



CEI is leading an effort to increase the sustainable supply, quality and diversity of domestic seafood by focusing on a high-value farm-raised *Atlantic Sea Scallop* that will lead to innovation, market growth through Maine brand recognition, increased sales and good jobs.

**SINCE 2010, CEI HAS BEEN WORKING TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MAINE SCALLOP FARMING INDUSTRY.**

CEI has been working in partnership with Maine Sea Grant and the Friends of Aomori to introduce Japanese-developed scallop farming techniques and equipment to Maine and US waters for the first time.

With a grow-out period between two and three years from spat (seed) to commercially viable harvest size specimen, scallops farmed with the Japanese techniques have experienced faster growth, lower mortality and have larger meat yields, due to uncrowded growing conditions and access to ample nutrients in the water column.

CEI staff are assessing the success of the project with a lens on the economics and profitability. Throughout the effort, we have tracked equipment costs, shipping and maintenance of the machinery, labor costs, scallop growth rates and scallops sales throughout the value chain. An economic assessment of wild scallop markets when compared to farmed scallops has been completed with positive results.

**AS HARVEST AND DEMANDS INCREASE OVER TIME, FARMED SCALLOPS COULD CREATE FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE SEAFOOD DISTRIBUTION SUPPLY-CHAIN.**

As we document the process, we intend to assemble a Scallop Growers Handbook for use in disseminating information to new and existing shellfish growers and the general public, sharing what we've learned to a broad audience.

**"Could scallop farming be a sustainable new job-creating industry for Maine? We think so and we're setting out to prove it."**

**- Hugh Cowperthwaite**  
Director, Fisheries & Aquaculture

**INITIATIVE TIMELINE**

**2010** - CEI staff participates in a visit to Aomori, Japan as part of a delegation from Maine to learn about Japan's sustainable energy and fisheries practices.

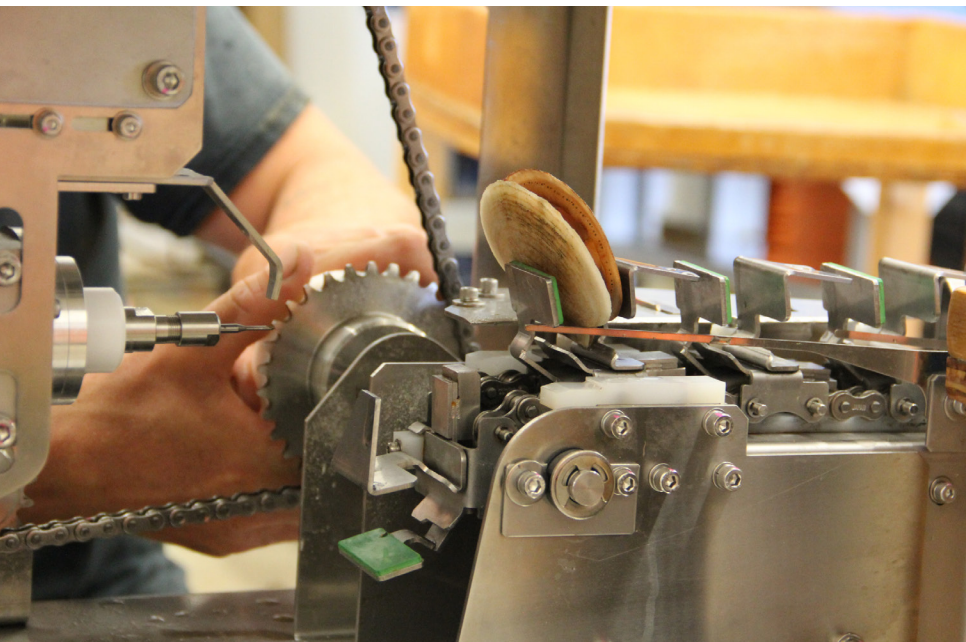
**2016** - CEI secures funding from the United State Japan Foundation to plan and execute ongoing tech transfer exchange with Aomori scallop industry.

**2016** - CEI leads a 10-member delegation to Aomori, Japan for an intensive one-week scallop aquaculture itinerary, including meetings with equipment manufacturers, marine scientists, private businesses, fishing cooperatives, fishermen and government officials.

**2018** - With the support of the Maine Technology Institute and the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research, CEI purchases three pieces of unique, patented Japanese scallop farming equipment and begins work with several farms in Maine to grow and introduce a high value farm raised sea scallop to market.

**2019** - CEI releases "Market Analysis of Maine Farmed-Raised Sea Scallops," a review of the first year of CEI's work integrating the Japanese equipment and techniques.





**CEI**

Coastal Enterprises Inc. (CEI) | [www.ceimaine.org](http://www.ceimaine.org)  
hugh.cowperthwaite@ceimaine.org | 207.535.2920

**MAINE SCALLOP AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE**