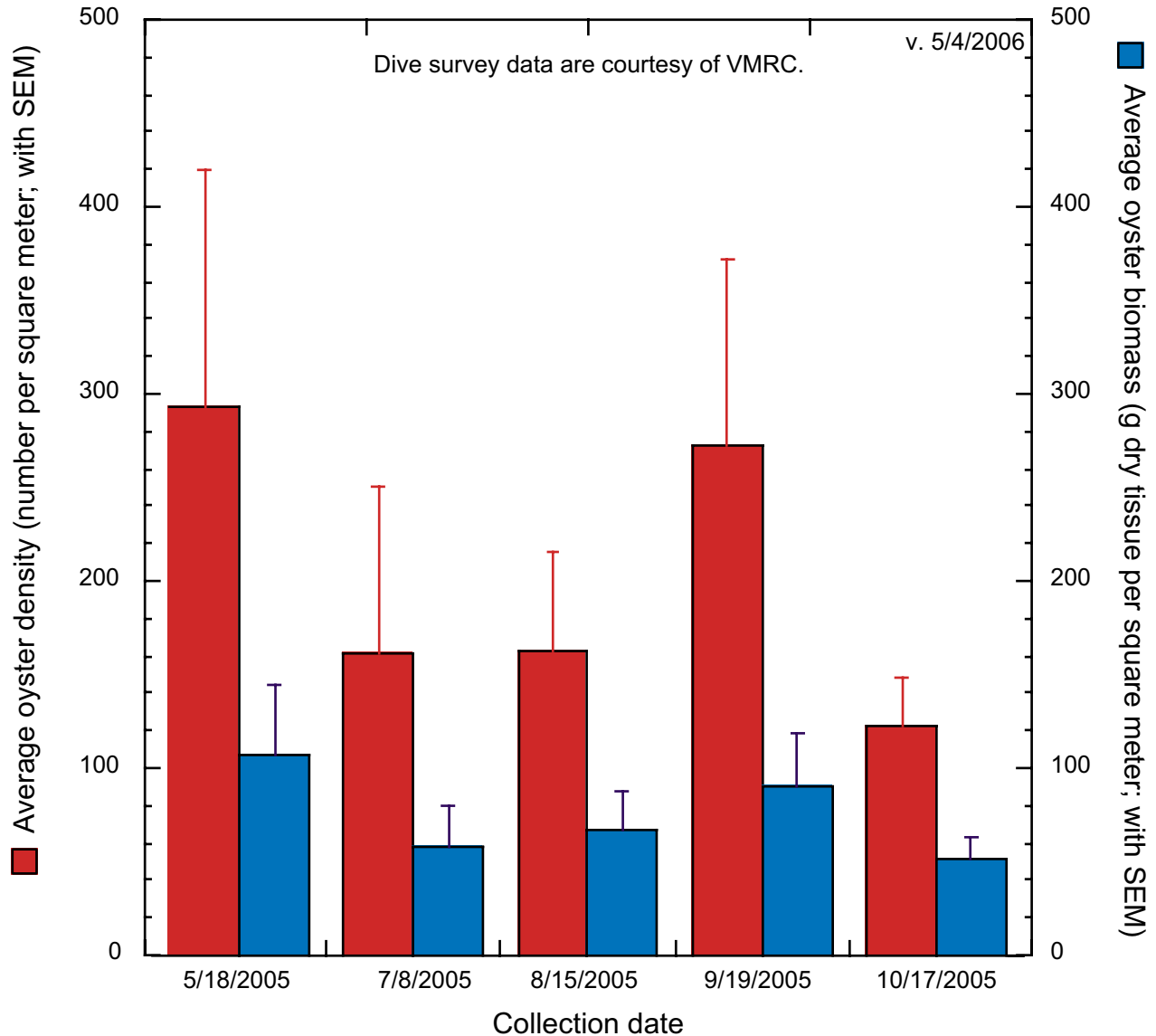


Speaker's Notes: Shell Bar Reef, Great Wicomico River -
Density and Biomass from Dive Surveys

Contact Dr. Roger Mann (rmann@vims.edu) for additional information or questions regarding these data.

Shell Bar Reef, Great Wicomico River
Average oyster density and biomass
www.vims.edu/mollusc/NORM



Dive surveys were conducted on Shell Bar Reef four times from May-October 2005. During each survey, oyster densities were recorded in 12 quadrats which were then averaged to yield reef density (number of oysters per square meter) estimates with standard error of the mean. Each oyster was measured (shell height, mm) and this height was used to estimate biomass (g dry tissue). Biomass estimates were made for each quadrat and quadrat biomass estimates were averaged across the 12 samples to give estimates of biomass (g dry tissue) per square meter. Oyster densities and biomass observed in May and September were similar. These estimates include both wild and aquaculture oysters.