

# Present knowledge and perspectives in the paralarval culture of *Octopus vulgaris*



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# BACKGROUND

The culture of Octopus is hindered by high paralarval mortalities



Specific causes remain unidentified

Nutritional deficiencies?



Only very limited success with crustacean zoeae

Previous studies:

✓ Zootechnic

✓ Biochemical analysis



The high mortalities still remain



## Multidisciplinary and integrated approach

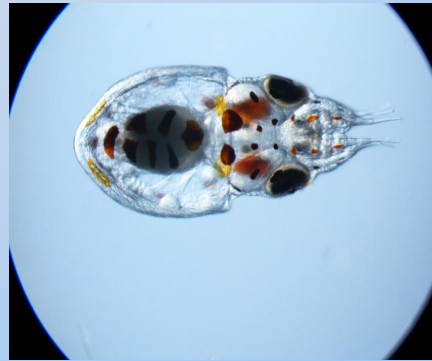
- Parámetros de calidad
- Condiciones de cultivo
- Alimentación
- Nutrición
- Marcadores de condición

- Calidad de puesta
- Patología y respuesta inmune
- Genómica
- Estrés
- Bienestar animal

# QUALITY PARAMETERS

## Weight/size/n<sup>o</sup> suckers

- Dry weight
- Size
  - Dorsal
  - Total
- N<sup>o</sup> suckers (>3)



Villanueva 1995. CJFAS 52  
Okamura et al., 2005. Aqua Sci 53(3)

## Survival (%)

High variability



Unexpected mortalities

No existing system for precise population count



Complex behaviour

- ✓ Vertical migration
- ✓ Phototactism changes
- ✓ Random distribution?

# CONDICIONES DE CULTIVO

Iglesias et al., 2007. Aquaculture 266

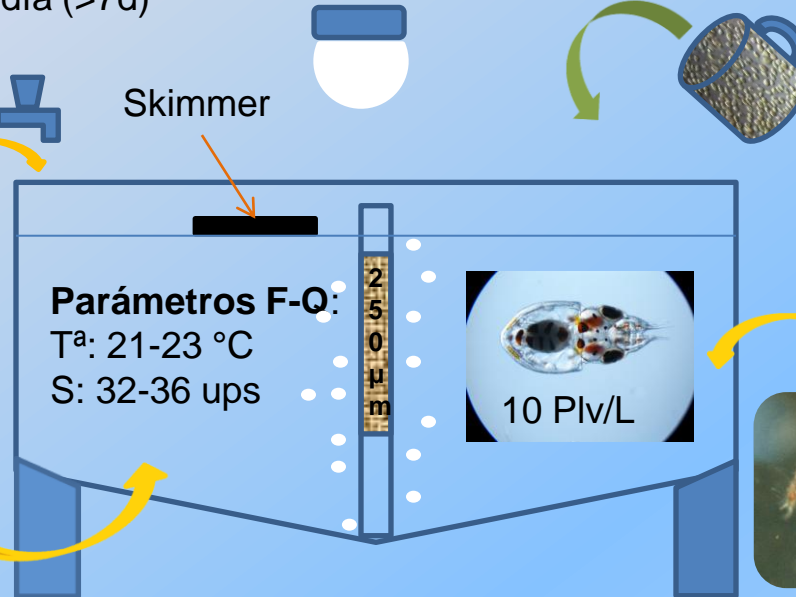
**Fotoperiodo:** 14L:10O  
**Intensidad:** 500-700 lux  
**Renovación:** 4 horas/día (>7d)

## Artemia

**0-15 días:**  
0,5 naupl/mL  
*Isochrysis*



**0-30 días:**  
0,3 metanpl/mL  
(1,5-2 mm)  
*Isochrysis* +  
*Nannochloropsis*



**Agua verde:** 1·10<sup>6</sup>  
cél/mL  
*Nannochloropsis*  
sp.

**Tanque**  
500-1000 L  
Color Negro



**Co-feeding:**  
0,05-0,1 zoeas/mL  
3-4 veces en  
semana

## Settlement/move down to the bottom

Alimentación (mejillón, cangrejo, erizo de mar y misidáceos) / Use of refuges

## Interaction between factors



# FEEDING AND NUTRITION

## Feeding

Roura et al., 2010. Aqua Res 42(3)

**Wild paralarvae prey:** Decapod crustaceans and euphausiids

**Prey Size:** Preference for larger prey

**Inert diets:** Few research /numerous factors/great potential

## Lipids

**Rich in cholesterol and polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA)  
 $\omega$ 3 (DHA and EPA) and  $\omega$ 6 (ARA)**

Fatty acid metabolism  
 $C^{14}$  radiotracers

Characterisation of  
biosynthetic pathways  
enzymes

Little or no synthesis of PUFA (DHA, EPA , ARA)  
+  
High content of these fatty acids in Octopus

**DHA, EPA and ARA are essential for Octopus**

# FEEDING AND NUTRITION

Hormiga et al., 2010. JB 149(3)

## Proteins

**Main body component and source of energy:** Optimal prey: 57% dry weight

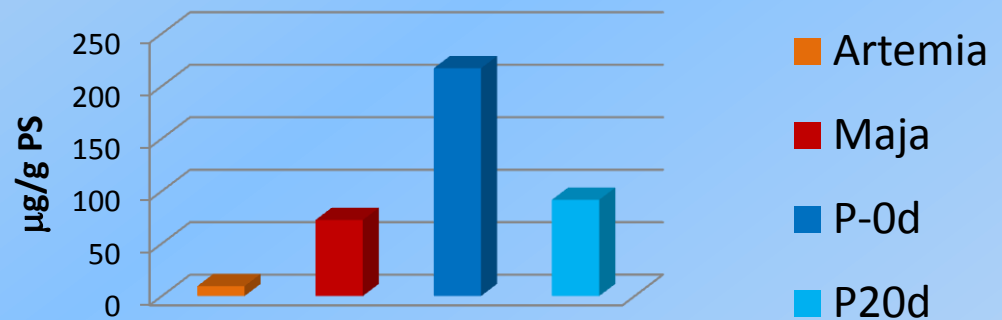
**Aminoacids dissolved in water** Tripled survival rate

Villanueva et al., 2004

**Taurina:** High content in the free aminoacids pool

## Copper

Hemocyanin



## Vitamins

No studies (except for A and E vitamins)



# OTHER ASPECTS



## Biomarkers

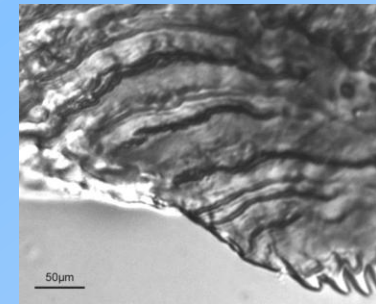
- ✓ RNA/DNA
- ✓ Heat shock Protein (HSP)
- ✓ Antioxidant enzymes (ROS)
- ✓ Peroxidación lipídica
- ✓ Histología
- ✓ Enzimas digestivas

## Proteomic

- ✓ Nutritional biomarkers (OCTOPHYS)
- ✓ Inmune response

## Stress

- ✓ Stress hormones  $\emptyset$
- ✓ Stress marks in the beak



## Genomic

International consortium

Albertin et al., 2012. SGS 7

# OTHER ASPECTS

## Calidad de puesta



High variability

Hatchlings	Europa	Japón
Peso seco (mg)	0,17-0,33	0,40
Nº ventosas	3	4

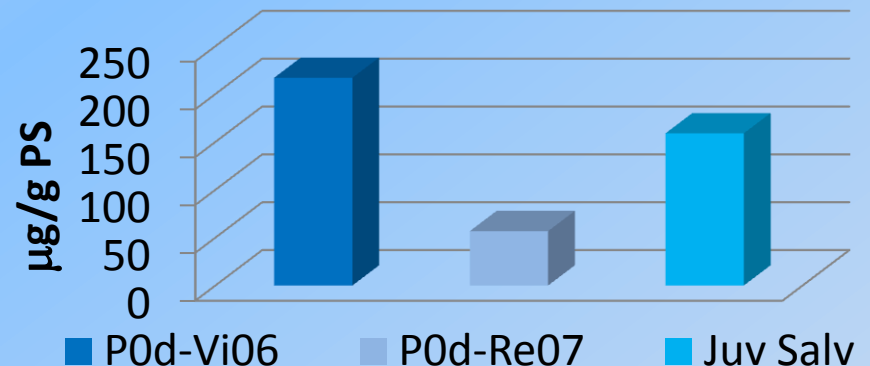
Variability throughout the spawning:

Efecto de la madre



- ✓ Tamaño: >1,5 kg
- ✓ Nutrición: Composición/tamaño
- ✓ Estrés: Adelanta la puesta

## Cobre





# Patología y respuesta inmune

Castellanos-Martínez et al., 2013. JEMBE 447

Albertin et al., 2012. SGS 7

Inmunidad innata: No guarda memoria → ~~Vacunación~~

Expresión de genes inmunes en paralarvas →  
✓Alta actividad  
✓Mayor a partir de 10d

**Genómica**      Consorcio internacional

Albertin et al. (2012) Cephalopod Genomics: A Plan of Strategies and Organization. Standards in genomic Sciences, Vol 7 (1)

# Bienestar animal



European Directive 2010/63/EU

Ley 6/2013-España

**COST Action FA1301** “A network for improvement of cephalopod welfare and husbandry in research, aquaculture and fisheries (CephInAction)”

**3 R**

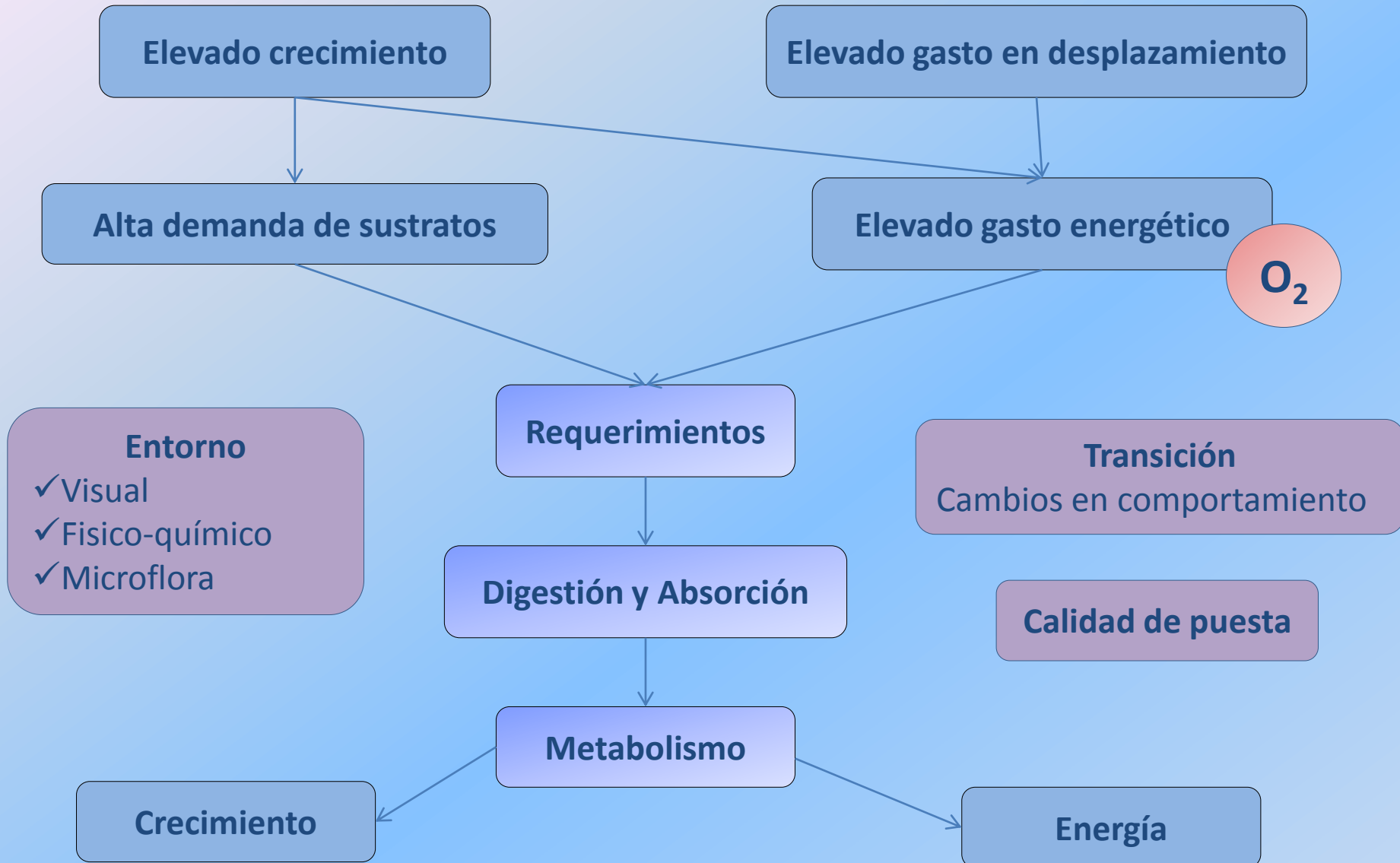
➤ **REPLACE**  
➤ **REDUCE**  
➤ **REFINE**

- ✓ Establish cephalopod guidelines
- ✓ Revise current information and produce new information
- ✓ Exchange of information between scholars and institutions

<http://www.cephalopodresearch.org/>

- ✓ JEMBE Vol. 447. Sep 2013
- ✓ Invertebrate Neuroscience Vol. 13(1), Jun 2013

# CONCLUSIÓN



# OCTOPHYS

