

The use of sea urchins, *Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis*, as biofoul control in sea scallop, *Placopecten magellanicus*, culturing: Potential impact of urchins on scallop growth.

The relationship between *Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis* and *Placopecten magellanicus* was tested in a polyculture system. Accumulation of biofouling on culture cages causes a reduced water-flow and poor growth for the stock organism. It has been found that grazers (i.e. urchins) are effective in removing biological buildup on immersed shellfish cages. In this study, the density (1, 5, 10, or 15) and size (small, medium or large) of urchins dwelling within the cages were manipulated to determine potential impacts to the growth of sea scallops. After 5 months, there was no significant difference ($p > 0.05$) in any treatment on growth of scallops, measured in length and weight increase. The neutral impact on scallops indicates that urchins could successfully reside within scallop cages in a polyculture system.