

# VIRGINIA SEAFOOD

Agricultural Research and Extension Center



The VSAREC is dedicated to actively engaging with industry and research partners to respond to stakeholder needs. Through technical assistance, process validation, value-added product development, training, and more, we help our stakeholders ensure the quality and safety of their products.

Recognized as a center of excellence for live feeds and hatchery production technologies, we work to advance aquaculture research and development. Our aquaculture program is highly adjustable and responsive to stakeholder needs, with the capacity to operate freshwater, brackish, and saltwater systems.

In addition to fisheries research facilities and classrooms, on-site facilities include microbiological laboratories where researchers advance technology in cellular agriculture, alternative proteins, and sustainable food systems.

Intrinsically interwoven with other core center programs, research in economics and marketing covers areas of business development, assessing regulatory challenges facing aquaculture producers, and capturing the economic impact of industry sectors.

VSAREC extension specialists work with and provide technical guidance to stakeholders in every level of the seafood supply chain.

## PARTNER WITH US

15 Rudd Lane  
Hampton, VA 23669  
(757) 727-4861  
[www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/virginia-seafood](http://www.arec.vaes.vt.edu/arec/virginia-seafood)

“VSAREC Extension and research activities assist our seafood industry at the local, national, and international levels. Our program is focused on using cutting-edge technologies for rapid detection of bacteria and mitigating foodborne illnesses.”



**REZA OVISSIPOUR**  
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, EXTENSION SPECIALIST  
FOOD AND SEAFOOD SAFETY

“Virginia Tech is vital to our business. From sanitation practices to validation tests and employee training, they do it all. We are so fortunate to have them as next door neighbors.”



**CASEY GRAHAM**  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF  
GRAHAM AND ROLLINS, INC.

# VIRGINIA SEAFOOD AREC AT A GLANCE



## DISCIPLINES

- Food and seafood safety
- Process validation and engineering
- Cellular agriculture and alternative proteins
- Aquaculture
- Green energy
- Economics and marketing
- Public policy and regulatory impact assessment

## INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

- Controlled environment agriculture
- Cell-based meat and bioprinting
- Nanogas

## FACILITIES

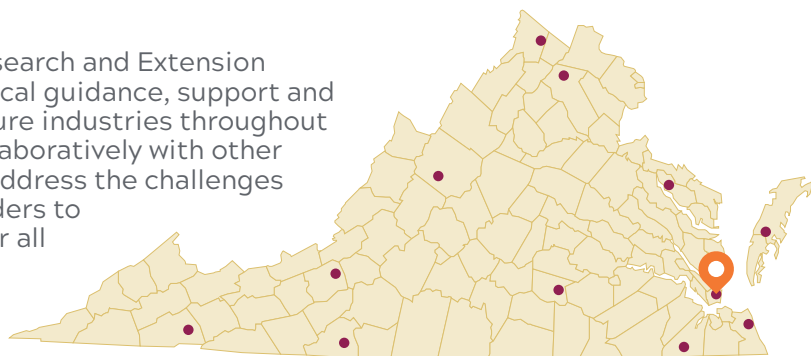
- Recirculating aquaculture systems
- Aquatic habitat systems
- Microbiology lab
- Cell culture lab
- Classroom for teaching and training

## INDUSTRY PARTNERS

- Aquaculture, including hydroponics, aquaponics
- Seafood producers, processors, distributors, and retailers
- Seafood end-users and consumers

## ABOUT THE VIRGINIA SEAFOOD AREC

The mission of the Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center is to provide education, scientific and technical guidance, support and leadership to the commercial seafood and aquaculture industries throughout Virginia and the United States. Our faculty work collaboratively with other researchers, Extension agents, and the industry to address the challenges and needs of our seafood and aquaculture stakeholders to ensure safe, sustainable, and wholesome seafood for all of us to enjoy.



## A COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

The ARECs are a network of 11 centers strategically located throughout the state that emphasize close working relationships between Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, Virginia Cooperative Extension, and the industries they work with. The mission of the system is to engage in innovative, leading-edge research to discover new scientific knowledge and create and disseminate science-based applications that ensure the wise use of agricultural, natural, and community resources while enhancing quality of life.

Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis protected by law. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Virginia State University, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg



VIRGINIA AGRICULTURAL  
EXPERIMENT STATION  
VIRGINIA TECH.

