



# The common octopus culture - 15 years of research in the Aquaculture Research Group (Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Spain)



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1<sup>st</sup> scientific meeting of CephInAction, Barcelona (Spain), March 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> 2014





# CURRENT RESEARCH LINES

1. Optimization of on-growing conditions
2. Development of artificial feeds
3. Development of specific enrichments & microdiets
4. Improvement of paralarvae quality
5. Broodstock & paralarvae ecology





# 1. Optimization of on-growing conditions

## ■ Nutrition - fresh diets:

➤ Crab: “natural diet”

➤ Low price fish

- Discarded by fisheries
- Discarded by aquaculture



Aquaculture Research, 2011, 1–13 doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2109.2011.03014.x

**Efficient utilization of dietary lipids in *Octopus vulgaris* (Cuvier 1797) fed fresh and by-p**

Aquaculture 322-323 (2011) 91-98

Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

**Aquaculture**

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/aqua-online](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/aqua-online)

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**Aquaculture**

Growth, protein retention and biochemical composition in *Octopus vulgaris* fed on different diets based on crustaceans and aquaculture by-products

J. Estefanell <sup>a,\*</sup>, J. Socorro <sup>a</sup>, F. Tuya <sup>b</sup>, M. Izquierdo <sup>a</sup>, J. Roo <sup>a</sup>

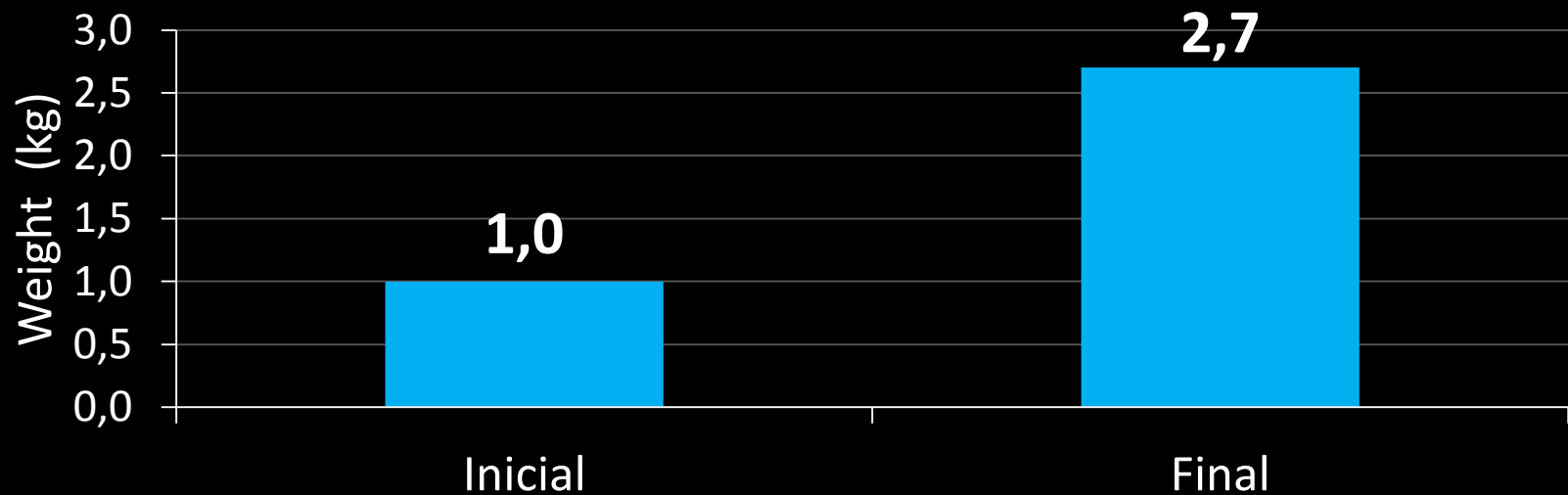
- Best growth: mixed diets
- Bogue *Boops boops* discarded aquaculture: acceptable growth





## Summary of rearing trials (19)

Initial weight	1 kg
Initial density	10 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Rearing time	60 days



**Weight increase of 850 g/month and 90% survival rate**



# 1. Optimization of on-growing conditions

- Specific rearing systems:
  - Individual
  - Floating & benthic cages



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## Comparison Between Individual and Group Rearing Systems in *Octopus vulgaris* (Cuvier, 1797)

J. ESTEFANEL<sup>1</sup>, J. ROO, H. FERNÁNDEZ-PALACIOS, M. IZQUIERDO AND J. SOCORRO



Aquacultural Engineering 49 (2012) 46–52

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Benthic cages versus floating cages in *Octopus vulgaris*: Biological performance and biochemical composition feeding on *Boops boops* discarded from fish farms

J. Estefanell<sup>a,\*</sup>, J. Roo<sup>a</sup>, R. Guirao<sup>b</sup>, M. Izquierdo<sup>a</sup>, J. Socorro<sup>a</sup>

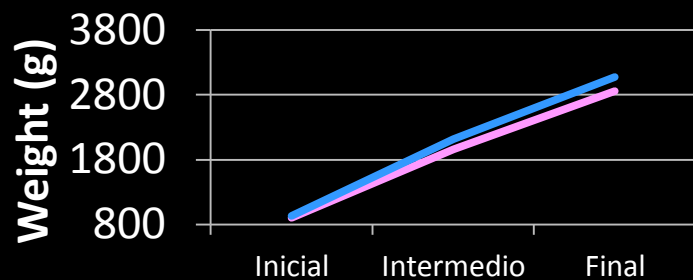




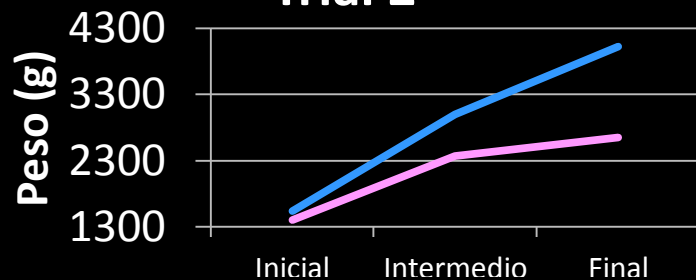
# 1. Optimization of on-growing conditions

- Sexual maturity – probably age related; associated mortality; sex ratio

**Trial 1**



**Trial 2**



## Gonad maturation in *Octopus vulgaris* during on-growing, under different conditions of sex ratio

Juan Estefanell, Juan Socorro, Francisco J. Roo, Rafael Guirao, Hipólito Fernández-Palacios, and Marisol Izquierdo

Received 19 October 2009; accepted 8 June 2010.

Estefanell, J., Socorro, J., Roo, F. J., Fernández-Palacios, H., and Izquierdo, M. 2010. Gonad maturation in *Octopus vulgaris* during on-growing, under different conditions of sex ratio. – ICES Journal of Marine Science, 67: 1487–1493.

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## Growth, Mortality, and Biochemical Composition in *Octopus vulgaris* Reared Under Different Conditions of Sex Ratio

JUAN ESTEFANELL<sup>1</sup>, JAVIER ROO, MARISOL IZQUIERDO, AND JUAN SOCORRO

Aquaculture Research, 2012, 1–11

doi:10.1111/are.12094

## Biological performance of *Octopus vulgaris* in 'integrated aquaculture' models: effect of two potential fresh diets, sex and sexual maturation during the grow-out phase

Juan Estefanell<sup>1</sup>, Javier Roo<sup>1</sup>, Rafael Guirao<sup>2</sup>, Marisol Izquierdo<sup>1</sup> & Juan Socorro<sup>1</sup>



## 2. Development of artificial feeds

- Dry / wet raw materials
- Growth rates: 500 g/month



Aquaculture Research, 2011, 1–13

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2109.2011.03014.x

**Efficient utilization of dietary lipids in *Octopus vulgaris* (Cuvier 1797) fed fresh and agglutinated moist diets based on aquaculture by-products and low price trash species**

Aquaculture Research, 2012, 1–14

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2109.2012.03041.x

Juan Estefanell<sup>1</sup>, Javier Roo<sup>1</sup>, Rafi Palacios<sup>1</sup>, Marisol Izquierdo<sup>1</sup> & Ju

**Growth, food intake, protein retention and fatty acid profile in *Octopus vulgaris* (Cuvier, 1797) fed agglutinated moist diets containing fresh and dry raw materials based on aquaculture by-products**

Juan Estefanell, Juan Socorro, Marisol Izquierdo & Javier Roo

### FORMULATED DIETS FOR *Octopus vulgaris*: EFFECT OF TWO PROTEIN/LIPID RATIOS

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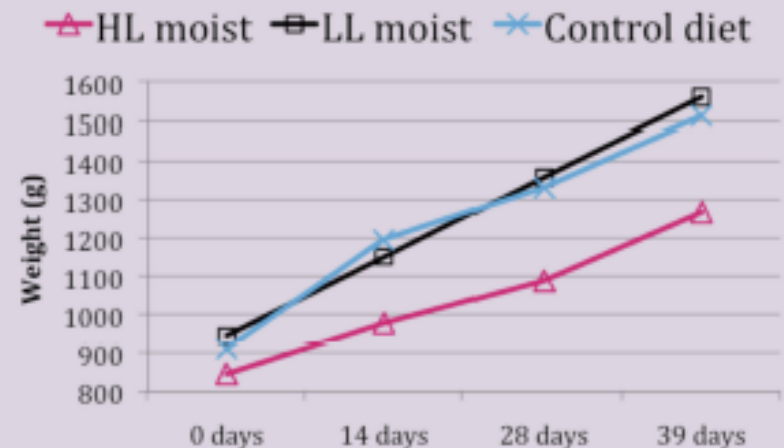


Fig. 1: Weight evolution (g) along the rearing period (39 days).





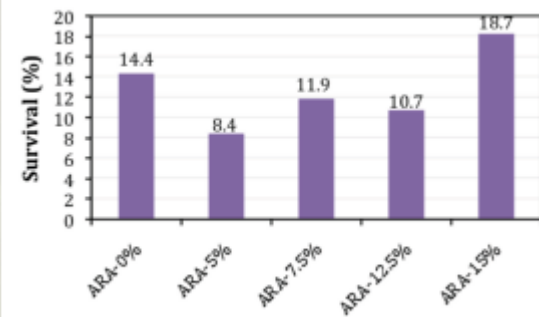
### 3. Development of specific enrichments & microdiets

- Best results: crab zoeas as live prey
- Enriched Artemia on commercial and experimental products



#### Growth, survival and histology of the digestive gland in paralarvae of *Octopus vulgaris* fed on Artemia enriched on EPA, DHA and 5 levels of ARA

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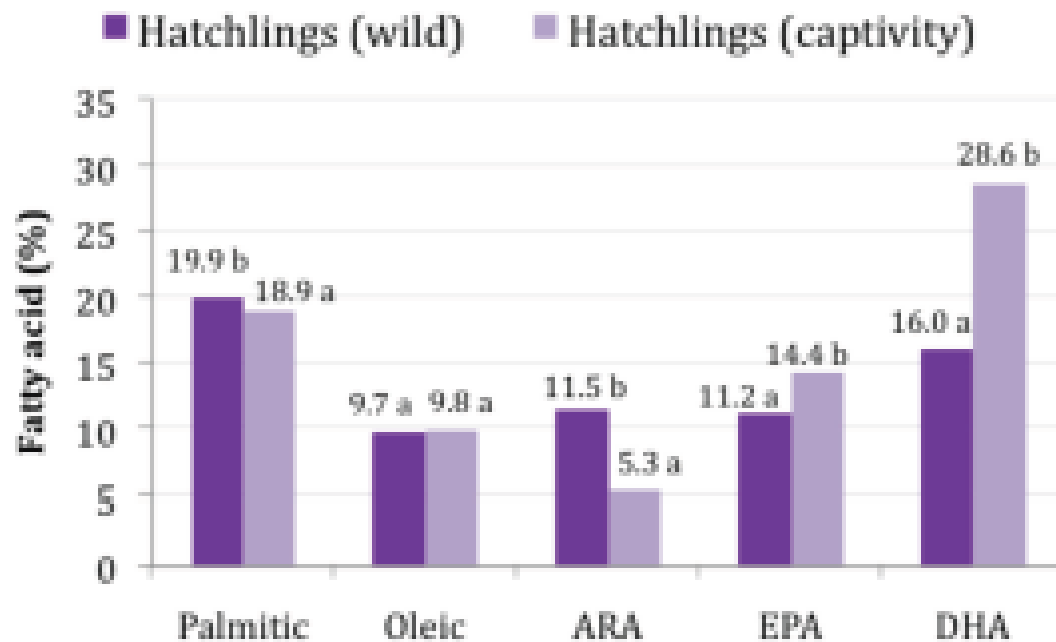


## 4. Improvement of paralarvae quality

- Wild / reared paralarvae: very different fatty acid profile

**Fatty acid profile in eggs and newly hatched paralarvae of *Octopus vulgaris* collected from the wild, and after 1-5 days starvation**

J. Estefanell\*, J. Socorro, B. Ramírez, M. Izquierdo, and J. Roo







## 5. Broodstock & paralarvae ecology

- The answer is out there!!!!
- Trials in progress...





# EU Directive 2010/63/EU on animal welfare

## Anaesthetic agents

- Clove oil: 20, 40, 100 mg/L
- Ethanol (96%): 1, 1.5, 2%

Aquaculture Research, 2010, 1–8

doi:10.1111/j.1365-2109.2010.02634.x

### Evaluation of two anaesthetic agents and the passive integrated transponder tagging system in *Octopus vulgaris* (Cuvier 1797)

J Estefanell<sup>1</sup>, J Socorro<sup>1,2</sup>, J M Afonso<sup>1</sup>, J Roo<sup>1</sup>, H Fernández-Palacios<sup>1</sup> & M S Izquierdo<sup>1</sup>

**Table 1.** Description of anaesthesia and recovery stages observed in *Octopus vulgaris*

Stages	Anaesthesia	Recovery
I	Hyperventilation	Resurgence of sucking activity
II	Muscle tone disappears. Flaccid arms	Recovery of chromatophore activity
III	Weak breathing and loss of sucking intensity	Recuperation of breathing movements
IV	Chromatophores relax (the skin becomes white)	Recovery of activity, regular breathing

