

# QUARTERLY PROGRESS SUMMARY:

## January – March 2015

### SPATnz



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## Summary of progress during this quarter

The first quarter of 2015 saw the completion of the aquaculture fit-out of SPATnz's new pilot scale mussel hatchery in Nelson. As fit-out progressed we commenced production of the micro-algal food required by the mussels and then attempted our first mussel spawning and spat production run in February.

SPATnz staff involvement in training of aquaculture students from the Nelson-Marlborough Institute of Technology continued with contributions to the teaching programme and work placements for several students.

The mussel breeding programme produced another cohort of mussels. This cohort was dedicated to testing a new approach where representatives from hundreds to thousands of mussel crosses are created through controlled spawning, reared together through to harvest, then identified using DNA fingerprinting.

## Key highlights and achievements

- Completed fit-out of the pilot scale hatchery facility
- Reared a highly successful first batch of mussels through the new hatchery
- Established the 2015 cohort of breeding families using a new approach

## Upcoming

- The new hatchery will be officially opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> of April
- The first batch of hatchery spat from the new facility will be transferred to marine farms
- 2015 breeding programme mussels will be transferred to marine farms
- Recruitment of additional staff to operate the new facility

## Investment

<b>Investment period</b>	<b>Industry contribution</b>	<b>MPI contribution</b>	<b>Total investment</b>
During this Quarter	\$0.50 M	\$0.50 M	\$1.01 M
Programme To Date	\$5.56 M	\$5.56 M	\$11.16

Top left: micro-algal food for baby mussels growing at SPATnz

Top right: millions of swimming mussel larvae look like miniscule grains of sand in conical tanks

Bottom: SPATnz mussel hatchery, March 2015

