

Contact Information:

Louisiana Shrimp Association

Acy J Cooper, President

504-912-0150

acycooper@louisianashrimp.org

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In Response- SeaD Consulting's press release "is Your 'Gulf Shrimp' Actually Farm-Raised Overseas?"

State of Louisiana, October 8, 2024- The Louisiana Shrimp Association's Board of Directors and members are not surprised, but very much concerned, to discover that The Louisiana Shrimp and Petroleum Festival had vendors selling imported shrimp at their last event. This was revealed by SeaD Consulting's use of a DNA-Genetic test which in conjunction with a Florida University, was designed to trace the origin of shrimp. The DNA testing on cooked shrimp dishes from five vendors revealed that out of five tested, only one vendor at this event was providing local caught shrimp to festival goers. LSA believes that this is an ongoing problem at festivals throughout the state. This is unacceptable in a state that is so rich in locally caught shrimp and other seafood products and a state that promotes its culture and seafood nationally and internationally.

LSA has been working tirelessly since 2002 to protect and promote locally caught shrimp and seafood that is harvested by the hard-working men and women of our state. We are continuously working with both local and federal legislatures and agencies, to create laws to protect us from the fraud of selling imported shrimp then passing it on to the consumer as an American product.

LSA, along with others, are working together for the sake of our Louisiana Shrimp industry, an industry that is in dire need of help. The Louisiana shrimp industry, its harvesters and communities are suffering great hardships due to the influx of imported shrimp that are being raised in filthy ponds and contain bacteria and antibiotics that are banned in the United States. This imported shrimp is said to be dangerous for human consumption. There is no excuse for passing this cheap unhealthy shrimp off as locally caught shrimp. Restaurants, food vendors, festivals and anyone else that sells shrimp to the consumer in a fraudulent manner should be fined and dealt with accordingly.

We thank SeaD Consulting and the others that were involved, for bringing this problem to the forefront of our state.

Louisiana Shrimp Association is asking that all Louisiana residents, food establishments, festival organizers, as well as the vendors, come together and promote Louisiana's rich culture and serve locally caught seafood.

"The Louisiana Shrimp Association is a nonprofit organization formed by commercial shrimpers throughout the State of Louisiana. Membership consists of commercial shrimp fisherman, wholesale and retail seafood dealers, statewide merchants, and individuals concerned about issues related to domestic seafood and shrimp production as well as the preservation of the culture and heritage of the traditional Louisiana shrimper."