

1 **The bioenergetic fuel for non-feeding larval development in an endemic**
2 **palaemonid shrimp from the Iberian Peninsula, *Palaemonetes zariquieyi***

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23

24 **Abstract**

25 *Palaemonetes zariquieyi*, an endemic palaemonid species of shrimp that lives in freshwater
26 and brackish coastal habitats in eastern Spain, shows an abbreviated, non-feeding larval
27 development comprising only three zoeal stages. To identify the endogenous bioenergetic fuel
28 that allows for food-independent development from hatching to metamorphosis, larvae were
29 reared under controlled laboratory conditions, and ontogenetic changes in dry weight (W),
30 elemental (CHN) and lipid composition (total lipids, principal lipid classes, fatty acids [FA])
31 were quantified at the onset of each zoeal stage and in the first juvenile. Values of W, C and
32 H per larva and per mass unit of W decreased throughout the time of larval development,
33 while the N content showed only a weak decline (suggesting strong lipid but only little
34 protein degradation). Correspondingly, directly measured values of total lipids (both in
35 $\mu\text{g}/\text{larva}$ and in % of W) decreased gradually, with neutral lipids consistently remaining the
36 predominant and most strongly used fraction; sterol esters and waxes were not detected. In
37 contrast to the neutral lipids, the fraction of polar lipids per larva remained stable and, as a
38 consequence, tended to increase as a percentage of total lipids. Likewise, other important lipid
39 fractions such as free fatty acids and cholesterol remained stable throughout the time of larval
40 development. Among the FA, palmitic (16:0), oleic (18:1n-9), linoleic (18:2n-6) and
41 eicosapentaenoic (20:5n-3) acid were predominant, showing a significant decrease during
42 larval development; stearic (18:0), vaccenic (18:1n-7) and arachidonic acid (20:4n-6) were
43 found only in small amounts. Our results indicate that the lecithotrophic development of *P.*
44 *zariquieyi* is primarily fuelled by the utilization of lipids (especially triacylglycerides and
45 other neutral lipids), which is reflected by a decreasing carbon content. Proteins and polar
46 lipids, by contrast, are preserved as structurally indispensable components (nerve and muscle
47 tissues, cell membranes). The abbreviated and non-feeding mode of larval development of *P.*
48 *zariquieyi* may have an adaptive value in land-locked freshwater habitats, where planktonic
49 food limitation is likely to occur. The patterns of reserve utilization are similar to those
50 previously observed in other palaemonid shrimps and various other groups of decapod
51 crustaceans with lecithotrophic larvae. This suggests a multiple convergent evolution of
52 bioenergetic traits allowing for reproduction in food-limited aquatic environments.

53 **Keywords:** Caridea; freshwater; lecithotrophy; ontogeny; chemical composition; lipid

54

55 **Introduction**

56 Reproductive and developmental adaptations that allow for invasions of limnic environments
57 by marine crustaceans are among the top issues in evolutionary ecology (e.g. Lee and Bell
58 1999; Anger et al. 2007). Among the caridean shrimps, Palaemonidae Rafinesque, 1815 have
59 been particularly successful invaders of brackish and freshwater habitats (Ashelby et al.
60 2012). Within this family, most estuarine and limnic species belong to the genera
61 *Macrobrachium* Spence Bate, 1868 and *Palaemonetes* Heller, 1869 (Jalihal et al. 1993;
62 Murphy and Austin 2005; Anger 2013).

63 Most palaemonid shrimps pass through complex life cycles (Bauer 2004). These
64 comprise (1) embryogenesis inside the eggs, which are attached underneath the female
65 abdomen, (2) a free-living pelagic, in most cases planktotrophic larval development, and (3) a
66 benthic juvenile - adult phase that gradually leads to maturation and reproduction. In the early
67 life-history stages, different reproductive strategies such as larval export towards the sea or
68 retention within the adult habitat are associated with ontogenetic changes in the tolerance of
69 variations in environmental conditions including changes in salinity and food availability
70 (Anger and Hayd 2009; Charmantier and Anger 2011).

71 Studies of life history adaptations to non-marine conditions with low salinities and
72 unpredictable planktonic food availability contribute significantly to the understanding of
73 transitions and subsequent speciation of originally marine animals in limnic and terrestrial
74 environments (Anger 1995). Compared to marine and estuarine species, fully freshwater-
75 adapted clades show significant shifts in the salinity optimum as well as tendencies towards
76 larger egg size, a prolonged embryonic incubation period, an abbreviated mode of larval
77 development, and facultative or complete lecithotrophy (Lee and Bell 1999; Vogt 2013).
78 These reproductive traits have generally been considered as adaptations to limited or
79 unpredictable plankton production in freshwater environments (Anger 2001). Abbreviated
80 modes of larval development and lecithotrophy have evolved in numerous palaemonid
81 shrimps living in food-limited freshwater habitats (Bauer 2004; Murphy and Austin 2005;
82 Anger 2013). These ontogenetic traits involve various biochemical and physiological
83 adaptations such as an enhanced initial energy storage (Urzúa and Anger 2011) or energy
84 saving mechanisms (McNamara et al. 1983; Faria et al. 2011).

85 The subject of the present study, the palaemonid shrimp *Palaemonetes zariquieyi*
86 Sollaud 1939, is an endemic species of the Mediterranean coast of the Iberian Peninsula,
87 inhabiting aquatic environments ranging from pure freshwater habitats to oligohaline
88 channels, pools and lagoons along the Spanish provinces of Alicante and Tarragona

89 (Zariquiey 1968; Sanz Brau 1983). Due to its restricted distribution, *P. zariquieyi* is
90 considered as a potentially endangered species, and thus, is under conservation management
91 (Valencia Decreto 259/2004). It shows an abbreviated and lecithotrophic larval development
92 with only three stages (Guerao 1993), which has been observed to occur within the parental
93 habitat (Sanz 1980; Guerao 1993), where planktonic food may be scarce (Sanz Brau 1986).

94 While the ecology and physiology of adult *Palaemonetes zariquieyi* has been studied
95 in some detail (Sollaud 1938; Margalef 1953; Sanz Brau 1986), there is very little information
96 on the larval phase. This includes poor knowledge of the endogenous bioenergetic substrate
97 that allows for food-independent development. In the present investigation, changes in larval
98 biomass and chemical composition occurring during the lecithotrophic development from
99 hatching to the first juvenile stage were studied under controlled laboratory conditions.

100

101 **Materials and methods**

102 *Sampling and maintenance of ovigerous females, larval rearing*

103 Adult *Palaemonetes zariquieyi* were collected by hand net in February 2008 from the “Marjal
104 del Senillar”, which connects to Moraira beach (Alicante; 38.68°N, 0.11°E). They were then
105 transported in cooling boxes equipped with ice packs and aeration to the IRTA laboratory
106 (Sant Carles de la Ràpita, Tarragona), keeping the conditions of temperature and salinity as
107 similar as possible to those observed at the collection site (~18°C, 1 PSU). Another sample of
108 adult shrimps was collected in May 2009 from the “Ullals de Baltasar” near Amposta
109 (Tarragona; 40.67°N, 0.59°E). They were transported under similar conditions of temperature
110 and salinity to the Marine Biological Station Helgoland (BAH), Germany. “Ullals” are natural
111 ponds (about 5-50 m diameter, up to 6 m deep) filled with upwelling water from aquifers
112 originating in the coastal mountain range (in the case of the Ullals de Baltasar, the Serres del
113 Montsià i dels Ports; for geology and hydrology of the “Ullals”, see Bayó Dalmau et al. 1997;
114 for chemical and biological characterization, see Rodrigo et al. 2001; Durán Valsero 2003).

115 The ovigerous females transported to the IRTA (body length = 39 ± 3 mm; $n = 7$) were
116 maintained in recirculating 40 L aquaria with aerated oligohaline water (1.2 ± 0.2 PSU),
117 constant temperature ($18 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$), and a 12:12 h light:dark photoperiod. The shrimps were fed
118 daily with frozen pieces of mussel meat (*Mytilus* sp.) and live *Artemia* sp. metanauplii. The
119 aquaria were checked daily for the occurrence of larvae, and newly hatched larvae were
120 transferred, using wide-bore pipettes, to rearing beakers with 100 mL filtered water (1.2 ± 0.2

121 PSU). They were subsequently reared individually at $18 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ and a 12:12 h light:dark cycle.
122 Water was changed and larval moults were recorded in daily intervals. The ovigerous females
123 transported to the BAH (body length = 38 ± 2 mm; $n = 2$) were maintained at the same
124 conditions of food, temperature, salinity, and light, and larvae were obtained and reared with
125 the same techniques and conditions as described above.

126 All three larval stages of *P. zariquieyi* are non-feeding (Guerao 1993; confirmed by
127 preliminary feeding experiments and behavioral observations at the BAH; Anger, unpubl.
128 data). Therefore, they were routinely reared without food. Unlike the larval stages, first-stage
129 juveniles always accepted and ingested food (*Artemia* nauplii) when it was offered. Juvenile
130 growth in the presence of food, however, was not studied in our experiments. While the larvae
131 reared at the IRTA were exclusively used for analyses of lipid composition (total lipids, lipid
132 classes, fatty acid profiles), those reared at the BAH were used for preliminary tests of
133 possible larval feeding activity, micro-photographical documentation of lipid droplets in the
134 hepatopancreas region, measurements of body dry weight (W), and analyses of elemental
135 composition (contents of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen; collectively referred to as CHN).

136

137 ***Dry weight and elemental composition***

138 In total, 30 zoea I (ZI), 15 zoea II (ZII), 30 zoea III (ZIII), and 15 first-stage juveniles (JI)
139 from the “Ullals de Baltasar” population were used for determinations of dry weight (W) and
140 elemental composition (CHN). Samples for W and CHN were taken in daily intervals
141 throughout larval development from hatching (day 0) to metamorphosis (day 8), and later
142 measured with standard techniques (Anger and Harms 1990). Analyses comprised five
143 replicate samples with three individuals each. For each analysis, larvae were briefly rinsed in
144 distilled water, blotted on fluff-free Kleenex paper, transferred to pre-weighed tin cartridges,
145 and stored at -20°C . Later, the samples were freeze-dried for 48 h in a vacuum dryer (Christ
146 Alpha 1-4 LSC), W was determined to the nearest $0.1 \mu\text{g}$ on a Sartorius SC2 ultra micro
147 balance, and CHN with an Elemental Vario Micro CHN Analyser using Sulphanilamide as a
148 standard.

149

150 ***Lipid composition***

151 Larvae obtained from ovigerous females collected from the “Marjal del Senillar” population
152 were reared at the IRTA from hatching (ZI) to metamorphosis (JI). In total, 269 ZI, 241 ZII,
153 235 ZIII and 187 JI were taken for analyses of lipid composition (total lipids, lipid classes,

154 fatty acid profiles). Samples for lipid analyses were taken only near the beginning of each
155 successive stage (i.e. within a few hours after hatching or moulting, respectively).

156 Total lipids, lipid classes, and fatty acid concentrations in each larval stage were
157 measured at the IRTA, using standard methods (Andrés et al. 2010) with four replicate
158 determinations and sixty individuals per analysis. Total lipid content was quantified
159 gravimetrically after an extraction in chloroform/methanol (2:1) and evaporation of the
160 solvent under nitrogen gas (Folch et al. 1957). The lipid extract was determined to the nearest
161 0.01 mg on a Sartorius BP211D balance and stored at -20°C in chloroform/methanol (2:1)
162 containing 0.01% butylated hydroxytoluene for subsequent analyses of lipid class and fatty
163 acid composition.

164 Lipid class determination and separation was performed by high-performance thin-
165 layer chromatography (HPTLC) following the method described by Olsen and Henderson
166 (1989). After separation, bands were identified by charring the plates at 100°C for 30 min
167 after spraying with 3% (w/v) aqueous cupric acetate containing 8% H₃PO₄ and quantified by
168 scanning densitometry using a GS 800 Calibrated Densitometer (Bio-Rad Laboratories Inc,
169 USA). Fatty acid methyl esters (FAME) were prepared from total lipid by acid-catalyzed
170 transmethylation using 2 ml of 1% H₂SO₄ in methanol plus 1 mL toluene (Christie 1982) and
171 thereafter extracted twice using isohexane/diethyl ether (1:1) (Ghioni et al. 2002) and purified
172 on TLC plates. FAME were separated and quantified by gas-liquid chromatography on a
173 Trace GC (Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc, USA) using a flame ionization detector and column
174 injection. Individual methyl esters were identified by comparison to known standards
175 (Supelco 37 FAME mix 47885-U) and quantified by means of the response factor to the
176 internal standard (21:0 fatty acid added prior to transmethylation), using a Chrompack
177 software (Thermo Electron, UK).

178

179 *Micro-photographical documentation of lipid droplets*

180 The occurrence of lipid droplets in the hepatopancreas region was microscopically observed
181 and documented using a stereo microscope (Olympus SZX2- ILLB) equipped with a
182 calibrated eyepiece micrometer and a digital camera. Photos were digitalized with a CELL
183 (Olympus) image analysis software to quantify the average area of the lipid droplets.

184

185

186

187 ***Statistical analyses***

188 Statistical analyses were performed with standard methods (Sokal and Rohlf 1995) using the
189 statistic software package STATISTICA 8 (StatSoft). Differences in dry weight, elemental
190 composition and lipid composition between stages (or development time) were tested by one-
191 way ANOVA. Significant differences were analyzed with a multiple comparison test
192 (Student-Newman-Keuls). All tests were run on the 95 % confidence level ($p < 0.05$).
193 Normality and homogeneity of variances were tested with Kolmogorov–Smirnov and
194 Levene’s tests, respectively. When the data did not meet the assumptions, the non-parametric
195 Kruskal–Wallis and Dunn’s multiple comparison test were applied.

196

197 **Results**

198 ***Larval development, dry weight (W), and elemental composition (CHN)***

199 *Palaemonetes zariquieyi* developed within 8-10 d from hatching through three zoeal stages
200 (ZI-III) to the first juvenile (JI). The larvae showed generally benthic rather than freely
201 swimming (planktonic) behaviour. The first two zoeal moulting cycles (ZI, ZII) lasted for 1-2
202 d each; most larvae reached the ZIII stage 3 d after hatching. The remaining period of larval
203 development (5-7 d, corresponding to 62-70% of total development time) was spent in the
204 ZIII stage alone. Changes in larval W and CHN are shown here for the shortest development,
205 which took 8 d from hatching to the beginning of the first juvenile stage (JI). Since larvae
206 taking longer probably utilized higher proportions of their initially stored energy, this implies
207 that the biomass losses shown in Figure 1a are minimum estimates.

208 Larval W and elemental composition changed conspicuously during the non-feeding
209 development of *P. zariquieyi*. In particular, the absolute values of W, C and H per individual
210 decreased significantly (Figures 1a, b, d). The N content, by contrast, changed only very little
211 (statistically insignificant; Figure 1c). When the biomass measured at hatching is compared
212 with that remaining in newly metamorphosed juveniles, the average C content decreased from
213 278 to 201 μg per individual (by 28%; Figure 1b), and a similar loss (25%) was observed in H
214 (Figure 1d). Total W decreased during the same period by 15% (Figure 1a), and N by only
215 9% (Figure 1c).

216 As the decrease in W was weaker than the losses in C and H, the relative contents of
217 these two elements (in % of W) showed similar tendencies as the absolute values, i.e. they

218 decreased significantly (Figures 2a, c). As a consequence of strongly decreasing C and almost
219 constant N values (Figure 2b), the C/N mass ratio decreased significantly (Figure 2d).

220

221 *Total lipid content*

222 Total lipid content both per individual and per unit of W decreased gradually during the
223 course of larval development. As a consequence, newly metamorphosed juveniles contained
224 40% less lipids than newly hatched larvae (Figure 3a). As a consequence of this strong lipid
225 degradation, lipid droplets in the hepatopancreas region of the larval cephalothorax tended to
226 become smaller, with average size (measured in microphotographs) decreasing significantly
227 from $0.70 \pm 0.08 \mu\text{m}^2$ in the ZI to $0.38 \pm 0.06 \mu\text{m}^2$ in the ZIII ($F_{2,44} = 6.429$; $p < 0.001$;
228 Figure 4). As total W decreased to a lesser extent than the lipid fraction, the relative lipid
229 content (in % of W) decreased significantly, from maximum values of 17% at hatching to a
230 minimum of 10% in the JI ($p < 0.05$; Figure 3b).

231 *Lipid classes*

232 Neutral lipids (NL) were always more abundant than polar lipids (PL) ($p < 0.05$). While the
233 PL fraction per larva remained fairly stable, NL showed a substantial decline (Table 1).
234 Consequently, the percentage of PL within total lipids increased during larval development
235 from 22% at hatching to 36% in the JI, while NL decreased from 78 to 64% ($p < 0.05$; Table
236 1).

237 Within the neutral lipids, triacylglycerides (TAG) and cholesterol (CHOL) were
238 identified as predominant fractions (Table 1). The percentage of TAG decreased significantly
239 during larval development (from 54% at hatching to 33% at metamorphosis), whereas CHOL
240 increased from 18 to 24% (Table 1). Other neutral lipids such as sterol esters and waxes were
241 not detected in any developmental stage of this species (Table 1). Free fatty acids (FFA)
242 occurred only in low quantities, remaining stable around 6%.

243 Phosphatidylcholine (PC) and phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) were the predominant
244 polar lipids. Both constituents increased, as fractions of the total lipid content, during the time
245 of development. Hence, minimum PC percentages were recorded in the ZI, maximum values
246 in the JI stage (10 vs. 17%; $p < 0.05$) (Table 1). Other PL such as the combined fraction of
247 phosphatidylserine and phosphatidylinositol (PS+PI) as well as lyso-
248 phosphatidylethanolamine (LysoPE) were found only in small amounts (ca. 2 and 1% of total

249 lipids, respectively), while others occurred in traces or could not be detected at all, e.g.
250 sphingomyelins (SM) (Table 1).

251

252 *Fatty acid composition*

253 Within the total fatty acid (FA) pool, saturated (SFA) and monounsaturated fatty acids
254 (MUFA) dominated throughout the period of larval development, followed by the fraction of
255 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA) (Table 2). All FA decreased significantly during the
256 course of larval development. The most conspicuous FA, in general, were palmitic (PA, 16:0),
257 oleic (OA, 18:1n-9), linoleic (LA, 18:2n-6), and eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA, 20:5n-3).
258 Stearic (18:0), vaccenic (18:1n-7), arachidonic acid (20:4n-6), eicosanoic (20:0), and
259 heneicosapentaenoic acid (21:5n-3) occurred only in small amounts or could not be detected
260 (Table 2). The contents of both n-6 and n-3 PUFA decreased significantly from hatching to
261 metamorphosis (Table 2). LA (18:2n-6) was the most abundant n-6 PUFA, while EPA (20:5n-
262 3) was the predominant n-3 PUFA (Table 2).

263

264 **Discussion**

265 In palaemonid shrimp and other freshwater invading decapods, extended modes of larval
266 development are generally associated with strategies of larval export to the sea, whereas
267 abbreviated developments occur mostly in species showing larval retention in the limnic adult
268 habitat, presumably in response to differential planktonic food availability in the larval
269 environment (Anger 2001, Vogt 2013). In *Palaemonetes zariquieyi* as well as in several other
270 freshwater palaemonids, larval development is abbreviated, consisting of only three larval
271 stages prior to metamorphosis; in one species (*P. mercedae* from South America), a further
272 abbreviation to a single larval stage has been observed (for references, see Table 3). In species
273 with an abbreviated mode of larval development, including *P. zariquieyi*, the larvae show
274 generally benthic crawling rather than planktonic swimming behaviour, reflecting their
275 independence of planktonic food sources, and possibly, maternal brood care (Anger 2001,
276 Vogt 2013).

277 Abbreviated development in decapod crustacean larvae is normally associated with
278 high quantities of lipids remaining from the egg yolk, which represents an enhanced maternal
279 energy investment per offspring (Kattner et al. 2003; Thatje and Mestre 2010). These energy
280 reserves allow for larval independence from planktonic food sources (Anger 2001). The

281 results of the present study confirm that *Palaemonetes zariquieyi* has a fully lecithotrophic
282 larval development, as suggested by Guerao (1993). Moreover, the changes in biomass and
283 chemical composition measured in this study reveal the principal sources of endogenous
284 energy in the early life-history stages of this species.

285 Some measures of biomass quantity and chemical composition (W, C, H, C/N mass
286 ratio) decreased from hatching to metamorphosis, while others (especially the N content per
287 individual) remained relatively stable. These results indicate a preferential utilization of lipid
288 reserves, while proteins were largely preserved as structurally indispensable components.
289 Similar patterns of biomass utilization during lecithotrophic development have been reported
290 also from several other decapod species (e.g. *Lepidophthalmus louisianensis* Schmitt, 1935:
291 Nates and Mc Kenney 2000; *Lithodes santolla* Molina, 1782 and *Paralomis granulosa*
292 Jacquinet, 1847: Kattner et al. 2003; *Sesarma curacaoense* De Man, 1892 and *Armasas*
293 *miersii* Rathbun, 1897: Anger and Schultze 1995). Lipid degradation is thus a widespread
294 pattern in species with lecithotrophic development, although some crustacean species may use
295 different biochemical substrates for energy production during starvation (for review, see
296 Sánchez-Paz et al. 2006).

297 In decapod crustacean larvae, the lipid composition reflects changes in developmental
298 state, nutritional condition, and effects of environmental factors (Andrés et al. 2010; Urzúa
299 and Anger 2011). TAG, PL, and free sterols usually constitute the predominant lipid fractions
300 (Arts et al. 2009). NL, mainly TAG, are a major energy source during periods of food
301 limitation, while phospholipids and sterols change relatively little under suboptimal
302 nutritional conditions (Anger 2001; Arts et al. 2009). According to the results obtained in the
303 present study, both microscopic observations and chemical analyses showed that lipid
304 reserves are gradually utilized in the absence of food. In *P. zariquieyi*, similarly as reported in
305 lecithotrophic larvae of other decapod crustaceans (Nates and Mc Kenney 2000; Kattner et al.
306 2003), the utilization of lipids was closely related to that of NL (in particular TAG), which
307 decreased from ZI to JI, whereas PL showed the opposite pattern. In contrast to NL, PL were
308 preserved as structural components of cell membranes. Likewise, free fatty acids (FFA) and
309 cholesterol (CHOL) remained stable during larval development, most probably because they
310 play vital roles in developmental processes, e.g. as constituents of cell organelles, essential
311 precursors of the molting hormone, or structural components (see Sheen 2000; Anger 2001).

312 The fatty acid composition of the larval stages was characterized by a high content of
313 palmitic, oleic, linoleic, and eicosapentaenoic acid (OA, LA, EPA), which combined
314 comprised over 50% of total FA. These FA are common in caridean shrimps with abbreviated

315 larval development (Thatje et al. 2004; Calado et al. 2010). The high and largely stable
316 content of stearic acid is explained by its predominance in membrane phospholipids (Kattner
317 et al. 1994; Wehrtmann and Graeve 1998). High initial proportions of OA, LA and EPA,
318 which are essential FA in crustaceans (i.e., taken up from external food sources), indicate that
319 the larval development of this species is fuelled by lipid materials exclusively derived from
320 the female, allowing food-independent larval survival and development (Anger 2001; Calado
321 et al. 2005; Nghia et al. 2007). In decapod larvae, in general, high amounts of OA, LA, and
322 EPA are known to enhance the tolerance of fluctuations in temperature, salinity and food
323 limitation, which may occur in planktonic environments (Anger 2001; Calado et al. 2005;
324 Nghia et al. 2007). In conclusion, PUFA (especially n-3), were largely conserved throughout
325 larval development, while major portions of SFA and MUFA were used for energy production
326 (see Table 2).

327 During larval development within the adult habitat (retention strategy, see Strathmann
328 1982), *P. zariquieyi* shows conspicuous life-history adaptations, which may be summarized as
329 follows: (1) an abbreviated larval development, showing both a reduced number of stages and
330 a shortened time of larval development (Guerao 1993); (2) benthic rather than planktonic
331 larval behaviour; (3) high initial larval biomass, especially high total lipid and NL contents at
332 hatching; (4), full lecithotrophy (non-feeding larval behaviour even in the presence of food).
333 These traits allow for complete nutritional independence in all larval stages, and hence,
334 should have an adaptive value in land-locked freshwater habitats such as “Ullals” and rivers,
335 where planktonic food limitation may occur.

336 Another relevant question in this context is, which paleogeographic changes may have
337 driven the colonization of such habitats by *P. zariquieyi*. As a testable hypothesis, we propose
338 the following scenario: The Messinian salinity crisis (i.e. the transitory isolation and
339 subsequent desiccation of the Mediterranean; see Krijgsman et al. 1999; García et al. 2011)
340 separated in the Late Miocene ancestral estuarine *Palaemonetes* populations remaining in the
341 Mediterranean from those inhabiting the Atlantic coast of the Iberian Peninsula (Cuesta et al.
342 2012). When the Mediterranean Sea regressed and eventually dried out, coastal shrimp may
343 have colonized adjacent brackish and, eventually, land-locked limnic habitats in the eastern
344 part of the Iberian Peninsula. Due to the Mediterranean regression, those ancestral shrimp
345 could not possibly conserve an amphidromous strategy with an extended larval development
346 in coastal marine waters. As a consequence, they could only survive through the evolution of
347 life-history adaptations that allowed for spending the entire life cycle in land-locked fresh
348 water habitats. In shrimp belonging to the genus *Palaemonetes* (or to a larger “*Palaemon*

349 clade”; Ashelby et al. 2012), evolutionary invasions of freshwater have probably occurred
350 repeatedly in different biogeographic regions. As a consequence of allopatric divergence in
351 reproductive and developmental traits, *P. zariquieyi* eventually became a separate species that
352 is now endemic for the eastern coast of the Iberian Peninsula.

353 The patterns of reserve utilization in larval *P. zariquieyi* are similar to those previously
354 observed in various other palaemonid shrimp and further groups of decapod crustaceans with
355 lecithotrophic development (Anger 2001; Bauer 2004; Ituarte et al. 2005; Calado et al. 2007;
356 Anger and Hayd 2009). This suggests a multiple convergent evolution of developmental and
357 bioenergetic traits allowing for reproduction and development in food-limited non-marine
358 environments. Future comparative studies of adaptive physiological and biochemical
359 mechanisms in the context of evolutionary colonizations of new environments such as fresh
360 water habitats will enhance our understanding of life-history evolution in crustaceans, in
361 general.

362

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372

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554 **Legend of figures and tables**

555 **Figure 1.** *P. zariquieyi*. Changes in dry weight (W) and elemental composition (CHN) during
556 development from hatching through three larval stages (Zoea I-III) to the first juvenile (JI):
557 absolute values ($\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{ind}^{-1}$) of (a) dry weight; (b) carbon; (c) nitrogen; (d) hydrogen content.
558 ANOVA (*F*-values) and significance level (*p*), mean values \pm SD. Different lower case letters
559 indicate significant differences between stages (or development time) after SNK test

560 **Figure 2.** *P. zariquieyi*. Changes in relative chemical composition during development from
561 hatching through three larval stages (Zoea I-III) to the first juvenile (JI): percentage W values
562 of (a) carbon; (b) nitrogen; (c) hydrogen; (d) C/N mass ratio. ANOVA (*F*-values), Kruskal–
563 Wallis (*H*) and significance level (*p*), mean values \pm SD. Different lower case letters indicate
564 significant differences between stages (or development time) after SNK or Dunn's test

565 **Figure 3.** *P. zariquieyi*. Changes in the lipid content during development from hatching
566 through three larval stages (Zoea I-III) to the first juvenile (JI): (a) absolute values ($\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{ind}^{-1}$);
567 (b) percentage W values. ANOVA (*F*-values) and significance level (*p*), mean values \pm SD.
568 Different lower case letters indicate significant differences between stages (or development
569 time) after SNK test

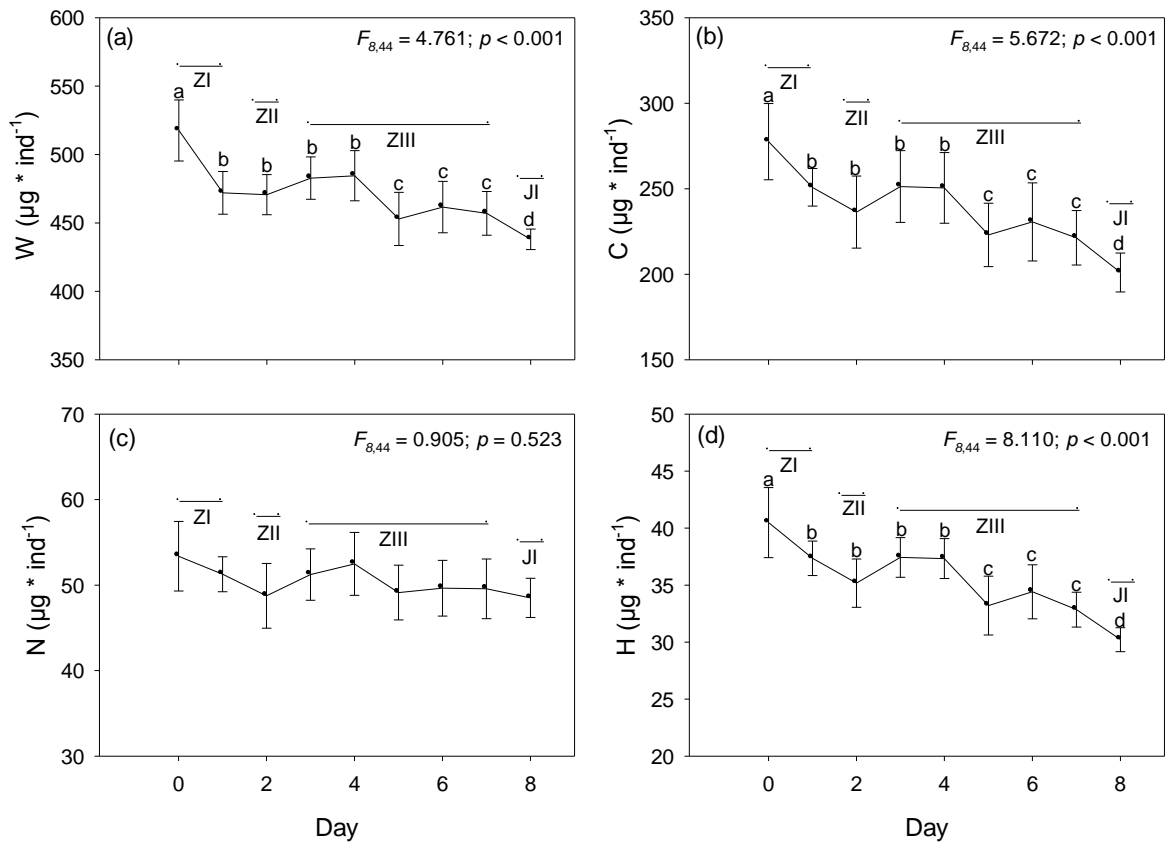
570 **Figure 4.** *P. zariquieyi*. Changes in the size and density of lipid droplets in the
571 hepatopancreas region of the cephalotorax during the larval development (Zoea I-III)

572 **Table 1.** *P. zariquieyi*. Changes in total lipid (TL) content and lipid composition during larval
573 development (Zoea I-III) to the first juvenile stage (JI); all values are given in $\text{mg}\cdot\text{g W}^{-1}$, lipid
574 classes also % of TL (in parentheses, below); mean values \pm SD. Different lower case letters
575 in a row: significant differences between stages (ANOVA, SNK test, $p < 0.05$). Total polar
576 lipids (Total PL): sum of sphingomyelins (SM), phosphatidylcholine (PC), phosphatidylserine
577 + phosphatidylinositol (PS+PI), phosphatidylethanolamine (PE), and
578 lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LysoPE); total neutral lipids (total NL): sum of cholesterol
579 (CHOL), free fatty acids (FFA), and triacylglycerides (TAG)

580 **Table 2.** *P. zariquieyi*. Changes in the fatty acid (FA) content and profile (all values are given
581 in $\text{mg FA}\cdot\text{g TL}^{-1}$) during larval development (Zoea I-III) to the first juvenile stage (JI); mean
582 \pm SD. Different lower case letters in a row: significant differences between stages (ANOVA,
583 SNK test, $p < 0.05$). SFA (Saturated FA): sum of 14:0, 15:0, 16:0, 18:0 and 20:0; MUFA
584 (Monounsaturated FA): sum of 16:1n-9, 18:1n-9, 18:1n-7 and 20:1n-9; total n-6 PUFA

585 (polyunsaturated n-6 FA): sum of 18:2n-6, 18:3n-6, 20:3n-6, 20:4n-6, 22:5n-6; total n-3
586 PUFA (polyunsaturated n-3 FA): sum of 18:3n-3, 18:4n-3, 20:4n-3, 20:5n-3, 21:5n-3, 22:5n-
587 3, 22:6n -3; TOTAL PUFA: sum of n-3 and n-6 PUFA

588 **Table 3.** Comparison between habitat and number of larval stages in *Palaemonetes* species
589 (listed by stage number, habitat, and geographic region)
590

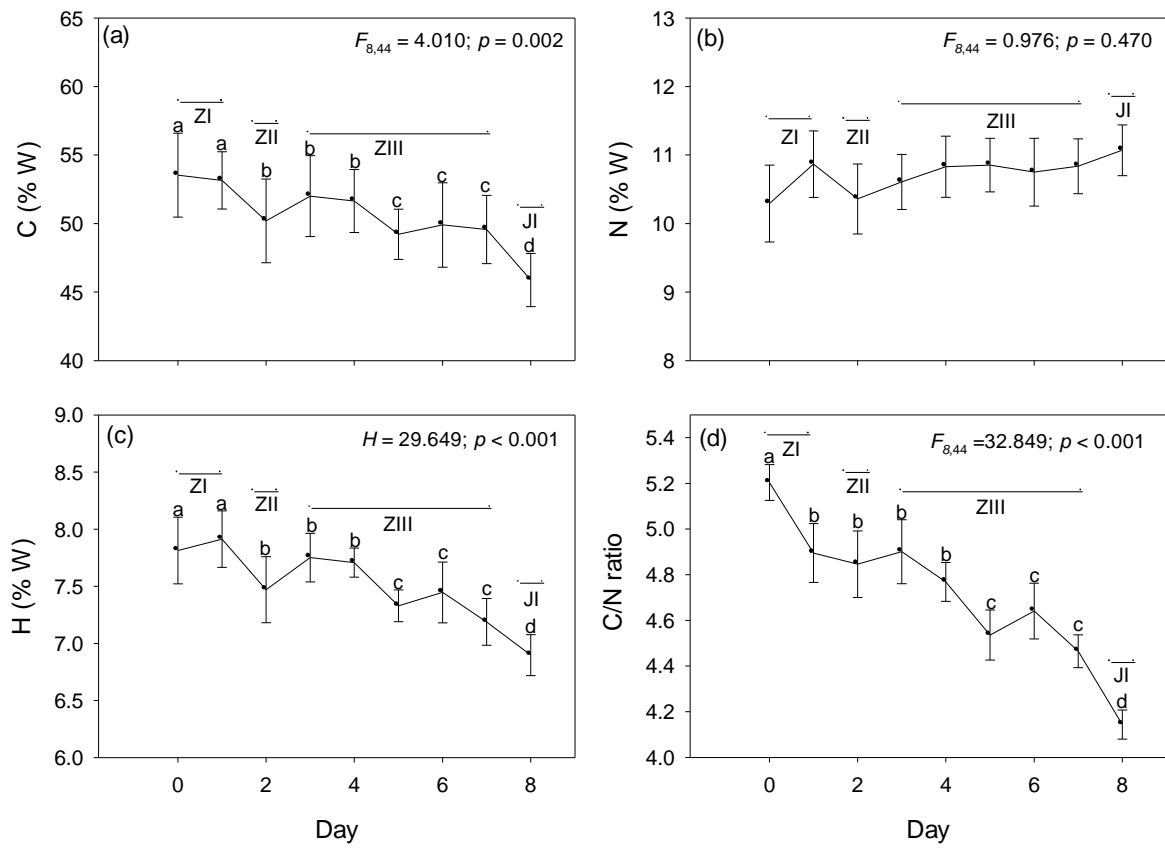


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594 **Figure 1**

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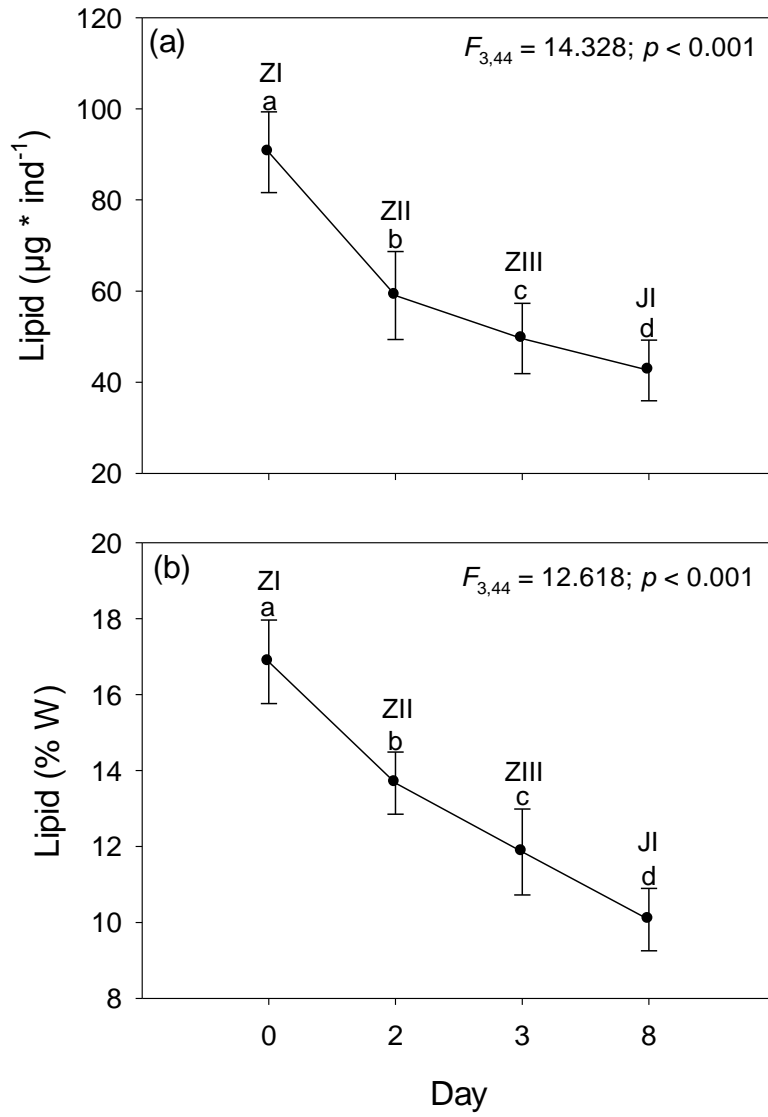


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598 **Figure 2**

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602 **Figure 3**

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606 **Figure 4**

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610 **Table 1**

Lipid class	ZI	ZII	ZIII	JI
Total lipids (TL)	168 ± 11 ^a	136 ± 8 ^b	118 ± 7 ^c	100 ± 9 ^d
<i>Polar lipids (PL)</i>				
SM	0 -	0 -	0.49 ± 0.002 ^a (0.41)	0.43 ± 0.001 ^a (0.42)
PC	16.2 ± 0.009 ^a (9.7)	12.1 ± 0.004 ^a (8.9)	14.5 ± 0.001 ^b (12.2)	17.2 ± 0.003 ^c (17.1)
PS+PI	4.47 ± 0.007 ^a (2.6)	3.66 ± 0.001 ^b (2.7)	2.87 ± 0.002 ^b (2.4)	4.09 ± 0.001 ^c (4.1)
PE	13.8 ± 0.002 ^a (8.2)	11.5 ± 0.004 ^a (8.5)	10.1 ± 0.001 ^a (8.5)	12.7 ± 0.009 ^b (12.6)
LysoPE	2.07 ± 0.001 ^a (1.2)	1.75 ± 0.003 ^a (1.3)	0.75 ± 0.001 ^b (0.6)	1.68 ± 0.003 ^c (1.7)
Total PL	36.9 ± 0.021 ^a (21.9)	29.4 ± 0.014 ^b (21.6)	28.7 ± 0.001 ^b (24.2)	36.1 ± 0.016 ^c (35.9)
<i>Neutral lipids (NL)</i>				
CHOL	30.3 ± 0.002 ^a (18.0)	26.6 ± 0.003 ^b (19.5)	26.7 ± 0.022 ^c (22.5)	24.6 ± 0.008 ^c (24.5)
FFA	9.96 ± 0.004 ^a (5.9)	8.86 ± 0.002 ^b (6.5)	7.98 ± 0.004 ^b (6.7)	6.60 ± 0.001 ^b (6.5)
TAG	91.3 ± 0.006 ^a (54.2)	71.7 ± 0.009 ^b (52.3)	55.1 ± 0.005 ^c (46.5)	33.2 ± 0.025 ^d (33.0)
Total NL	131 ± 0.01 ^a (78.1)	107 ± 0.01 ^a (78.4)	89.8 ± 0.03 ^b (75.8)	64.5 ± 0.03 ^c (64.1)

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Fatty acids, FA	ZI	ZII	ZIII	JI
Total FA	90.2 ± 6 ^a	101.8 ± 8 ^b	69.4 ± 7 ^c	53.1 ± 5 ^d
14:0	1.31 ± 0.1 ^a	1.68 ± 0.09 ^b	1.27 ± 0.11 ^a	0.91 ± 0.07 ^c
15:0	0.80 ± 0.09 ^a	1.09 ± 0.06 ^b	0.64 ± 0.04 ^c	0.57 ± 0.1 ^c
16:0	16.4 ± 1.2 ^a	18.5 ± 0.9 ^b	12.9 ± 0.8 ^c	10.1 ± 1.1 ^d
18:0	3.06 ± 0.1 ^a	2.93 ± 0.12 ^a	2.8 ± 0.9 ^b	2.72 ± 0.8 ^b
20:0	0	0	0.29 ± 0.01 ^c	0.27 ± 0.06 ^c
Total SFA	21.6 ± 1.8 ^a	24.2 ± 1.6 ^b	18.0 ± 1.2 ^c	14.6 ± 1.1 ^d
16:1n-9	7.40 ± 0.9 ^a	9.23 ± 0.7 ^b	4.0 ± 0.9 ^a	3.24 ± 1.2 ^a
18:1n-9	18.4 ± 1.8 ^a	25.6 ± 2.6 ^b	13.2 ± 3.2 ^c	8.21 ± 1.4 ^d
18:1n-7	4.70 ± 1.9 ^a	3.90 ± 0.8 ^a	5.30 ± 1.2 ^a	5.27 ± 0.8 ^a
20:1n-9	0.25 ± 0.1 ^a	0.30 ± 0.1 ^b	0.10 ± 0.06 ^c	0.09 ± 0.05 ^c
Total MUFA	30.8 ± 2.8 ^a	39.0 ± 2.1 ^b	22.6 ± 1.8 ^c	16.8 ± 3.1 ^d
18:2n-6	13.7 ± 1.2 ^a	12.9 ± 0.9 ^a	11.1 ± 1.1 ^b	7.83 ± 0.6 ^c
18:3n-6	0.50 ± 0.1 ^a	0.55 ± 0.1 ^a	0.27 ± 0.2 ^b	0.20 ± 0.1 ^c
20:3n-6	0.12 ± 0.1 ^a	0.17 ± 0.2 ^b	0	0
20:4n-6	1.63 ± 0.2 ^a	2.26 ± 0.3 ^b	1.27 ± 0.1 ^c	1.24 ± 0.1 ^c
22:5n-6	0	0	0.26 ± 0.09 ^a	0.18 ± 0.02 ^b
Total n-6 PUFA	16 ± 1.6 ^a	15.8 ± 1.4 ^a	13 ± 0.9 ^b	9.45 ± 1.4 ^c
18:3n-3	2.81 ± 1.2 ^a	2.2 ± 1.1 ^a	1.55 ± 0.8 ^b	1.02 ± 0.4 ^c
18:4n-3	0.19 ± 0.04 ^a	0.14 ± 0.08 ^b	0.05 ± 0.01 ^c	0.04 ± 0.01 ^c
20:4n-3	0	1.27 ± 0.9 ^a	0.13 ± 0.04 ^b	0.10 ± 0.01 ^b
20:5n-3	13.4 ± 1.6 ^a	14.5 ± 1.8 ^a	10.1 ± 0.9 ^b	7.82 ± 1.5 ^c
21:5n-3	0	0	0.11 ± 0.01 ^a	0.07 ± 0.02 ^b
22:5n-3	0.81 ± 0.2 ^a	1.26 ± 0.6 ^b	0.55 ± 0.1 ^c	0.18 ± 0.09 ^d
22:6n-3	4.58 ± 1.2 ^a	3.45 ± 0.9 ^b	3.37 ± 0.7 ^b	2.93 ± 0.6 ^b
Total n-3 PUFA	21.8 ± 1.6 ^a	22.8 ± 1.2 ^a	15.8 ± 0.9 ^b	12.1 ± 1.4 ^c
TOTAL PUFA	37.7 ± 2.2 ^a	38.6 ± 1.9 ^a	28.8 ± 2.9 ^b	21.7 ± 2.4 ^c

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618 **Table 3**

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Species	Distribution	Habitat	Larval stages	Reference
<i>P. pugio</i> Holthuis, 1949	North America (Atlantic coast)	E	10	Broad (1957)
<i>P. vulgaris</i> Say, 1818	North America (Atlantic coast)	E	10	Sollaud (1923)
<i>P. argentinus</i> Nobili, 1901	South America (Atlantic and Caribbean coasts)	E	9	Menú-Marque (1973)
<i>P. kadiakensis</i> Rathbun, 1902	North America (Pacific coast)	E	5-8	Broad and Hubschman (1963)
<i>P. atrinubes</i> Bray, 1976	Western Australia (Western Australia, Swan River)	E	7	Bray (1976)
<i>P. varians</i> Leach, 1813	Europe, North Africa (Atlantic, Mediterranean)	E	5	Fincham (1979)
<i>P. australis</i> Dakin, 1915	Western Australia (Western Australia, Swan River)	F	3	Bray (1976)
<i>P. carteri</i> Gordon, 1935	South America (Amazon and Orinoco basins)	F	3	Pereira and García (1995)
<i>P. ivonicus</i> Holthuis, 1950	South America (Amazon basin)	F	3	Magalhães (1986)
<i>P. antrorum</i> Benedict, 1896	North America (Texas)	F, T	3	Strenth (1976)
<i>P. cummingi</i> Chace, 1954	North America (Florida, West Indies)	F	3	Dobkin (1971)
<i>P. paludosus</i> Gibbes, 1850	North America (South Carolina, USA)	F	3	Dobkin (1963)
<i>P. hobbsi</i> Strenth, 1994	North America (Mexico)	F	3	Rodríguez-Almaraz et al. (2010)
<i>P. mexicanus</i> Strenth, 1976	North America (Mexico)	F	3	Rodríguez-Almaraz et al. (2010)
<i>P. antennarius</i> H. Milne Edwards, 1837	Europe (Mediterranean lagoons)	F	3	Falciai and Palmerini (2001)
<i>P. zariquieyi</i> Sollaud, 1939	Europe (eastern Spain)	F	3	Guerao (1993)
<i>P. mercedae</i> Pereira, 1986	South America (Amazon and Orinoco basins)	F	1	Magalhães (1988)

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