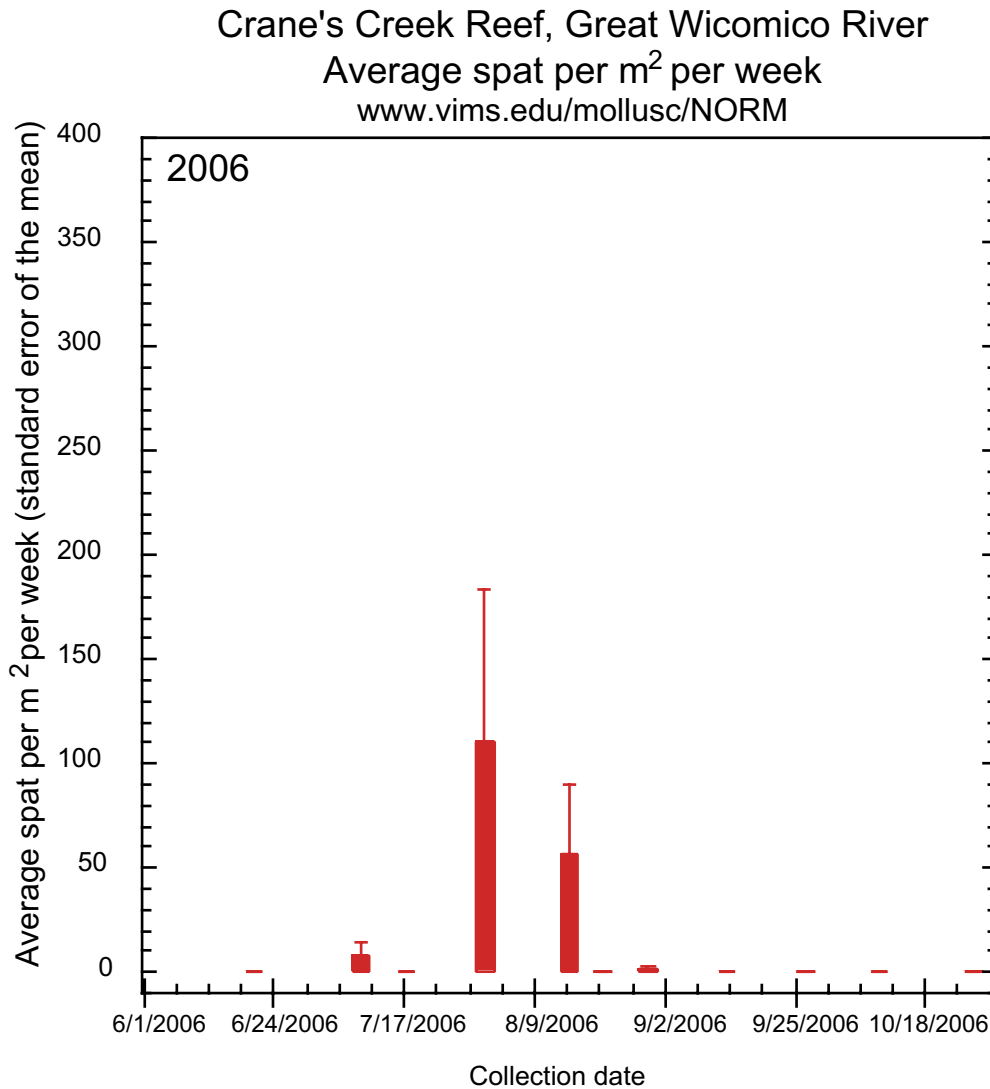


Speaker's Notes: Crane's Creek Reef, Great Wicomico River - Recruit Abundance
Contact Mr. P.G. Ross (pg@vims.edu) for additional information or questions regarding these data.



Settlement collectors consisting of arrays of ceramic tiles were deployed within 10 m of reef surfaces throughout the season. Oyster spat settling on tiles were examined under a microscope in the laboratory. This technique is used to give an index of actual settlement on the reef surface.

Moderate to high settlement was observed for 2006 relative to patterns from 2004-2005. Higher settlements rates over a longer period were seen. Similar trends were observed to varying degrees at most reefs being monitored during 2006.