Research Support for Development of

Maine's Sea Vegetable Industry

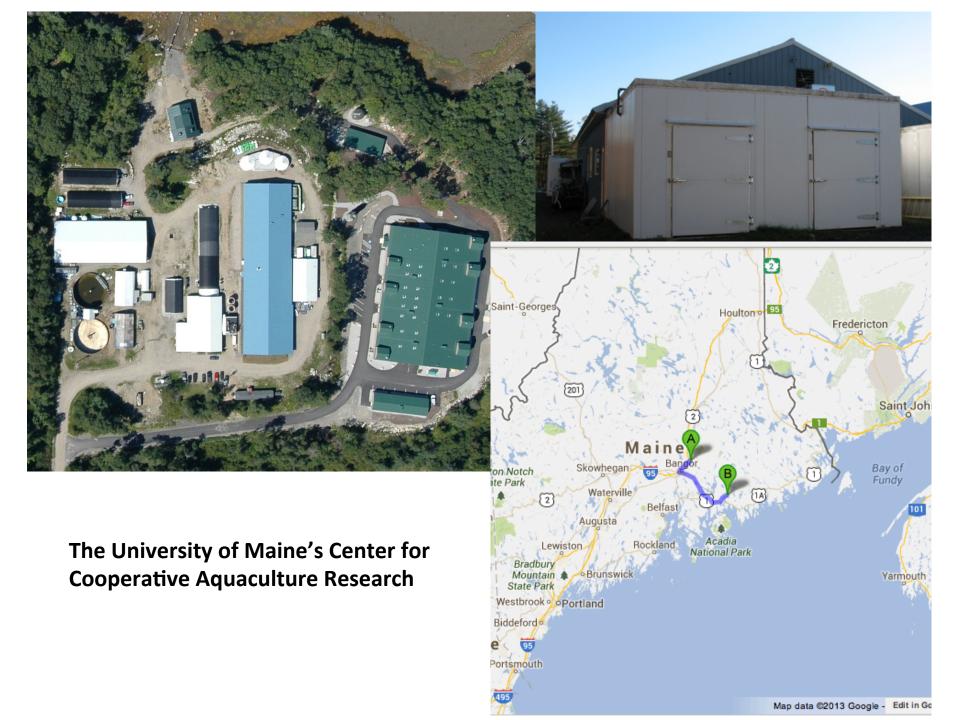
Susan H. Brawley (UMaine), Sarah Redmond

(Maine Sea Grant), Charlotte C. Quigley (UMaine),

Geneva York (UMaine) & Nick Brown (UMaine)

Goals/Work underway:

- 1. Develop CCAR nursery infrastructure and capacity to support sea vegetable farmers.
- Develop a kelp (Alaria esculenta), a laver (Porphyra umbilicalis), and dulse (Palmaria palmata) for Maine sea vegetable farming.
- Test spore-seeded lines and nets for growout (fall 2014- winter 2015) with collaborating farmers.





Goal 1: Characterize Reproductive Phenology for Target Species across the Maine coast (Lubec, Schoodic, and Pemaquid, plus other areas of Maine coast via GMRI's Vital Signs' Program for citizen scientists)

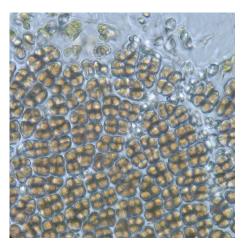
Why?

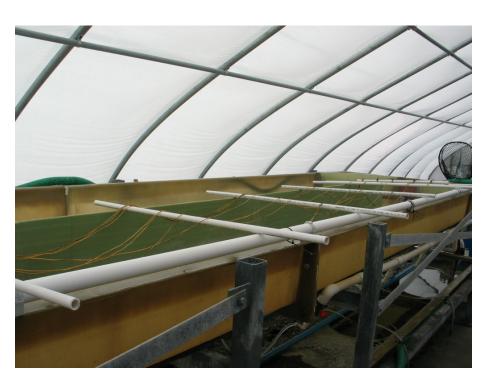
----Informs us of when seeded lines/nets should be put out (and when NOT)

----Accelerates CCAR nursery research on nursery stock holding conditions and transition protocols









CCAR algal raceway with seeded lines for laver seedstock drying.







Brown designed seeding wheel.

Goal 2: Isolate region-specific strains of target species, and characterize strains resistant to warming climates; develop robust conditions for holding seed material throughout the year.







Test photoperiod, irradiance, temperature, and nutrient levels (nitrogen). Design efficient spore application procedures.







Isolations of zoospores from sporophylls of the kelp *Alaria esculenta* to select for seedstock and characterize temperature tolerance of gametophytes.

Growing laver isolates under different sets of experimental conditions to assess effect on quantity of neutral spore production.



Field Trials of Seeded Lines/ Nets at Sorrento in winter 2014.

2014/2015, grow-out trials planned for Sorrento farm (S. Erhart et al.) and in Damariscotta (S. Barker et al., Maine Fresh Sea Farms)





Current Foci:

Eliminating ciliates at semi-dirty stages of nursery work.

Developing best practices for application of organic fertilizer to

seedstock.



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Our CCAR colleagues (Steve Eddy, Luz Hurtado, Christian Cox) and macrophyte aquaculturists near and far.

a) Typical life history of Porphyra (+ Pyropia, Boreophyllum, Wildemania, Miuraea, Fuscifolium, Clymene, Lysithea)



Nicholas Blouin

b) Life history of Porphyra umbilicalis in northwestern Atlantic (Blouin et al. 2011, TPS).

