

Refrigeration Requirements for Shellfish at a Certified Dealer

(Shellfish must be delivered the same day as harvest)

Oysters

Clams

(Times listed in the table are when oysters must be placed in a cooler at a certified shellfish processing facility)

Month	Traditional Cooling ¹	Rapid Cooling ²	On-board Cooling with Ice Slurry ³	Restricted Use Only ⁴ (Green Tag)	Delivery to processor (same day of harvest)
November	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.
December	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.
January	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.
February	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.
March	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	5:00 p.m.	10:00 p.m.
April	11:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	12 Hours
May	Not permitted	11:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	12 Hours
June	Not permitted	11:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	10 Hours
July	Not permitted	11:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	10 Hours
August	Not permitted	11:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	10 Hours
September	Not permitted	11:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	10 Hours
October	11:00 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	4:00 p.m.	12 Hours

Refer to FWC regulations for current bag limits and resource protection seasonal closures.

1- Traditional Cooling - Oysters must be in the cooler of a certified facility by time specified the day of harvest and at or below 55°F in 8 hours.

2 - Rapid Cooling - Oysters must be in the cooler of a certified facility by time specified the day of harvest and at or below 55°F in 2 hours.

3 - On-board Cooling with Ice Slurry - Oysters cooled on boat with ice slurry dip within 1 hour of harvest and stored under mechanical refrigeration or in a cooler surrounded by ice. Oysters must be in the cooler of a certified facility no later than 3:00pm.

4 - Restricted Use (green tag) - Oysters that do not meet the Rapid Cool or On-Board Cooling requirements must be tagged for shucking only by a certified dealer or for Post-Harvest Processing (PHP) only.



Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services