

# “The Impact of Feeding Frequency on the Food Consumption of Juvenile Tautog (*Tautoga onitis*) in Recirculating Aquaculture Systems”

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## Project Background

- Tautog are opportunistic grazers:
- $H_0$ : if tautog are fed food more frequently, the fish will consume more food
  - $H_A$ : There will be no difference in consumption between treatment groups



## Methods

### Trial Begins:

- Fish weighed measured & placed into individual 9L tanks (30 tanks)
- Random treatment assignment
- Automatic feeders loaded & begin feeding at 0900

- Uneaten feed collected with siphon and 50 $\mu$ m sieve
- Drying oven loaded with samples (60°C)
- Samples weighed after 24 hours

Process repeated for 12 consecutive days



Equal amounts of food for each

## Treatments

### Feeding Frequencies

- 2x**  
0900 & 2100
- 4x**  
0900, 1500, 2100, 0600
- 8x**  
0900, 1200, 1500, 1800, 2100, 2400, 0300, 0600

## Results

**Average Consumption:**  
2x & 4x groups were significantly higher than the 8x group, but not different from each other (Tukey HSD: P<0.05)

## Conclusion

Less frequent feedings results in higher consumption and less feed waste

Reducing feed waste improves water quality and business economics

