

Record Shrimp Harvest, But Prices Still High

When we buy some shrimp for holiday hor d'oeuvres this season, we might think something is fishy.

Why, we might ask, is the price of shrimp still high when North Carolina is having its best shrimp harvest in more than 30 years? Indeed, North Carolina shrimpers have brought almost 11 million pounds of shrimp to the docks through October this year. And, with such a mild autumn, the harvest still continues.

In the record year, 1953, 14.6 million pounds of shrimp were caught in North Carolina waters. Each year the North Carolina shrimp harvest depends a lot on environmental conditions during the spring when young shrimp are growing in the shallow estuarine nursery areas. If it is a rainy season and runoff dilutes the salt content of the water, and if temperatures are too cool, the shrimp harvest that year is diminished.

Regardless of environmental conditions, "Tarheel shrimp lovers have to understand that shrimp are an international commodity like soybeans, wheat, or corn," said Joseph McClees, chief of seafood development, North Carolina Division of

Marine Fisheries, Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. "Shrimp caught in North Carolina are only a small amount of the world shrimp catches."

More than 60% of the shrimp eaten in the USA is imported, McClees said. For example, in one recent week, 13 countries imported 7.9 million pounds of shrimp into this country.

In addition to shrimp caught in the wild, as it is in North Carolina, pond-raised foreign shrimp are becoming more and more prominent in the world marketplace. "This volume many times adversely affects USA markets, just as the textile industry is being adversely affected by products from Third World countries," McClees said. "The main problem facing the American shrimp industry is competing with cheap labor, cheap processing, and cheap distribution."

Although very significant to the North Carolina coastal economy, with North Carolina commercial fishermen receiving more than \$19 million for their catches through October of this year, the North Carolina catch is also small on the national

level. During 1984, when 301 million pounds were landed in the United States, the North Carolina harvest was 5 million pounds.

The price of shrimp will probably not go down, according to McClees. "With demand more than supply, the laws of economics dictate that prices stay the same or increase," he said. "This is especially true with North Carolina shrimp. Our shrimp are known as a quality product and bring a higher price."

This Week's Tide Table

Day/Date	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday 12	7:59	8:13	1:27	2:16
Friday 13	8:54	9:08	2:18	3:06
Saturday 14	9:48	10:02	3:09	3:58
Sunday 15	10:37	10:55	4:00	4:50
Monday 16	11:31	11:51	4:54	5:40
Tuesday 17	—	12:22	5:48	6:31
Wednesday 18	12:45	1:14	6:44	7:23

ADJUSTMENTS
 SHALLOTTE INLET (Bowen Point)—add 10 min. high tide, add 28 min. low tide.
 TUBBS INLET—subtract 19 min. high tide, subtract 12 min. low tide.
 LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 29 min. high tide, subtract 12 min. low tide.
 LITTLE RIVER—add 3 min. low tide.
 BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 17 min. high tide, subtract 11 min. low tide.



All In A Day's Crabbing?

Grant Byerly of Greensboro and Boone's Neck didn't know what to think recently when he pulled in the heavier-than-usual crab pot tied to the family pier on Windy Point Road. Inside was this clinging octopus, its tentacles stretching 18 inches in all directions for a

diameter of about 50 inches. He dubbed the blushing octopus, which continuously changed colors, "the beastie of Boone's Neck" and abandoned plans to go clamming in the same area of the Intra-coastal Waterway. He and his wife, Doris, planned to cook the tentacles.

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MEN'S AND LADIES' SIZES
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4⁹⁹ TEES
Regularly To 6.49.
Men's 3 pack cotton briefs & tees.
Sizes S,M,L,XL.

2⁹⁹
BOYS' BRIEFS
Regularly 3.99. Three pack of 100% cotton briefs. Pre-shrunk. Sizes S,M,L,XL.

1⁹⁹
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35 count multi-colored or clear miniature lite set. UL approved.

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Artificial Scotch Pine Christmas tree with 62 tips and stand. Easy to assemble. 4 FOOT TREE... 7.99

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Compare To 8.99. Action joggers for the family in assorted sporty colors.

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1⁹⁹
ASSORTED COLOGNES
Regularly To 2.99 Each. Fragrance Friends, or Club Royale cologne, Brut Travel Pack Or Lander's dusting powder with perfume

2⁹⁹ FOR \$5
ASSORTED GAMES
Regularly To 2.99 Each. Chinese Checkers, the Scribbler's Drawing Board, 40 Card Bingo or Checkers.

\$1
42 OUNCE AJAX DETERGENT
Regularly 1.63. Heavy duty laundry detergent. Limit 2.

79^c
QUAKER STATE OIL
Regularly 1.09. One quart 10W30 Super Blend motor oil. Limit 5.

3 FOR \$1
CHRISTMAS MINT STICKS
Giant four ounce red and white Christmas candy mint sticks.

\$1 2 PACK C OR D
2⁹⁹ FOR \$3 2 PACK 9 VOLT 4 PK. AA
HEAVY DUTY BATTERIES
Regularly To 1.99. Eveready Super Heavy Duty batteries.

Prices Good Through The Weekend While Quantities Last. Quantities Limited On Some Items. No Sales To Dealers.

TWIN CREEK SHOPPING CENTER

MON.-SAT. 9 AM-9 PM

SUNDAY 1 PM-6 PM