

An underwater photograph of a vibrant coral reef. The scene is dominated by various types of coral, including tall, thin, columnar corals on the left and more complex, branching corals on the right. Several divers are visible in the background, their silhouettes and bubbles clearly seen against the blue water. Small fish are scattered throughout the scene. The overall lighting is a deep blue, typical of an underwater environment.

RMI CASE STUDY

by

Doreen de Brum

Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority

Overview

- History of Clam Trade
- Background of Marshall Islands Mariculture Farm (MIMF)
- Export Requirements
- Trade Constraints
- Corrective actions
- Conclusion



Tridacna maxima - Ultra

History of Clam Trade

- Since the 1990s the Giants Clams exported for commercial purposes have all been “spawned in tanks” and “hatchery-reared”
- Commercial Giant Clam Operation – Robert Reimers Enterprise (RRE)
 - Established in 1995
 - Sole importer was the Ocean Reefs and Aquarium, Inc. (ORA), United States
- Company sold to ORA in 2003
 - Renamed Marshall Islands Mariculture Farm (MIMF)
 - Continued Outer Islands Community Satellite Farming

Background of Marshall Islands Mariculture Farm (MIMF)

- Ocean Reefs and Aquarium, Inc. (ORA), United States renamed (<http://www.orafarm.com>)
 - The only authorized exporter of Giant Clams in the RMI
 - Produces: T. Maxima, T. Squamosa, T. Derasa, T. Gigas, H. Hippopus
 - Supply our local farmers with juvenile clams
 - Buy back program: 18 months period
 - Imports 3-5cm clams and corals from FSM
 - 4-6 cm at \$2.00 per clam from local farmers
 - Exports back main headquarters in Florida exported live for marine ornamental/aquarium trade
 - Products then re exported from the United States

Marshall Islands Mariculture Farm (MIMF)



Export Requirements

- Submit application
- Inspect prior to permit issuance
- Permit issued
- New Permit and Certificate of Health and Origin issued for Giant Clams ARE in accordance with CITES requirement

Trade Constraints

- Shipment seized in Honolulu May 2008
- CITES blacklist: accused for exporting giant clams from wild
 - Required a report to CITES by December 2008
 - Communication issues with CITES
- Shipment seized by US Fish and Wildlife in Florida early 2009 and again in June 2009

Corrective Actions

- Notification of Competent Authority
- Hired consultant to assist with Report to CITES
- Restructured Export Permit (as required by CITES)
- Working with importers with the restructuring of their permits to include all CITES requirements

Modified Permit



Republic of the Marshall Islands
MARSHALL ISLANDS MARINE RESOURCES AUTHORITY
 Post Office Box 860 Majuro, Marshall Islands MH 96960
 Tel: (692)625-8262 Fax: (692)625-5447

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN AND HEALTH
 Giant Clam

This shipment of live juvenile giant clams has been raised from eggs in tanks in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The production and export of these clams is in compliance with all laws and regulations of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, as verified by the signature of the government officials listed below. These marine clams have been individually inspected and are deemed free of diseases, pathogens and parasites.

Shipper (Name & Address) Permit No. 032-08 Marshall Islands Mariculture Farm P.O. Box 1256 Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960 Ph/Fax: (692) 247-2526		Consignee (Name & Address) ORA 5600 US North 1, Fort Pierce Florida, USA	
Date Issued 10-28-08	Expiry Date 12-31-08	Shipping Date 12-10-08	Airway Bill #
Common Name		Scientific Name	Port of Discharge Tampa, Florida
Descript.	Size Range (cm)	Quantity (each)	Weight (lb/kg)
Elongated Giant Clam	<i>Tridacna maxima</i>	Live 3-30	1,200
Fluted Giant Clam	<i>Tridacna squamosa</i>	Live 3-30	600
Vasava Clam	<i>Tridacna derasa</i>	Live 3-30	400
Giant Clam	<i>Tridacna gigas</i>	Live 3-30	300

I, Glen Joseph, Director of the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority, hereby certify that the shipment of animals covered by this document is in accordance with the laws of the RMI, will not be detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild and will be transported in a manner which will minimize the risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment.

Name _____ Date 10-28-08
 Inspector

Authorized by
 Name _____ Date 10-28-08
 MIMRA Director

This permit is equivalent in authority to any permits required to be issued pursuant to Fish and Wildlife in lieu of CITES (Annex D) statement RE: 30CFR-22(b) to which Marshall Islands is not a party. Valid for one shipment only.



REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority
 P.O. BOX 860 Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960
MARINE EXPORT PERMIT

ISSUING AUTHORITY Executive Director Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority P. O. Box 860 Majuro, MH 96960 REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS				PERMIT No.: 009-09 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Export <input type="checkbox"/> Re-Export <input type="checkbox"/> Import <input type="checkbox"/> Other:				ORIGINAL COUNTRY OF ORIGIN Marshall Islands Security Stamp No. GC009MMF09	
EXPORTER (name & address) Marshall Islands Mariculture Farm, Inc. P.O. BOX 1256 Majuro Marshall Islands 96960				IMPORTER (name & address) ORA Inc. 5600 US 1 North Fort Pierce, FL 34946				Signature of Applicant _____	
Purpose Code T	Description Live Animals	Date Issued 07-27-09	Valid Until 01-27-10	Shipping Date 07-29-09	BL/Airway Bill # 005 2783 7714	Country of Import USA			
	Common Name	Scientific Name	Origin	APP	Source	Size Range (cm)	Quantity (each)	Weight/Units (lb/kg)	
1	Fluted Giant Clam	<i>Tridacna squamosa</i>	MH	II	C	6-13	125	NO.	
2	Vasava Giant Clam	<i>Tridacna derasa</i>	MH	II	C	6-10	131	NO.	
3	Elongated Giant Clam	<i>Tridacna maxima</i>	MH	II	C	4-8	357	NO.	
4									
5									
6									
7									
8									
9									
10									
TOTAL							613		

I, Glen Joseph, Director of the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority, hereby certify that the shipment of animals covered by this document has been legally acquired in accordance with the laws and regulations of the RMI, will not be detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild and will be transported in a manner which will minimize the risk of injury, damage to health, or cruel treatment. This permit is only valid if the transport conditions comply with the CITES Guidelines for transport or, in the case of air transport, to the LATA Live Animal Regulations.

FOR OFFICIAL USE:			
Port of Export		Majuro	
Row	Qty	Row	Qty
1		6	XXX
2		7	XXX
3		8	XXX
4	XXX	9	XXX
5	XXX	10	XXX

(Security Stamp) GC009MMF09

Name Melba White Date _____
 Inspector

Authorized by:
 Name Glen Joseph Date _____
 Title MIMRA Director

This permit is equivalent in authority to any permits required to be issued pursuant to Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to which Marshall Islands is not a party. Valid for one shipment only.

Conclusion

- Importance of permits compliance to CITES
- Ensure reporting and issuance of permits as required by CITES
- National Capacity Building on CITES
- **ACCESSION** to CITES



ΚΟΜΜΟΛ ΤΑΤΑ!!

