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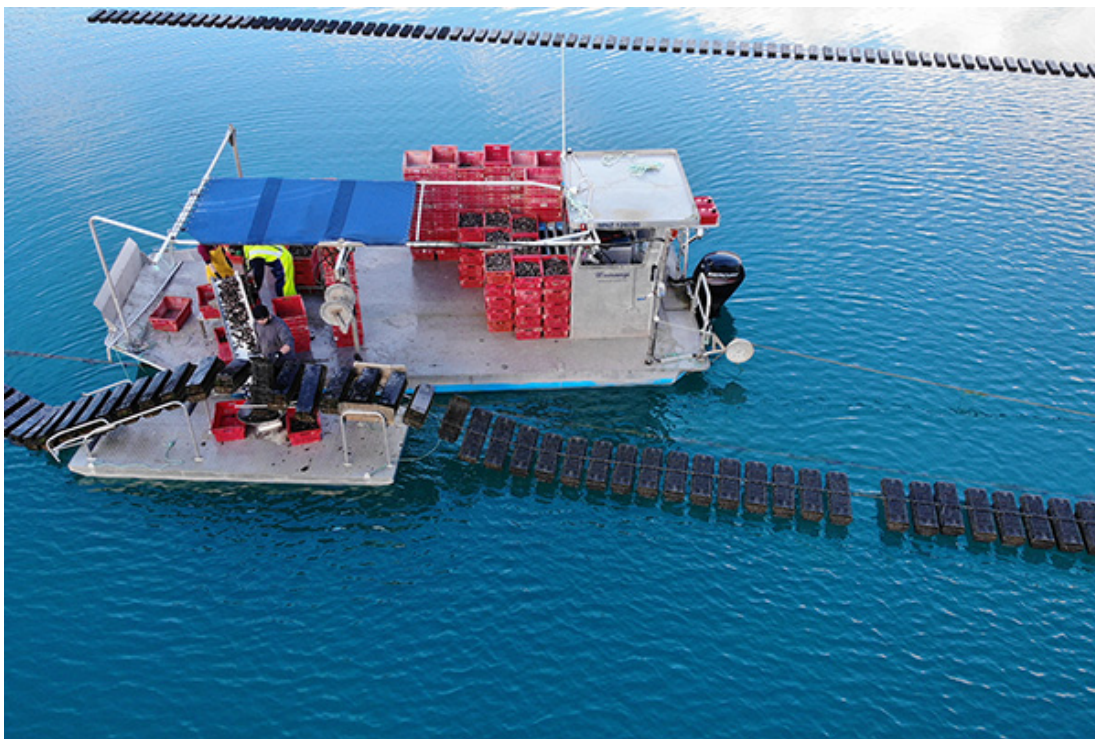
FlipFarm's semi-automated oyster-farming system wins the Global Aquaculture Innovation Award

 [Responsible Seafood Advocate logo](#)

22 November 2021 James Wright



New Zealand company's labor-saving grow-out and harvesting system is already selling internationally



FlipFarm Systems' semi-automated method for oyster farming has won the Global Seafood Alliance's annual Global Aquaculture Innovation Award.

[FlipFarm Systems](#), a New Zealand company that has developed a semi-automated method for turning oyster-growing cages over with little human effort, has won the Global Seafood Alliance's annual Global Aquaculture Innovation Award.

Presenting his company's technology at GSA's GOAL virtual event last week, FlipFarm Managing Director Aaron Pannell won over attendees by illustrating how much this system – in which Hexcyl Pro baskets are connected to a backbone that rolls up on the side of a harvesting vessel – saves on the backbreaking labor associated with oyster aquaculture.

"FlipFarm Systems is honored to be awarded the Global Seafood Alliance Innovation award for 2021!" said Pannell. "Considering the extremely high caliber of the finalists, we feel very privileged to win this award on behalf of our hard-

working team. Debbie and I would like to recognize the many people who have been involved in developing and implementing the FlipFarm system. We look forward to continuing our mission to deliver world-class aquaculture solutions to the most sustainable and exciting industry in the world!"

[Innovation Award 2021 finalist: FlipFarm](#)

The innovative process helps provide an ideal environment for oyster growth and conditioning, as well as the ability to efficiently control fouling levels, pests and predators. The system is adaptable to diverse growing environments and is now used by more than 70 farmers in 12 countries worldwide.

FlipFarm bested two other finalists: [Ace Aquatec](#), with its seal-deterrent technology that causes no harm to the marine mammals; and [Nucleic Sensing Systems](#), with its "Tracker" that can detect pathogens and other biological issues in aquaculture environments.

The finalists were selected from a pool of 39 applicants from 24 countries. The winner was selected by attendee vote.

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The “Tracker” from Nucleic Sensing Systems uses digital droplet PCR to detect biological issues in aquaculture environments, improving productivity.

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[Innovation Award 2021 finalist: Ace Aquatec](#)

Ace Aquatec of Scotland returns as a finalist for the Global Aquaculture Innovation Award with a seal-deterrent technology for fish farmers.

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[Ailing waterways hail the oyster's return](#)

The Lower Hudson Estuary and Chesapeake Bay, two waterways once home to thriving oyster beds, would welcome the shellfish's return. Aquaculture initiatives in both areas aim to reinvigorate the water and the communities they support.

Innovation & Investment

[We built this city on oyster shells](#)

When Seattle decided to rebuild the seawall separating its waterfront from Puget Sound, it turned to a bivalve byproduct for a unique, environmentally friendly material for an hospitable marine habitat. The city wanted its design and materials as pragmatic and beneficial for its underwater residents as for those using the parks, paths and services above ground.

About The Advocate

The Responsible Seafood Advocate supports the Global Seafood Alliance's (GSA) mission to advance responsible seafood practices through education, advocacy and third-party assurances.

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