

Bribie Island Oyster Gardening - Creature Feature 1 - Summer 2016/17

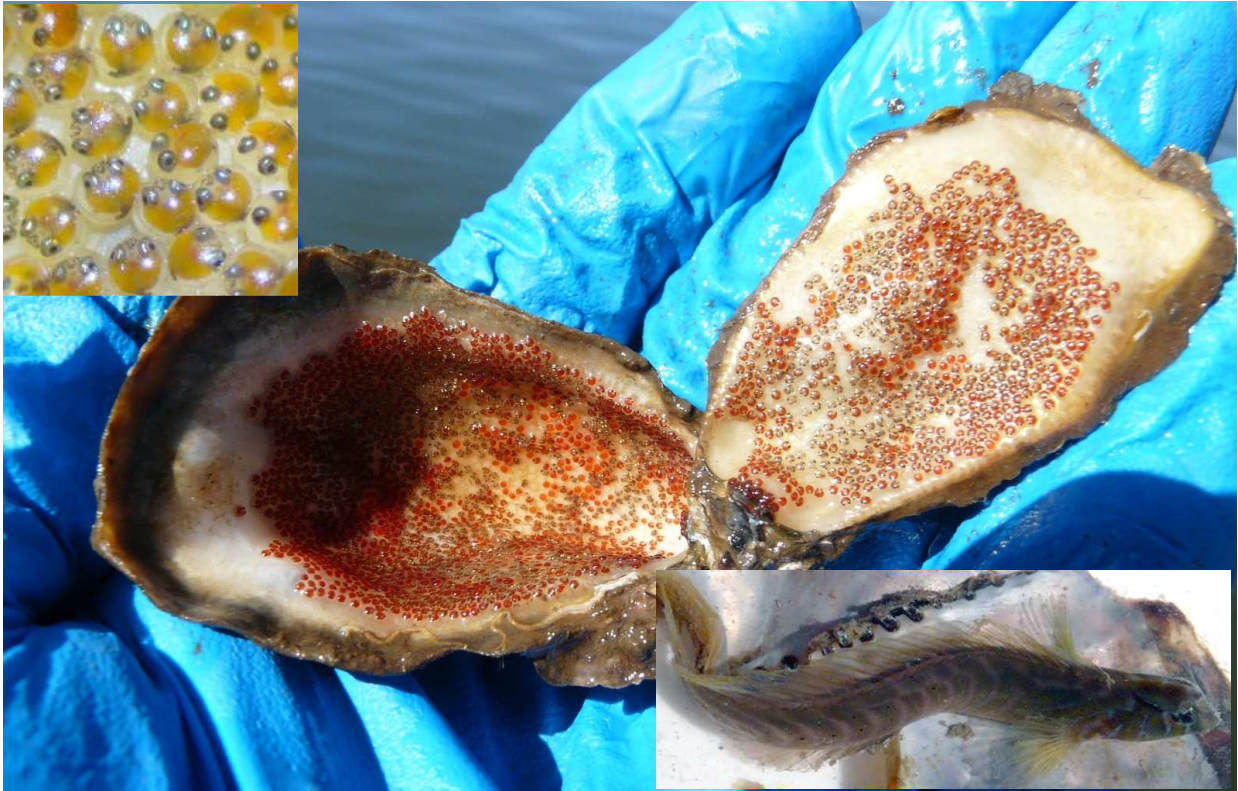


Figure 1. Eggs of the crested oyster goby *Cryptocentroides gobioides* which deposits hundreds of sticky eggs inside empty oyster shells in spring. The goby is in the inset on the bottom right, while the inset top left shows a high power microscope view of the eggs complete with eyes and beating hearts.



Figure 2. These striking, white colonial tunicates that appear on the base of some pontoons with long wavy colonies up to 1 meter long are called *Eudistoma elongatum* (Australian droplet tunicate). This filter feeding species is native to South East QLD, but has become an introduced pest in New Zealand.



Figure 3. Small round jellyfish about 10 mm in diameter that bloomed around Bribie this summer were a type of ctenophore called *Pukia falcata*, also known as “sea gooseberries” (for obvious reasons). They feed on phytoplankton (the same planktonic food as oysters feed on).

For more information on oyster gardening on Bribie Island, and our broader shellfish reef restoration efforts, please see

<http://restorepumicestonepassage.org/oyster-gardening/>