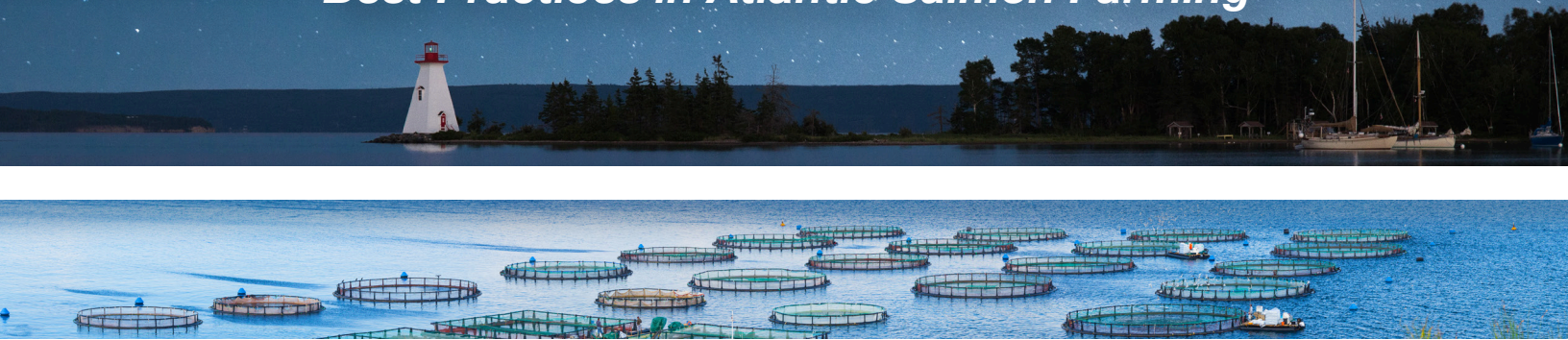


SAVING SEAFOOD

ENSURING THE HEALTH & WELFARE OF FARM-RAISED SALMON

Best Practices in Atlantic Salmon Farming



American and Canadian salmon farmers use **best management practices and technologies** to ensure the **health and welfare** of farm-raised salmon.

PRISTINE MARINE CAGE CONDITIONS

- North American salmon farmers know that **pristine marine cage conditions are essential** for healthy, high-quality salmon.
- Farmers keep stocking densities low so fish can mimic natural schooling patterns. Salmon **occupy less than 4% of the marine cage** in a typical Canadian farm, giving them lots of space to swim and grow.¹
- Farmers must **conduct regular government-audited sediment testing** of the ocean floor to ensure farms meet high environmental standards.
- **Salmon farms are fallowed (emptied) regularly** — just like farms on land — to ensure their continued viability.
- Farmers use **underwater cameras** to avoid overfeeding and use tailored fish feed to suit the dietary needs of salmon at each life stage. **Divers inspect the fish, the nets, and the ocean floor** regularly.



MANAGING SEA LICE

- **Managing sea lice is a top priority** for North American salmon farmers. Farmers must manage, under regulation, sea lice to low levels to protect the health of both farm-raised and wild salmon.
- Sea lice are parasites that occur naturally in ocean environments and have existed on wild salmon and other fish species for thousands of years. They **do not pose a risk to human health**.

- All salmon are healthy and **free of parasites when they enter marine farms**. However, naturally present pathogens and parasites in the environment can sometimes affect farm-raised salmon.

- Farmers use a **strategic approach to sea lice** that combines preventative farming practices like fish husbandry, fallowing, and low stocking densities combined with various management practices (cleaner fish) and approved treatments when necessary.

- North American salmon farmers are **investing millions into research and development** for “green” sea lice treatment technologies, such as freshwater well boats, warm water and water pressure systems, broodstock development, and “cleaner” fish.



MAINTAINING FISH HEALTH

- Farmers **vaccinate farm-raised salmon** against several diseases that commonly affect both farmed and wild salmon, part of regulated surveillance programs through their veterinarians.

- Antibiotic use on North American salmon farms is **far lower than that of any other agricultural animal producing industry** in the world.²

- North American farm-raised salmon **commonly grow to maturity without the use of any antibiotics**.

- In the rare instances when treatment is necessary, the treatment is prescribed and overseen by licensed veterinarians. **Veterinarians use only approved products** under the oversight of government regulators.

- Government agencies like Health Canada undertake **extensive risk assessments of all treatments** to ensure they are safe for salmon and other species, the environment, and human health.

¹ <https://www.atlanticfishfarmers.com/growing-our-fish>

² <https://www.fishfarmingexpert.com/article/fish-farming-antibiotic-use-stays-among-lowest/>