



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Seattle District

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

US Army Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Branch  
4735 E Marginal Way S, Bldg 1202  
Seattle, WA 98134-2388  
Telephone: (206) 764-5531  
ATTN: Kylie Webb,  
Project Manager

Public Notice Date: May 4, 2022  
Expiration Date: June 3, 2022

Reference No.: NWS-2022-00055-AQ  
Name: Goodro Shellfish (Eld Inlet  
Evergreen Shellfish Farm)

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit in accordance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, for certain work described below and shown on the enclosed drawings dated March 31, 2022. The Corps will also review the work in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA).

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) issued a Section 401 Water Quality Certification on February 16, 2022. Ecology issued an amendment to the Water Quality Certification on March 18, 2022, additionally, Ecology issued a Coastal Zone Management Consistency determination on May 3, 2022.

**APPLICANT:** Goodro Shellfish  
Attention: Mr. Joe Schreiber  
Post Office Box 12551  
Olympia, Washington 98508  
Telephone: (360) 789-3401

**LOCATION:** The project site is located within approximately 7 acres of privately owned tidelands within parcel numbers 60920000600, 60920000700, 60920000800, 60920000900, 60920001000, 60920001100, and 60920001200 within Eld Inlet, near Olympia, Thurston County, Washington (hereafter "the site"). The project would be located in the intertidal portion of the tidelands between +7.0 feet (ft) and -4.0 ft Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) tidal elevations.

**WORK:** The Applicant proposes to cultivate up to 6 acres of commercial shellfish mariculture consisting of up to 4.6 acres of Pacific Oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) between +1.0 ft and -4.0 ft MLLW and up to 2.4 acres of Manila clam (*Venerupis philippinarum*) between +5.0 ft and +1.0 ft MLLW. Additionally, the Applicant proposes to harvest 1 acre of naturally occurring Manila clam (*Venerupis philippinarum*) between +7.0 ft and +5.0 ft MLLW. In general the work would include the following:

**Oyster Cultivation / Harvest:** Oyster cultivation would consist of a combination of ground culture, pillow bag culture and/or rack and bag culture, and rope and bag culture between +1 ft and -4 ft MLLW.

**Ground cultivation / harvest:** of oysters would occur on 1.4 acres of tideland by dispersing juvenile seeds onto the intertidal area. The adult oysters would be harvested by hand and placed into mesh bags and placed on a boat for removal.

**Pillow Bag and/or rack and bag cultivation / harvest:** either pillow bag cultivation, rack and bag cultivation, or a

combination may occur on 1.3 acres of tideland. Pillow bag culture would occur by placing oyster seed into a black plastic mesh bag (approx. ¼ mesh) offsite. The seeded bags would then be transported by boat to the property and would be placed onto the intertidal substrate. The bags would then be secured by wires to ropes installed on the beach. Ropes would be secured to metal fence posts on the beach. When the oysters are ready to be harvested, the bags would be untied from the rope, and oysters would unbagged onto the beach. Oysters would be hand counted and loaded onto the boat, along with the used mesh bags. The boat would then transport the oysters to the applicant's upland shop in Shelton, WA.

Rack and bag cultivation would occur by placing juvenile shellfish (seed) into black plastic mesh bags (approx. 1/4 inch mesh) offsite. The seed would be transported by boat to the property and would be attached to wire to racks made of 3/4 inch rebar, resting approximately 1 foot above the sediment surface. When the subsequent adult oysters are ready to be harvested, the mesh bags would be untied from the racks by hand and oysters would be dumped onto the beach, counted by hand, and loaded onto the boat along with the mesh bags. The boat would then transport the oysters to the applicant's upland shop in Shelton, WA.

Rope Bag cultivation / harvest would occur on 1.9 acres of tideland by placing oyster seed into a black plastic mesh bag offsite. The seeded bags would be transported by boat to the property and would be secured by wire to rope. The rope would be attached to T posts approximately 1 ½" wide by 5' long, made of steel, and are secured in the sediment with 2' exposed. There would be approximately 50' between posts. When the oysters are ready for harvest, the bags would be untied from the rope by hand and the oysters would be dumped onto the beach and counted. Subsequent product is then bagged and removed by boat to the applicant's upland shop in Shelton, WA.

**Bed Preparation:** A mixture of washed pea gravel and setting substrate totaling 140 cubic yards would be used on the upper portion of the beach between +5 ft MLLW and +1 ft MLLW, as well as some soft areas between +1 ft MLLW and -4 ft MLLW. The gravel mixture would be placed by hand in sections of approximately 900 ft by 50 ft to a depth of 1-inch. Some sections may have additional gravel added, but no more than 1-inch per year would be placed.

**Clam Cultivation / Harvest:** Clam cultivation would consist of ground culture. Juvenile seeds would be dispersed in 1.4 acres of the intertidal area between +5 ft and +1 ft MLLW. Freshly seeded areas would be netted. The nets would be approximately 50 ft by 15 ft in size and would be placed in two rows where the seed is planted. The nets would be secured around their perimeter with rebar hooks that would not protrude from the sediment surface. Adult clams would be harvested by hand and placed in mesh bags and placed on a boat for removal.

Additionally, manual harvest of 1.0 acre of naturally occurring Manila clams is proposed using a clam fork between +7 ft and +5 ft MLLW. Clams would be placed into mesh bags and removed via boat to the applicant's upland shop in Shelton, WA.

PURPOSE: The project purpose is for the cultivation of shellfish aquaculture for commercial sale and consumption.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The Applicant has requested a 10-year permit duration.

Copies of this public notice which have been mailed or otherwise physically distributed feature project drawings in black and white. The electronic version features those drawings in color, which we think more accurately communicates the scope of project impacts. To access the electronic version of this public notice, go to the Seattle District's web page at <http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/> and under the heading Open Public Comment Periods select Regulatory Public Notices. Recently-issued public notices are listed in chronological order of the date of issuance. Select and view the listing for this project.

MITIGATION: The Applicant has not proposed compensatory mitigation for the project.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA on all actions that may affect a species listed (or proposed for listing) under the ESA as threatened or endangered or any designated critical habitat.

The Corps is assessing the potential impacts to listed species and critical habitat in the project area for consistency with the Programmatic Biological Opinions for Shellfish Activities in Washington State Inland Marine Waters (USFWS Reference Number 01EWF00-2016-F-0121, and NMFS Reference Number WCR-2014-1502).

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

The Corps is assessing the potential impacts to listed species and critical habitat in the project area for consistency with the Programmatic Biological Opinions for Shellfish Activities in Washington State Inland Marine Waters (USFWS Reference Number 01EWF00-2016-F-0121, and NMFS Reference Number WCR-2014-1502).

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The Corps has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data and other sources of information. The Corps invites responses to this public notice from Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies; historical and archeological societies; and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns regarding historic properties and sites of religious and cultural significance at or near the project area. After receipt of comments from this public notice, the Corps will evaluate potential impacts and consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Native American Nations in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as appropriate.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Washington Department of Ecology has or will evaluate the proposed project in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and for consistency with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether

to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the work. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD: Conventional mail or e-mail comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether authorizing the work would not be contrary to the public interest. In order to be accepted, e-mail comments must originate from the author's e-mail account and must include on the subject line of the e-mail message the permit applicant's name and reference number as shown below. All e-mail comments should be sent to [Kylie.M.Webb@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kylie.M.Webb@usace.army.mil). Conventional mail comments should be sent U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, 4735 E Marginal Way S, Bldg 1202, Seattle, Washington, 98134-2388. Either conventional mail or e-mail comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number, as shown below, and the commenter's name, address, and phone number. All comments received will become part of the administrative record and are subject to public release under the Freedom of Information Act including any personally identifiable information such as names, phone numbers, and addresses. All comments whether conventional mail or e-mail must reach this office, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration. Please include the following name and reference number:

Goodro Shellfish, NWS-2022-00055-AQ

Encl: Figures (4 Pages)

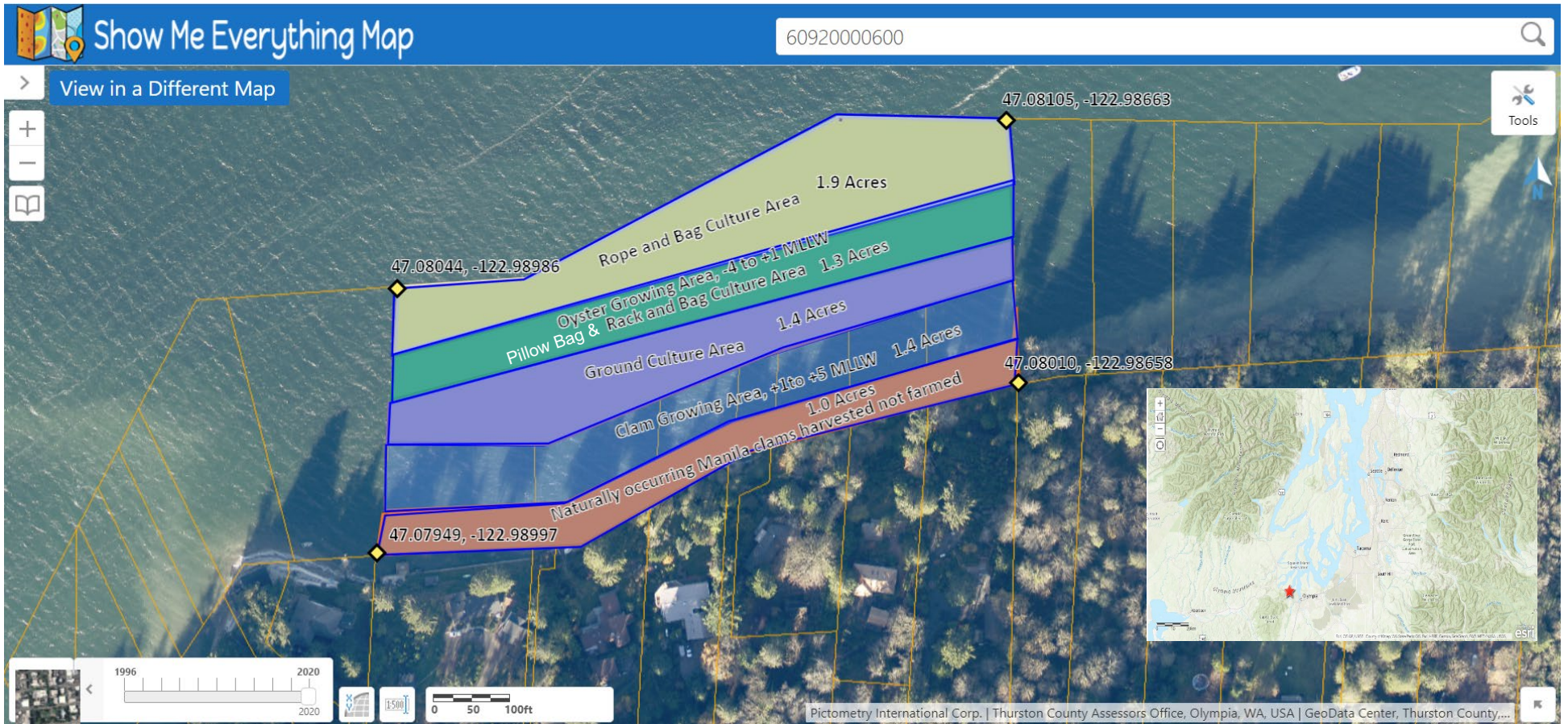
**Figure 1.** Proposed project schematic. Clam growing area is proposed site for gravel fill, oyster growing area will not be filled with gravel. **\*\*Not Drawn to Scale\*\***

*Company Name:* Goodro Shellfish Co.

*Parcel Numbers:* 60920000600, 60920000700, 60920000800, 60920000900, 6092000100, 60920001100, 60920001200

*Project Name:* Goodro Shellfish Eld Inlet Shellfish Farm

*Section:* 06 *Township:* 18 *Range:* 2W



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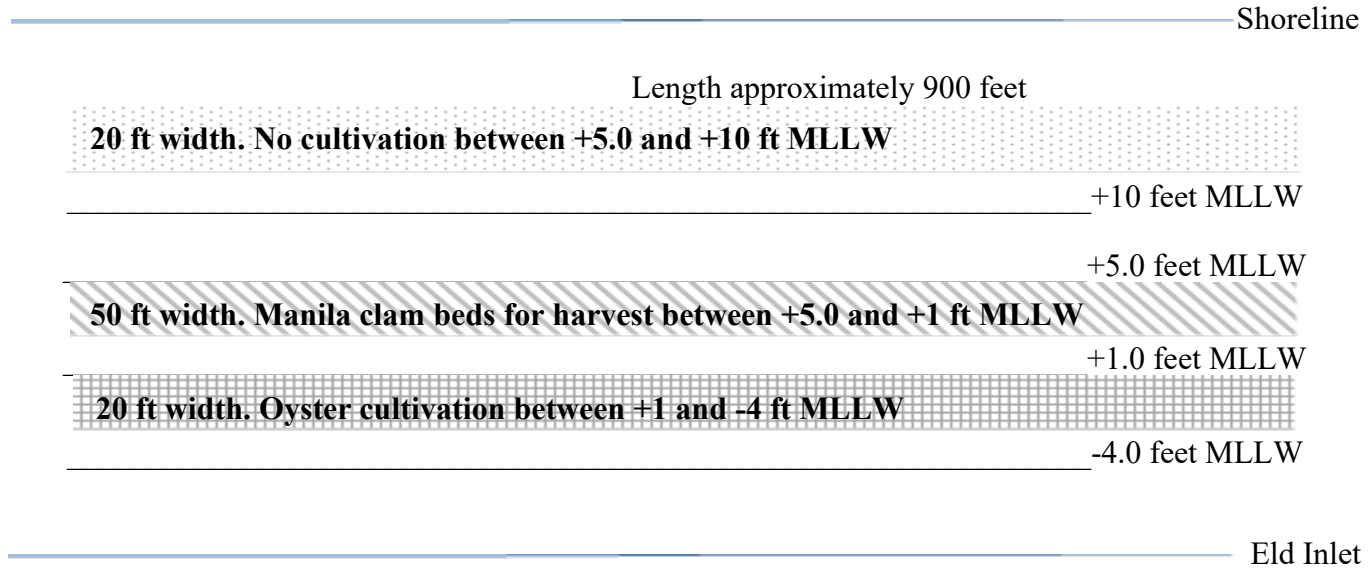
**Figure 2.** Proposed project farming schematic with detailed farming information. **\*\*Not Drawn to Scale\*\***

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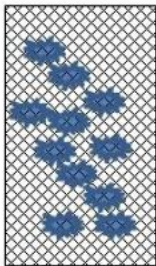
Beach

Plastic mesh pillow bag cross section.  = oyster inside the bag

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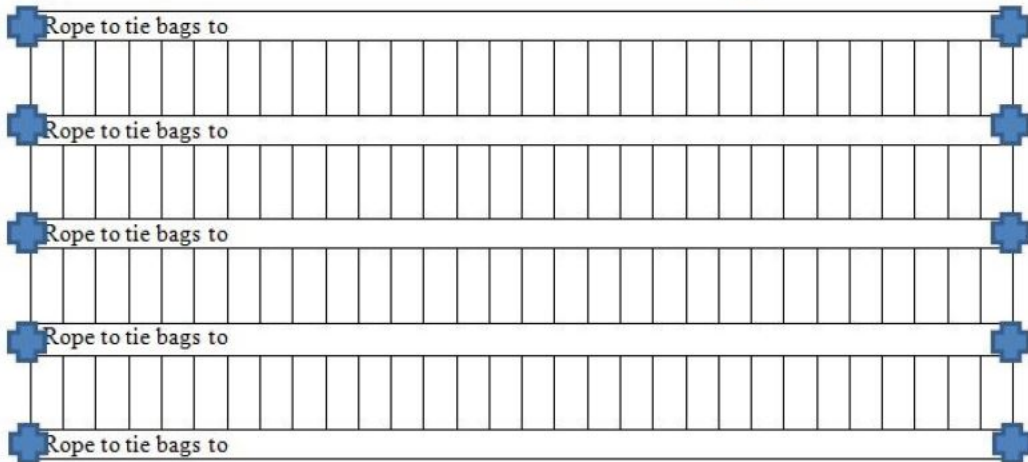
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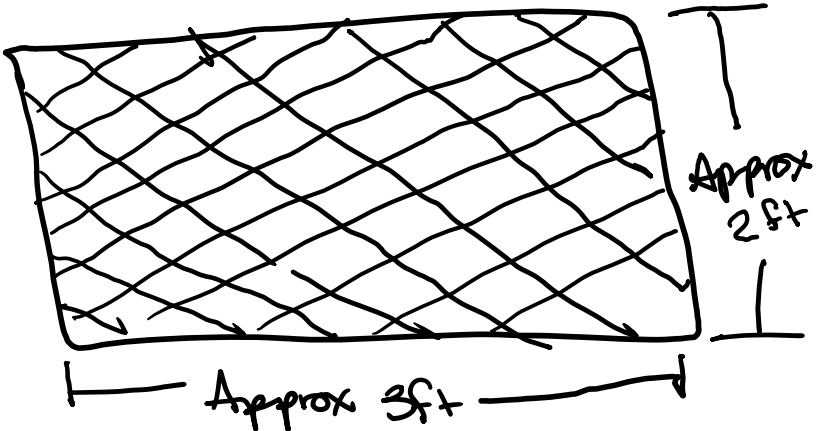
Plastic mesh pillow bag as seen from above.

Oyster farm Bird's eye view: Each rectangle represents a pillow bag.  = fence post to tie rope



# Rack and Bag Culture

## Top View



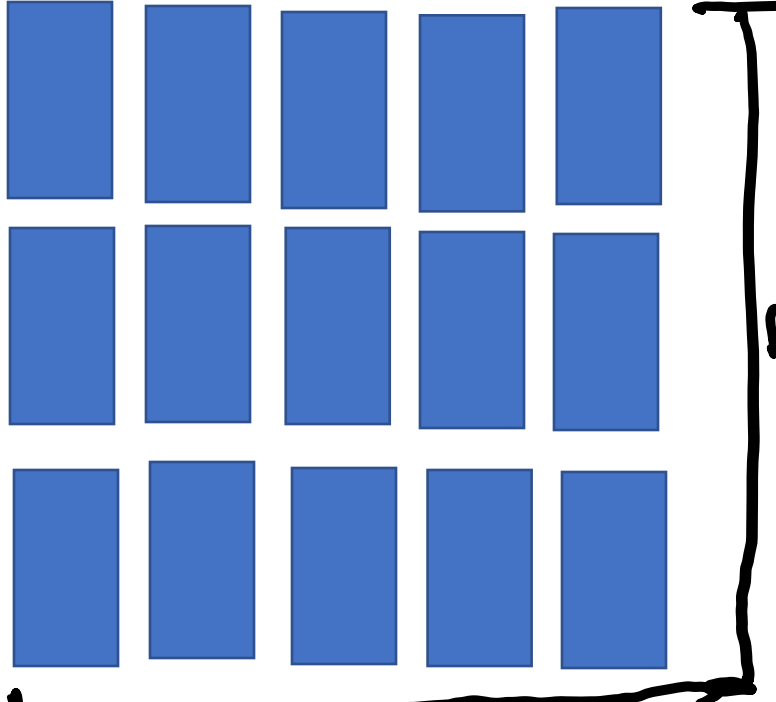
## Side View



Water



Shore



## Aerial View

- 5 foot spacing between rows
- Not drawn to scale

Approx 10ft

Approx 20ft