

T3/35

AQUACULTURE LICENCE (NO. 388)

GRANTED BY THE AQUACULTURE LICENCES APPEALS BOARD
ON 19 APRIL 2002, to:-

WEXFORD MUSSELS LTD
C/o SEAN RYAN

AQUACULTURE LICENCES APPEALS BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:

THE FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997 (No. 23)

IN THE MATTER OF:

**APPLICATION OF WEXFORD MUSSELS LTD,
c/o Sean Ryan, Rockfield, Coolcots, Wexford, Co Wexford**

Applicant(s)

- AND -

IN THE MATTER OF APPEALS BY:

- **WEXFORD MUSSELS LTD, c/o Sean Ryan, Rockfield,
Coolcots, Wexford, Co Wexford**
- **DÚCHAS, The Heritage Service, Department of Arts,
Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands**

Appellant(s)

TAKE NOTICE:

The Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board hereby grants to the Applicant an Aquaculture Licence for Bottom culture Mussels on five sites in Wexford Harbour, Co Wexford in accordance with the terms and conditions in the Schedule hereto.

LOCATION OF LICENSED OPERATIONS

Four Sites, Site No. 35A, 35B, 35C, 35F and 35G and specified in the attached map and map co-ordinates scheduled thereto. **NOTE:** Site No. 35C also included in licence.

**AQUACULTURE TO WHICH
DECISION RELATES TO:**

Bottom Culture of Mussels
in Wexford Harbour

DURATION OF LICENCE:

10 years from the date hereof

**CONDITIONS ATTACHED
TO LICENCE:**

See Schedule attached


FILE REFERENCE:

AP33/1-2/01 - T3/35

DATED this

19th

day of April, 2002.



CONOR MAGUIRE, S.C.

Chairman, Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board

BOARD SEAL:

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

CULTIVATION LICENSED

- a) Bottom culture only of mussels on five sites, Site Nos. 35A, 35B, 35C, 35F and 35G and specified in the attached map and map co-ordinates scheduled thereto.

NOTE: Site No. 35C also included in licence;

- b) No equipment is permitted to be placed on the seabed in connection with mussel culture covered by this Licence;
- c) No storage of equipment on the seashore outside the licensed area is permitted;
- d) Mussel seed may be placed by the Licensees in the licensed area immediately after the start of this Licence provided that no disturbance of the seabed is caused.

1. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- a) The licensee shall write to Wexford Corporation requesting notification of any malfunction to the Wexford Town Sewage Treatment Plant that may result in a change in the microbiological status of the discharge and subsequently, the mussels growing particularly in Site No. 35A and Site No. 35B, which are in the vicinity of the proposed discharge pipe for the Wexford town sewage treatment plant. In any event, the Licensee shall ensure that the bivalve molluscs are produced and placed on the market in compliance with the health requirements prescribed in Council Directive 91/492/EEC of 15 July, 1991, laying down the health conditions for the production and the placing on the market of live bivalve molluscs;
- b) The licensee, in co-operation with DÚCHAS - The Heritage Service, shall not undertake any activity which will result in the deterioration of natural habitats, or the habitats of species as well as disturbances of the species for which the areas have been designated;
- c) For the avoidance of doubt, deterioration and disturbance is to be measured against the conditions that existed when the site was designated as a Special Protected Area under the Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April, 1979 on the conservation of wild birds and proposed for designation as a Special Area of Conservation under the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May, 1992, on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora;

- d) Access to and from the site(s) by boat only;
- e) Visits to the site(s) shall be kept to a minimum;
- f) The winter period, November to April inclusive, is an important time for birdlife in Wexford Harbour and environs. It is a time when disturbance and noise shall be kept to an absolute minimum, particularly boat engine noise;
- g) Seed shall only be obtained from certified disease-free sources within Ireland or other Member States of the European Community and only introduced into the licensed areas with the written approval of the Department of the Marine and Natural Resources;
- h) All vessels and components thereof shall be kept properly maintained, particularly silencers;
- i) All equipment shall be properly maintained to ensure no leakages of oil, fuel etc.,

2. SITE MONITORING

- a) The Licensees shall as soon as possible after the start of this Licence advise the Department of the quantity of mussel seed placed in each of the licensed areas, the approximate date(s) of the placement and the source(s) of the seed, and likewise thereafter as and when further mussel seed is so placed;
- b) The Licensees shall advise the Department on the 31st day of December, 2002 and on each succeeding 31st day of December for each year during which this Licence continues in force of the quantity of mussels harvested in each of the licensed areas in the preceding year and the approximate date(s) of harvesting;
- c) Annual and other monitoring shall be undertaken by the Licensees in the licensed areas in accordance with the specifications of the Department (including the essential reference standards against which the monitoring shall be carried out).

3. NON-INTERFERENCE WITH OTHER USERS OF THE SEA

- a) The Licensees shall generally conduct their operations with full regard for other persons in the area and for the environment;
- b) The Licensee shall avoid causing any hazard to the safety of navigation across or near the licensed areas;

- c) The Licensees shall co-operate with Wexford Harbour Commissioners and the Wexford Harbour Boat and Tennis Club in facilitating public sailing events in Wexford Harbour;
- d) The Licensees shall not interfere with traditional fishing activity in Wexford Harbour;
- e) The Licensee shall comply with any of DÚCHAS's Conservation Plans for NATURA 2000 for the Wexford Harbour area.

4. Protection of Archaeological Heritage

The Licensees shall notify DÚCHAS - The Heritage Service immediately, if any material of archaeological significance comes to his notice in the licensed area or surrounding area.

5. Disclaimer

The grant of this Aquaculture Licence (and companion Foreshore Licence) is without prejudice to authorised dredging and dumping operations which, subject to prior consultation between relevant authorities and the Licensees may, from time to time be necessary so as to maintain navigable channels and appropriate mooring depths in Wexford Harbour and to authorised maintenance works on harbour training walls and other piers. This does not confer upon the Licensees any entitlement to damages or other compensation arising from such operations.

6. REVIEW OF LICENCE

- a) In the interest of ensuring that bottom mussel culture by the Licensee proceeds as planned, the Licensee's compliance with the Terms and Conditions thereof shall be reviewed by the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources not later than three years from the date of the start of the licence.
- b) The Review shall be in the context of a Single Bay Management approach.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

The General Conditions are annexed hereto.

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR AQUACULTURE LICENCE

Fish Hygiene and Health

1. All chemicals and antibiotics used in the licensed area shall be used in accordance with instructions issued by the Department from time to time;
2. The Licensees shall keep records of all chemicals and antibiotics with which the fish have been treated, including quantities and times of use;
3. The Licensees shall not use any substance or thing or do anything which has a deleterious effect on the environment of the licensed area including the use of organotin based anti-foulants and shall make adequate arrangements for the hygienic and disease free operation of the licensed area and shall comply with any directions issued by the Minister from time to time in that regard;
4. The Licensees shall comply with the Molluscan Shellfish (Conservation of Stocks) Order 1987, and with any other statutory instrument in force for the time being governing the movement of shellfish;
5. The Licensees shall notify the *Department of the Marine and Natural Resources*, Coastal Zone Administration Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2; *the Fish Health Unit, Marine Institute*, Snugboro Road, Abbotstown, Dublin 15 and *the appropriate Regional Fisheries Board* within twenty-four hours of the appearance or suspected appearance of any disease in the licensed area or any abnormal losses or mortalities in the licensed area and shall carry out any instructions issued by the Department of the Marine and Natural Resources as a result of the notification including instructions relating to the treatment, disposal and destruction of diseased stocks;

Inspections, Records and Returns

6. The licensed area and any equipment, structure, thing, or premises wherever situated, used in connection with operations carried out in the licensed area shall be open for inspection at any time by an authorised person (within the meaning of Section 292 of the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act, 1959 (No. 14 of 1959) (as amended by the Fisheries Act, 1980,) other than a private water keeper), a sea fisheries protection officer (within the meaning of Section 220 of the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act, 1959) or any other person appointed in that regard by the Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources;
7. The Licensees shall give all reasonable assistance to a sea fisheries protection officer or any person duly appointed by the Minister, to enable the person or officer enter and inspect the licensed area and any equipment, structure, thing or premises used in connection with the operations carried out in the licensed area;

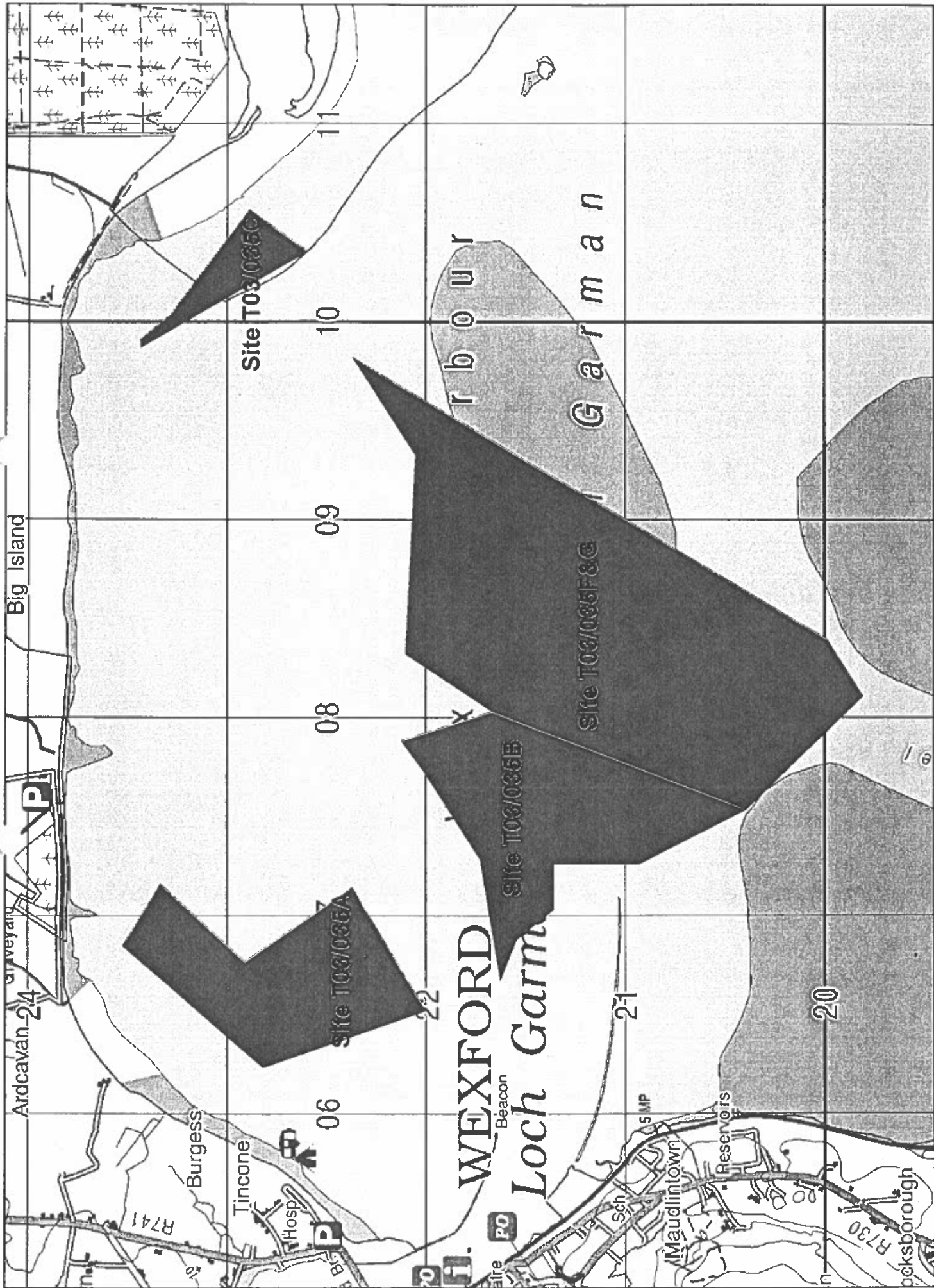
8. The Licensees shall furnish to the Department at the said address such returns relating to the licensed area as may be required from time to time.

General

9. The Licensee shall not carry out any operations authorised by the licence in the licensed areas in such a manner as to interfere unreasonably with fishing or navigation in the vicinity of the licensed area and shall comply with any direction given to it in that regard by the Minister;
10. The Licensees shall indemnify and keep indemnified the State, the Minister, his officers, servants or agents against all actions, loss, damage, costs, expenses and any demands or claims howsoever arising in connection with the construction, maintenance or use of any structures, apparatus, equipment or other thing used in connection with the licensed area or in the exercise of the rights granted under the Licence and the Licensees shall take such steps as the Minister may specify in order to ensure compliance with this condition;
11. The Licensees shall, at the expense of the Licensees, if so required by the Minister, and within three weeks after receipt of such notice or on determination of the Licence from any other cause, remove the said equipment and restore the licensed area to the satisfaction of the Minister and if the Licensees refuse or fail to do so, the Minister may cause the said equipment to be removed and the licensed area restored and shall be entitled to recover from the Licensees as a simple contract debt in any court of competent jurisdiction all costs and expenses incurred by him in connection with the removal and restoration, and the Licensees shall take such steps as the Minister may specify in order to secure compliance with this condition;
12. The Minister may revoke the Licence if he considers that it is in the public interest to do so or if he is satisfied that there has been a breach of any condition specified in the Licence or that the licensed area to which the Licence relates is not being properly maintained or in the event of water quality results or general performance at the licensed area not meeting with standards set by the Department;
13. Any notice to be given by the Minister may be transmitted through the Post Office addressed to the Licensees at the last known address of the Licensees;
14. The Licensees shall not assign the benefit of the Licence without the written consent of the Minister, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld;
15. In the event of the benefit of the Licence being granted to a company (within the meaning of the Companies Acts, 1963 to 1999) the following condition shall apply, namely the Licensees shall obtain the consent of the Minister to any proposed major change in the shareholding or control of the licensee where such change substantially alters the identity of the Licensees;

16. In the event of the benefit of the Licence being granted to a society (within the meaning of Section 2 of the Industrial and Provident Societies (Amendment) Act, 1978 (No. 23 of 1978)) the following conditions shall apply, namely,

- (i) the rules relating to membership of the society shall enable any resident of the State to become a member of it where the resident fulfils all the conditions laid down by the society for membership of it and the rules shall not lay down different conditions for different classes of people;
- (ii) the rules relating to the society shall be submitted to the Minister as soon as practicable after such assignment and the society shall not amend the rules thereafter, other than with the consent of the Minister and
- (iii) the Minister may, if he considers it necessary in the interests of good management of the licensed area, direct that an amendment may be made to the rules of the society, from time to time, and the Licensees shall amend the rules in accordance with that direction.



5 SITES IN WEXFORD HARBOUR, CO WEXFORD

Co-ordinates & Areas

<u>SITE NO.</u>				<u>HA</u>
T03/035A	306846 ,	123530	To Irish National Grid Reference point	73.6
	307158 ,	123339	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	306767 ,	122911	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307142 ,	122373	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	306519 ,	122001	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	306231 ,	122819	To the first mentioned point	
T03/035B	307884 ,	122126	To Irish National Grid Reference point	90.9
	308032 ,	121667	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307534 ,	120392	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307259 ,	120929	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307259 ,	121357	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307029 ,	121357	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	306879 ,	121542	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	306672 ,	121627	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307280 ,	121727	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307721 ,	122007	To the first mentioned point	
T03/035C	309870 ,	123441	To Irish National Grid Reference point	15.8
	309912 ,	123441	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	310045 ,	123285	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	310567 ,	122890	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	310355 ,	122597	To the first mentioned point	
T03/035F&G	309821 ,	122372	To Irish National Grid Reference point	253.4
	308398 ,	119989	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	308108 ,	119807	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	307534 ,	120392	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	308032 ,	121667	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	308321 ,	122104	To Irish National Grid Reference point	
	309325 ,	122053	To the first mentioned point	