry at the local, national, and international levels. Our program is focused on using cutting-edge technologies for rapid detection of bacteria and mitigating foodborne illnesses.”

**REZA OVISSIPOUR**  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
EXTENSION SPECIALIST  
FOOD AND SEAFOOD SAFETY



“Virginia Tech is vital to our business. From sanitation practices to validation tests and employee training, they do it all. We are so fortunate to have them as next door neighbors.”

**CASEY GRAHAM**  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF  
GRAHAM AND ROLLINS, INC.

# VIRGINIA SEAFOOD AREC AT A GLANCE



## DISCIPLINES

- Food and seafood safety
- Microbiology
- Process validation
- Engineering
- Green energy
- Aquaculture
- Economics
- Business and marketing

## INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

- Process validation
- Vibrational spectroscopy
- Nano-bubble and electrolyzed water

## FACILITIES

- Microbiology lab
- Recirculating aquaculture systems
- Aquatic habitat systems
- Classroom for teaching and training

## INDUSTRY PARTNERS

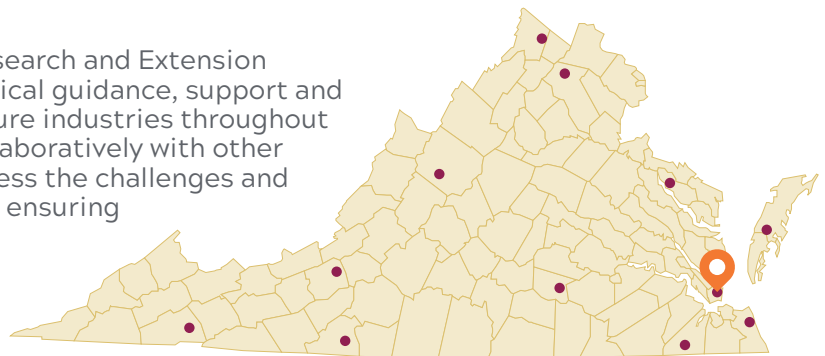
- Aquaculture
- Seafood processors
- Seafood distributors
- Seafood retailers
- Seafood end-users and consumers

## ABOUT THE VIRGINIA SEAFOOD AREC

The mission of the Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center is to provide education, scientific, and technical guidance, support and leadership to the commercial seafood and aquaculture industries throughout Virginia and the United States. Our faculty work collaboratively with other researchers, Extension agents, and industry to address the challenges and needs of our seafood and aquaculture stakeholders; ensuring safe and wholesome seafood for all of us to enjoy.

## A COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

The ARECs are a network of 11 centers strategically located throughout the state that emphasize close working relationships between Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Virginia Cooperative Extension, and the industries the work with. The mission of the system is to engage in innovative, leading-edge research to discover new scientific knowledge and create and disseminate science-based applications that ensure the wise use of agricultural, natural, and community resources while enhancing quality of life.



Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg



VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL  
EXPERIMENT STATION  
VIRGINIA TECH.



VT/0219/AREC-251