{rokbox title=|Examples of European marine aquaculture farms :: Image: Authors| thumb=|images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-ieo-knowledge-wave-on-marine-litter-from-aquaculture-sources-d22-aqualit-project-2020-thumb.jpg|}images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-ieo-knowledge-wave-on-marine-litter-from-aquaculture-sources-d22-aqualit-project-2020.jpg{/rokbox}

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Abstract: The aim of this report is to provide an overview of the available knowledge on marine debris originating from the aquaculture sector and reported in the marine environment of the North Sea region, the Mediterranean region, and the Baltic region. In order to understand the potential sources of aquaculture debris, this report starts by providing an overview of the different types of aquaculture facilities in these areas. In the North Sea, aquaculture of shellfish is widespread along the coasts of most countries whereas floating cages for finfish farming are clustered in favourable areas in the outer regions of the Greater North Sea. Production of seaweed is still limited in the North Sea with France and Norway being the major producers and other countries investing in pilot facilities to explore economic feasibility. In the Baltic Sea, mariculture facilities are less diverse and abundant, with very little shellfish and seaweed facilities. The production of finfish is limited to Finland, Sweden and Denmark. In the Mediterranean Sea, aquaculture is charachterised by a much wider variety of finfish production. Also shellfish and seaweed production is present, mainly in France, Italy and Spain.

Keywords: litter, waste, debris, aquaculture, marine environment