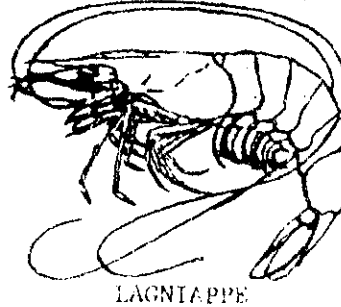


LOUISIANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

Jefferson Parish
Orleans Parish
St. Charles Parish

1825 Bonnie Ann Drive
Marrero, LA 70072
(504) 341-7271, 341-7272

SEA GRANT PROGRAM



Volume 6, Number 4
April 22, 1982

COMMERCIAL SHRIMP LICENSES

Act 492 of the 1981 Louisiana State Legislature required that resident commercial shrimp licenses and all nonresident commercial fishing licenses be purchased in the month of January.

While most shrimpers got their license application in before the deadline, a few people did miss it. Two state representatives, Jesse Guidry and Chris Ullo, have each filed a Resolution to allow for a temporary suspension of the law. This would allow those people that missed out on the license deadline to get licenses before the spring season.

Representative Ullo's resolution would allow a ten day period for license purchase on the ten days before the shrimp season opens.

Representative Guidry's resolution would allow for a 15 day period to purchase licenses, but the dates aren't specified yet.

Both resolutions were supposed to be handled the first day of the Legislature, Monday April 19. If you have any questions on these resolutions, feel free to call my office or your nearest Wildlife and Fisheries District office.

TEXAS CRAWFISH FARMS

For many years Louisiana has had a lock on the crawfish farming business, with over 55,000 acres in production. While most of our crawfish are sold here in Louisiana, in recent years a lot of Louisiana crawfish have gone to the Houston, Texas area.

However, Texas rice farmers have decided to get into mud bug farming. Right now crawfish are being farmed in Orange, Jefferson, Chambers and Hardin counties, all in extreme east Texas.

The Texas A & M Agricultural Extension Service is actively working with farmers to put more acres into crawfish production. It looks like Louisiana has both a new market and a new competitor in the crawfish business.

SPRING SHRIMP SEASON MEETING SET

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will hold its annual meeting to set the spring brown shrimp season on April 26 and 27.

On the 26th, Department biologists will present their forecast and commercial fishermen and seafood dealers can present their requests for the opening date they would like.

On the 27th, the commission will announce the opening date or dates for the season. Both days the meetings will start at

10 a.m. The meetings will be held at the Sheraton Hotel this year. (Not the Hilton as in the past) The Sheraton Hotel is at 2150 Veterans Blvd. in Kenner, near the corner of Williams and Interstate 10 Highways.

LOTS OF FRESHWATER COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN

Recently, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conducted a nationwide survey to come up with some idea on how many freshwater commercial fishermen there are in the U.S. The results surprised me.

The report on the survey showed 33,000 people identified as freshwater commercial fishermen. Louisiana led the pack with 6,000 fishermen and Florida was second with 5,525. Arkansas has 3,775, Mississippi had 3,169 and Tennessee had 2,709.

The Great Lakes states made a poor showing, with Wisconsin coming in first with 855. The study made two things very obvious to me. First, there are a lot more freshwater commercial fishermen around than most people think. Secondly, the strength of the freshwater commercial fishery is in the southern part of the country.

SOURCE: The Fisherman. March 1982.

COAST GUARD USER FEES

With the Federal Budget cuts now taking place, many Federal Agencies are looking right and left for new sources of funds. The U.S. Coast Guard is one of those agencies looking for money and their proposed "User Fees" are very unpopular with both commercial and sports fishermen. Under the proposed plan, the Coast Guard would collect a fee from each vessel or boat owner which will range between \$4 and \$40,000.

While nothing solid has been put in Congress's hands yet, the proposed schedule is shown below. It is very important that commercial fishermen and boat owners keep track of what's happening concerning this possible legislation.

COMMERCIAL VESSELS

All Vessels under 100 gross tons	\$ 1,350
Vessels 100-199 tons	\$ 1,800
Vessels 200-299 tons	\$ 2,000
Vessels 300-1599 tons	\$20,000
Vessels over 1600 tons	\$40,000

RECREATIONAL BOATS-COASTAL WATERS

Boats less than 16 ft. long	\$ 50
Boats 16 to 26 ft. long	\$110
Boats 27-40 ft. long	\$200
Boats 41 to 65 ft. long	\$400
Boats over 65 ft. long	\$600

RECREATIONAL BOATS-INLAND WATERS

All Boats on non-navigable waters	\$4
Boats less than 16 ft. long on navigable waters	\$4
Boats 16 to 26 ft. long	\$9
Boats 26 to 40 ft. long	\$15

SOURCE: Fishing Gazette March 1982, and New York State Conservation Council Comments March 1982.

TEXAS SHRIMP CLOSURE

The Texas Closure will be in effect again this year. The shrimp season will be closed in Federal waters from May 22 to July 15. This is the same period that Texas closes it outside state waters to shrimp trawling.

WHERE'S THE FUEL GOING?

During the past year, the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium, National Marine Fishery Service, and Gulf and South Atlantic Fishery Development Foundation, through the Mississippi Sea Grant Advisory Services Program, have undertaken a project to help commercial fishermen manage fuel consumption on commercial trawlers. Advisory Services has placed aboard a number of vessels operating from Mississippi and Alabama, fuel monitors and vessel observers which help to determine how much fuel is used in various fishing operations and how much time was devoted to those operations. Below is a summary of that information.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>% Time</u>	<u>% Fuel</u>
Fishing (Gear in Water)	51	70
Running to and from Port	12	16
Running between Fishing Grounds	6	9
Laying To	25	1
Searching and Other Activity	6	4

You should note that typical vessels in the Gulf spent approximately 51% of their time fishing, while that operation consumed approximately 70% of the fuel. These figures may help you make some decisions on wise fuel consumption.

SOURCE: Gulf Coast Fisherman January 1982.

MEXICAN SHRIMP EMBARGO?

The US-Mexican feud over tuna may spill over into the shrimp industry. The disagreement started when Mexico threw the American tuna fleet out of their 200 mile area. When they refused to bargain with the U.S. about letting them back in, the US placed an embargo on Mexican canned tuna.

Since that doesn't appear to be working too well, the U. S. State Department is considering an embargo on Mexican shrimp to help put pressure on the Mexican Government. If such a thing were to happen many American shrimpers would be pleased, as the competition from cheap Mexican shrimp has been tough.

SOURCE: National Fisherman, March 1982.

UNDERWATER OBSTRUCTIONS CHARTS

I have a limited number of charts showing some of the hangs and snags off of Cameron Parish available. The charts which were prepared by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, are not standard nautical charts and no Loran readings are on the hangs, but they may still be of some use, if you fish in off of Cameron.

If you would like a copy call or write me at my office or just drop by and pick one up.

1981 SHRIMP CATCH SETS NEW RECORDS

The 1981 Louisiana shrimp catch in both volume and value set a new record, surpassing the previous record set in 1978. Over 69.5 million pounds of shrimp tails valued at 116.8 million dollars were landed with the average price per pound for tails being \$1.86.

Some good news about shrimp imports is that in 1981 the United States imported less Mexican shrimp than in 1980. About 76 million pounds were imported from Mexico in 1980. In 1981 only

60 million pounds were imported from that country. This drop can be significant in aiding our poor shrimp market price which is definitely influenced by the low cost, high-volume shrimp imports from all foreign countries, especially Mexico, our largest shrimp importer.

FISH AND GAME FOOD VALUES

Recently, I came across the chart below in Oregon Wildlife Magazine who got it from Tennessee Wildlife. I found it interesting and thought I'd pass it along. By the way 100 grams equals 3½ ounces.

GAME AND DOMESTIC MEAT COMPOSITION, 100 GRAM EDIBLE PORTION				
Food and Description	Water Percent	Food Energy calories	Protein grams	Fat grams
Beef: choice grade, trimmed, raw	56.7	301	17.4	25.1
Pork: composite of trimmed lean meat, medium fat class, raw	56.3	308	15.7	26.7
Lamb: choice grade, trimmed raw	61.0	263	16.5	21.3
Beaver: cooked, roasted	56.2	248	29.2	13.7
Rabbit: raw	73.0	135	21.0	5.0
Raccoon: cooked, roasted	54.8	255	29.2	14.5
Muskrat: cooked, roasted	67.3	153	27.2	4.1
Opossum: cooked, roasted	57.3	221	30.2	10.2
Venison: lean meat, raw	74.0	126	21.0	4.0
Chicken: fryers total edible, raw	75.7	124	18.6	4.9
Duck, domestic: total edible, raw	54.3	326	16.0	28.6
Duck, wild: total edible, raw	61.1	233	21.1	15.8
Pheasant: total edible, raw	69.2	151	24.3	5.2
Quail: total edible, raw	56.9	168	25.0	6.8
Catfish: raw	78.0	103	17.6	3.1
Largemouth bass: raw	77.3	104	18.9	2.6
Frog legs	81.9	73	16.4	.3
Crayfish	82.5	72	14.6	.5

-- From Tennessee Wildlife

THE GUMBO POT

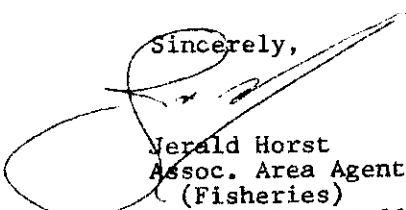
Deviled Crab Eggs

Recently, I judged a 4-H egg cookery contest and this was one of the winners. Its good for this time of the year too, for those left over Easter eggs. It also made the best deviled eggs I've ever eaten. The young lady who supplied the recipe was Lisa Rousse of Lafourche Parish.

- 1 cup white crabmeat
- 8-12 Hard cooked eggs
- 2 Tablespoons finely chopped celery
- 1/2 Tablespoon chopped pimento
- 1/4 Teaspoon Worcestershire Sauce
- 4 Tablespoons mayonnaise or more
- 1/4 Teaspoon parsley flake
- 1/8 Teaspoon garlic powder
- Salt and pepper to taste

Peel eggs and cut in half. Remove yolks, put in bowl and mash well. Add celery, pimento, mayonnaise, parsley, and seasonings. Add crabmeat and mix well. Stuff egg whites with yolk mixture, chill, Serves 8.

Sincerely,



Jerald Horst
Assoc. Area Agent
(Fisheries)
St. Charles, Jefferson
Orleans