

QUARTERLY PROGRESS SUMMARY:

January to March 2016

SPATNZ



Summary of progress during this quarter

Two successful batches of mussel spat were produced in the reporting quarter. The first of these established a third strain of mussel, selected from the breeding programme, as good performer to be benchmarked against farmed mussels sourced from wild spat. The selected and control groups will be grown through to harvest on a wide range of sites using normal commercial farming methods, and mussel performance compared during growout, harvest and processing.

We made good progress on building the systems that will be used for year-round broodstock fattening and feeding of mussel spat. Both spat and broodstock mussels consume large quantities of microalgal food. It becomes very expensive to produce this in the highly controlled manner required for larval rearing, so we will grow algae in earthen ponds for the less sensitive mussel spat and broodstock.

PGP programmes are subject to an independent review around their mid-way point to assess how they are tracking toward their goals. The review panel conducted a series of 14 interviews late in the reporting quarter, and will write a report in the next quarter.

Key highlights and achievements

- We laid the platform for Projects 3 and 4 of the Programme by rearing the third selected strain at scale to establish benchmarking trials against wild mussels
- We employed another graduate of the Nelson-Marlborough Institute of Technology Aquaculture Diploma as a full time hatchery technician

Upcoming

- Developing on-line teaching resources for aquaculture students
- Commence trials with algal production in ponds
- Progress fitout of nursery and broodstock facilities
- Progress planning for the Stage 2 hatchery fitout planned for late 2016
- Mid-term independent review report

Investment

Investment period	Industry contribution	MPI Contribution	Total investment
During this Quarter	\$0.37 M	\$0.37 M	\$0.74 M
Programme To Date	\$6.77 M	\$6.77 M	\$13.53 M