



AIM Harvest Summary: Weeks of 7/11 and 7/18

3 person crew (2 divers)

Dive Leader: Steve Mendelsohn

Weeks 5 and 6:

The crew worked north of the Lake George Village Clam Mats, harvesting some patches around Tea Island (6 bags). On Wednesday, July 13th we continued the last leg of our shoreline swim from Tea Island, North to Basin Bay, in search of Eurasian Milfoil and Asian Clams. Until this point we had not found any signs of the invasive clam anywhere along the predominantly shallow and sandy bottom shoreline. Conditions that would be conducive for the species to survive in. This changed as we neared Boon Bay, specifically Diamond Village Resort boat launch. As we neared this location we first discovered small groups of dead clam shells on top of the sediment, approximately 10 yards South of Diamond Village Resort. We began bagging samples of the shells for identification and marking their positions with our GPS. Swimming North towards the boat launch the number of dead shells went from groups of 5-10, to groups of 30-40. Upon arrival to the boat launch we noted the highest density of dead clam shells, which at this point were in piles that we could literally scoop up in our hands. Noticing that the rest of Boon Bay and the shallow water point to the Southeast were all sandy bottom in composition, we decided to continue swimming and surveying before making our report. While swimming North into the bay the number of dead clam shells started to diminish. Approximately 5 yards north as we rounded the point into the bay we found no more shells. Swimming the rest of the sandy bottom shoreline around Boon Bay and to the shallow water zone across from Diamond Village Boat Launch, we expected to find more shells due to the favorable conditions, but found none. At this point we contacted Peter Bauer and reported our findings, who then in turn met us at the boat launch with several scientists from the Darrin Fresh Water Institute. At this point we collected samples of dead shells and dug beneath the sediment and collected live specimen of the clam. The samples were then verified by the scientists to be the invasive Asian Clam. This concluded our day, but upon Thursday, July 21st, we conducted a shoreline swim of the lower lake to see if the original infested location had spread throughout the lake. We started directly south of the 700 plus benthic mats that we (Aquatic Invasive Management) had installed earlier this year. We swam South to the village docks, East across Million Dollar Beach and then several miles North all the way to Dunham's Bay and the western shore of Assembly Point. Along this very extensive shoreline swim we found no signs of any invasive Asian Clams.

Milfoil Bag Total: 6 bags 150 lbs

All additional work done during these two weeks was committed to maintenance of the Asian Clam mats in the Lake George Village area.