

## **STUDY OF THE MAIN FACTORS INFLUENCING HATCHLING QUALITY IN OCEANIC SQUIDS: MATERNAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

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Oceanic squids reach the higher cephalopod biomass worldwide and their fishery represents nearly half of the total world cephalopod captures. However, present knowledge of the biology of their embryo and paralarval stages is very poor. The species selected for the present study are *Illex coindetii*, *Todarodes sagittatus* and *Todaropsis eblanae*, the main ommastrephid species fished in European waters, being as well this family Ommastrephidae the most important fishery resource of oceanic squid. We use *in vitro* fertilization techniques in order to obtain hatchlings, using wild collected mature squids as source of gametes. The present project aims to study the early stages of oceanic squid and determine the main environmental factors and maternal effects that influence hatchling quality. This information will allow evaluating the possibilities for culturing these oceanic squid paralarvae.