

GULF COAST RESEARCH LABORATORY

OCEAN SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI

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INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

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Dear Dr. Stenzel:

Thank you for your letter of the 4th concerning the brief study on the degree to which oysters open their shells. The length of experimental oyster C was measured from a point anterior to the hinge ligament to the bill end of the oyster.

The maximum degree to which the oyster opened was measured as you indicated in your sketch, (see areas marked with red pencil).

If you would like, I will be glad to do more measurements as this does seem like an interesting problem.

If I can be of further help please feel free to ask.

I am sorry for the delay in answering your letter, but I have been out of town and just returned.

With kindest regards,

Wm. Demoran

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Enclosure

Specimen C

Length of experimental oyster C $4\frac{3}{16}$ "

Oyster remained open on Kymograph with valves
2 mm. apart 4.4% of the time.

Maximum degree to which oyster opened was $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.
0.5% of the time on Kymograph

After oyster had been killed by low heat and
placed in wire basket so that crabs could
remove meat, valves opened 15 mm.

