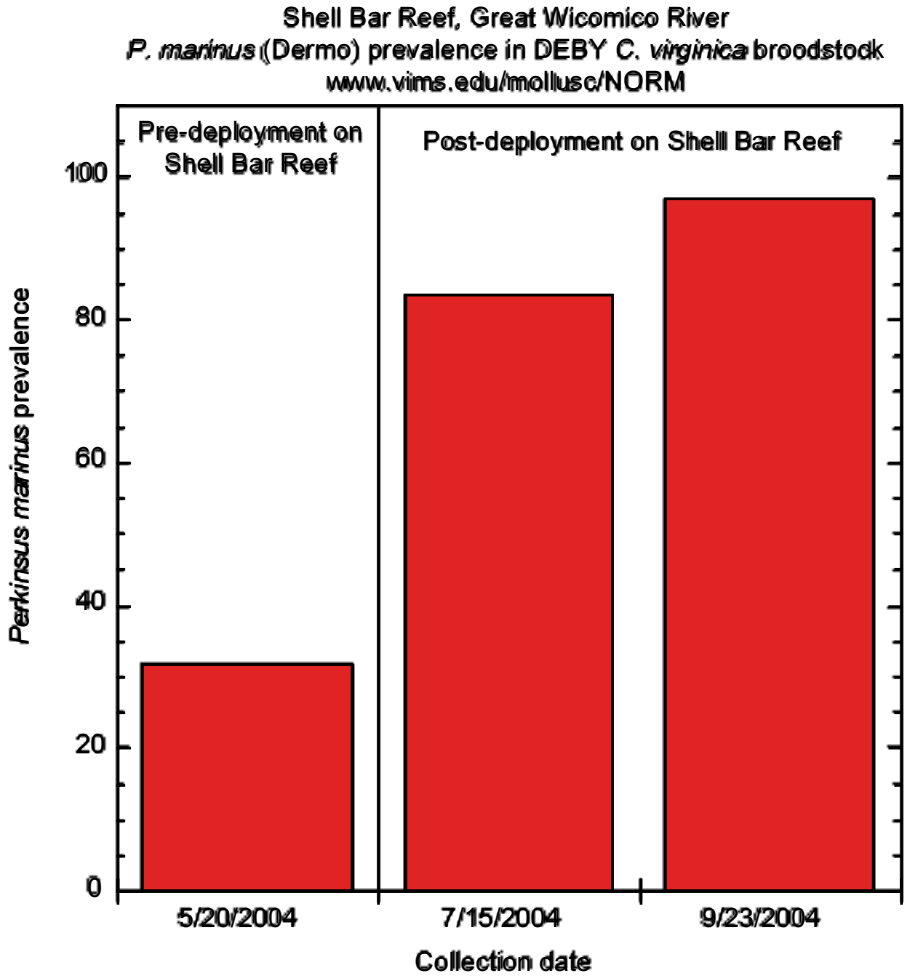
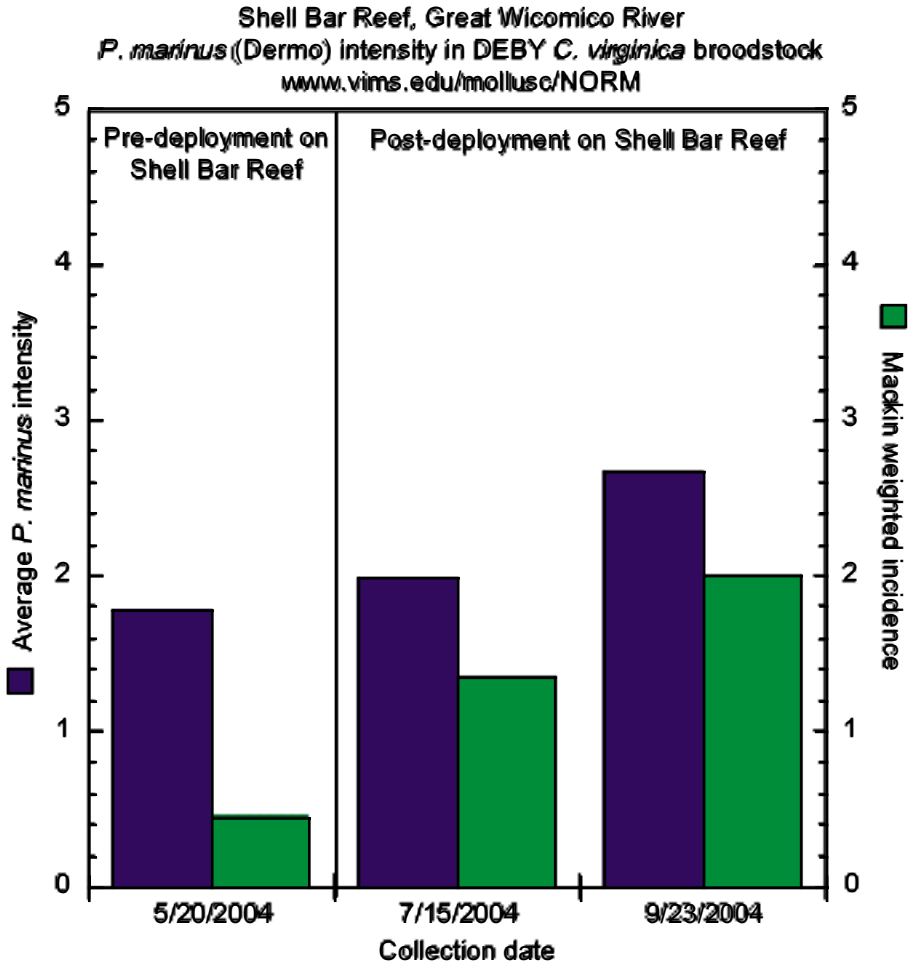
Speaker's Notes: Shell Bar Reef, Great Wicomico River: *P. marinus* (Dermo) prevalence and intensity.

Contact Dr. Ryan Carnegie (carnagie@vims.edu) for additional information or questions regarding these data.





Perkinsus marinus prevalence among oysters deployed to Shell Bar Reef increased from 32% at the time of deployment in May 2004 to 83% in July 2004 and 97% in September 2004. Mean *P. marinus* infection intensity, increased from 1.78 at time of deployment to 1.98 in July and 2.66 in September (scale 0.5-5, with infection scored as 0.5 = rare, 1 = light, 3 = moderate, or 5 = heavy). Mackin weighted incidence (WI) of *P. marinus* increased from 0.44 at time of deployment to 1.35 in July and 2 in September (infection scoring as above but with 0.5 now representing the level at which mortality begins, 1 the level at which mortality reaches moderate levels, and 2 the level above which serious losses occur). By September, a large proportion of oysters at Shell Bar Reef were experiencing disease (the average infection approached moderate intensity) and the Mackin WI of 2 suggests that moderate mortality was occurring. *P. marinus* activity was more intense at Shell Bar Reef than anywhere else in the Great Wicomico River in 2004 despite the presumed disease resistance of the deployed oysters and despite their relatively small size (*P. marinus* activity is generally more intense in larger, older oysters).

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