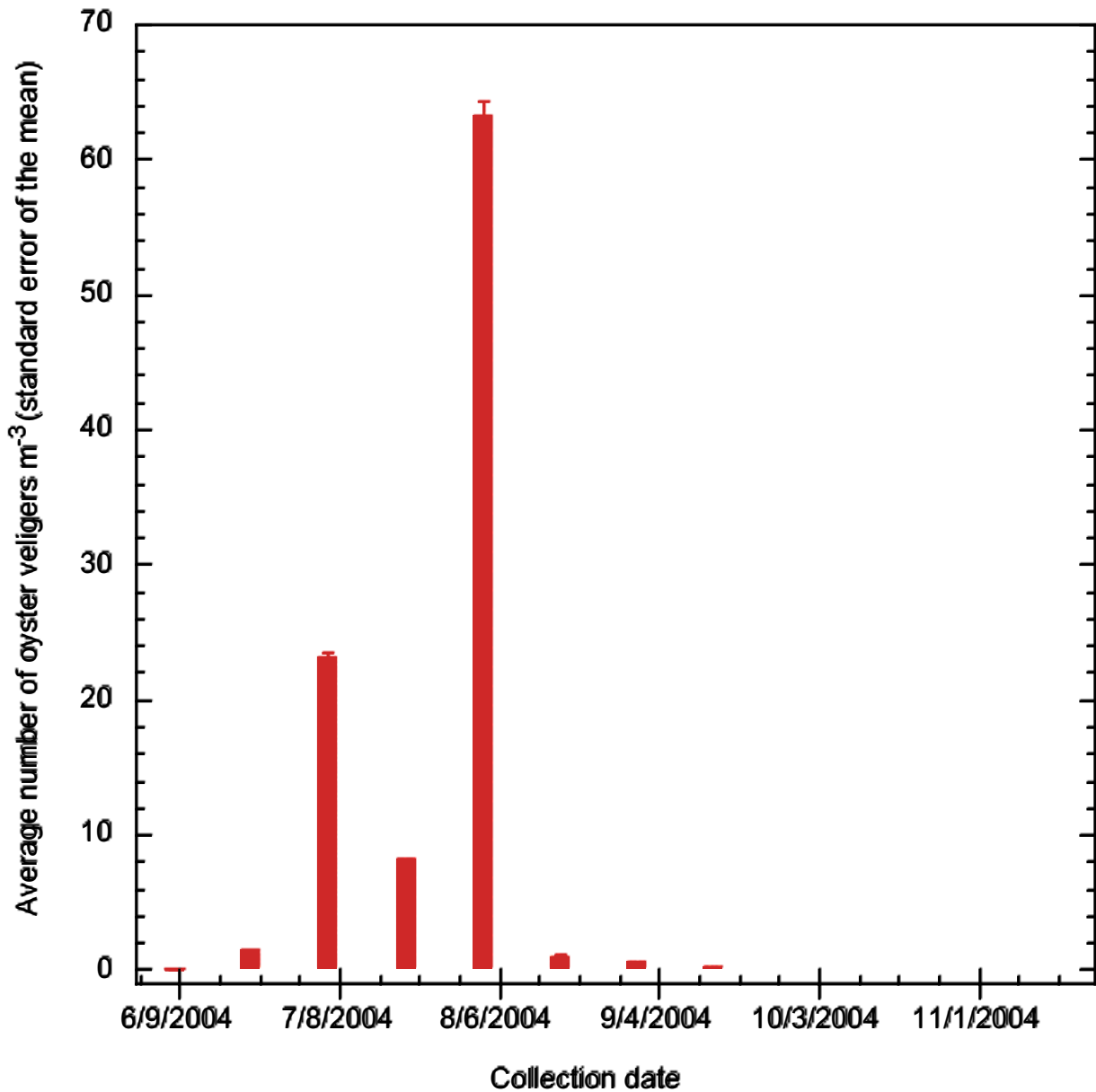


Speaker's Notes: Shell Bar Reef, Great Wicomico River - Veliger Abundance  
Contact Dr. Roger Mann (rmann@vims.edu) for additional information or questions regarding these data.

**Shell Bar Reef, Great Wicomico River**  
**Average oyster veligers per m<sup>3</sup> per week**  
[www.vims.edu/mollusc/NORM](http://www.vims.edu/mollusc/NORM)



Oyster veligers were present in the water column near Shell Bar Reef from mid June through mid September 2004. Veliger abundance was highest during July with the maximum number of veligers observed during the last week in July. Veliger abundance within an estuary should be highest 2-3 weeks after a spawning event and 1-2 weeks before a recruitment event. The temporal pattern of veliger abundance observed near Shell Bar Reef indicates that the major spawning event for oysters in the river occurred in late June or early July and that there may have been an early spawn during the first part of June.