



Shrimp Welfare Project
<https://www.shrimpwelfareproject.org>
Founded 2021
Seed Grant: \$100,00
9 person team

What We Do

Demand Side

We intend to work on the demand side, reaching out to relevant stakeholders along the supply chain to improve welfare standards for shrimps. Some of the “Asks” we are considering include requiring their suppliers meet certain water quality metrics, incorporate more humane slaughter practices, reduce eyestalk ablation, and limit stocking densities.

Supply Side

We will also work with farmers to improve water quality. The intention is to identify farmers that are part of the supply chain of the organizations we will be working with on the demand side. From conversations with organizations that have been involved in the transition to cage-free hens, we feel that our probabilities of success are maximized if we can directly link supply and demand, transitioning consumption towards a (today non-existent) market for higher-welfare shrimps.

Outreach

In addition to our supply- and demand-side work, we aim to increase the awareness of shrimp welfare as a cause area by participating in relevant conferences and webinars. We also hope to assist in research work relating to the welfare of shrimps.

The Status of Shrimps

Are Shrimps Sentient?

In November 2021, Jonathan Birch and his colleagues from the London School of Economics and Political Science (UK) published a report, the central recommendation was:

We recommend that all cephalopod molluscs (such as octopus and squid) and decapod crustaceans (such as crabs, lobsters & shrimps) be regarded as sentient.

Are Shrimps Treated Well?

Eyestalk ablation - Some hatcheries still practice crushing or cutting off the eyestalk of female shrimps to induce rapid maturation. Recent studies have demonstrated that avoiding eyestalk ablation can result in broodstock living longer and their offspring being more resistant to stress.