

INSPECTION FORM No. 002/07

Product	Mother of Pearl (from <i>Pinctada maxima</i>)
Country of Origin	AUSTRALIA
Inspection Date	24 May 2006 and 14 November 2007
Place	Clipper Pearls Factory, Quondong Point and Clipper Pearl Hatchery, Broome (NW Australia)
Check of official documents concerning the activity	Pearl Oyster Pearling (Wildstock) licence Pearl Oyster Pearl (Seeding) Licence (Hatchery) Pearl Oyster Hatchery (nursery) Licence Pearl Oyster Farm lease Issued under WA Pearling Act 1990, issued on 1 January 2007
Wild stock harvesting (wild specimens) quota (TAC)	30,000 specimens
Fishing area	Zone 2 and 3 WA
Authority holding the original documents	P.P.Rogers (director) Pearling Act 1990 (Section 23 & 26), Fishery Direction, Western Australia Regional Government
Note	The pearl oysters fishery from the wild stocks is managed by Department of Fishery of the WA Regional Government, following the scientific assessment regularly made by CSIRO, for ensuring a sustainable and durable use of the resource. The pearl oyster hatcheries are regularly inspected and controlled by the same Authority, using the local inspectors from Broome Regional Fisheries Office. Further regulations issued by the Minister for Fisheries of the Kimberley, Pilbara et Gaiscone are in place, but they are included in those managed by the Department of Fishery of the WA Regional Government.
Pearl oysters quota from the Company's hatcheries	30,000
Authority holding the original documents	P.P.Rogers (director) Pearling Act 1990 (Section 23 & 26), Fishery Direction, Western Australia Regional Government
Note	Additional 30,000 pearls oysters were provided by the hatchery in Broome, reaching a total of 60,000 oysters, for a total production of about 30 tons in 2006.
Other specimens	none
Authority holding the original documents	
Note	
Osservazioni	The farm is based in the southern part of the Kimberly area, one of the most iconic of the Western Australia, where just few activities able to reach a fine balance between the conservation of natural environment and cultural heritage and the economic development are allowed to stay. The pearl oyster farm of Clipper Pearls P/L, located in Quondong Point (about 50 km North of Broome, NW Australia), fully implements all parameters concerning the environmental care and all other specific issues regulated by the Regional Government of WA and by the Australian Federal Government. The light submerged structures for the pearl oysters are located in a vast marine area offshore, in front of the Quondong Point, without any land facility, that are located in Broome, along with the Office and the hatchery. That area has optimal environmental conditions, transparent seawaters, pristine and interesting benthic communities, and a variety of pelagic fauna including dugongs, sharks and marine turtles. The coastal area is also pristine, with sandy beaches, sand banks and coastal vegetation, all in perfect natural

	<p>conditions.</p> <p>The inspection included also the vessel used as a laboratory for implanting the nucleus of the pearls in the oysters, as well as the smaller vessels for the diving assistance and the pearl oysters cleaning operations and all were strictly following very carefully all the environmental cares and rules.</p> <p>The Company is already using most of the discards and is firmly engaged in eliminating the small quantities that are not actually used, following a multi-year improvement plan.</p> <p>The Company has also plans for progressively reducing the harvesting of wild stocks, increasing the hatchery numbers, but this depends on the improvement capabilities of the hatchery in Broome.</p> <p>The factory in Broome produces very small quantities of physical wastes that are all duly managed; the small quantities of wastewaters are mandatory treated before discharging them, following the details provided by the WA Government.</p> <p>A native expert properly manages the hatchery facility in Broome, which is very clean. The hatchery has also educational programmes for the visitors and the children, because they can access some tanks.</p> <p>The inspection included also interviews with the local workers and the experts and all individuals were very happy of their managers, revealing a friendly working environment. There was no sex discrimination, the participation of native Australians (aboriginal) is very welcome, and several are already working there. All workers are under regular contracts, according to the local regulations, and the Company already adopts the ILO/UNO recommendations. No child work is admitted.</p> <p>The inspection was extended to the Department of Fishery and the Department of Industry and Resources of the WA Regional Government in Freemantle and Perth, for checking the original documents and the regulations. The Government officers welcomed my inspection, remarking that nothing similar happened before, even for other well-known certifications for fishery products.</p>
Inspector	Dr. Antonio Di Natale – Marine Biologist
Signature	