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Spawning succession of spring-spawning fishes

In the spring 1990 the spawning succession of 14 species of fish was observed on eight selected spawning-grounds in the Tvärminne area. The results suggest that water temperature is the dominating factor releasing the spawning activities both in brackish-water and fresh-water species. The succession of the spawning is flexible, however. In most species older and larger individuals spawn before younger and smaller ones, but there are also species without any spawning order according to age or size. The ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernuus*) was exceptional in that females started to spawn earlier than males and the males also dominated in numbers during the whole season. Complementary observations have been made in 1991 and the study continues in 1992.

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