



219 - LARVICULTURE OF THE MARINE ORNAMENTAL DECAPOD LYSMATA WURDEMANNI (GIBBS, 1850)

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The marine aquarium industry has expanded considerably during the past decade, involving fish, corals and other invertebrates such as decapod shrimps. Some bottlenecks still impair the commercial rearing of ornamental shrimps, the foremost being the long duration of its larval stages and poor survival rates. The goal of this research is to complete the larviculture of L. wurdemanni under laboratory controlled conditions. Newly hatched larvae were obtained from ovigerous females kept in captivity and placed into 13L cylindrical-conical rearing tanks connected to a water treatment recirculation system. The larvae were fed once a day with newly hatched brine shrimp at a density of 3 nauplii per ml. Water quality indicators were monitored and remained stable throughout the experimental period (pH: 8,0-8,5, Salinity: 33-36PSU and Temp.: 26-28°C). A photoperiod of 14 hs/day and 10hs/night was established. So far, two experimental assays have been completed. Both lasted for 72 hours, during which all the larvae reached zoea III stage, having died thereafter, possibly due to poor feeding conditions. This research hopes to contribute to increase knowledge about ornamental shrimp larviculture, in view of its potential for commercial mass scale production. The success of ornamental shrimp larviculture is considered an important step to relieve pressure and damage caused to coral reefs by unscrupulous practices of collectors in the wild, and so, towards a sustainable hobby industry.

220 - CURRENT STATUS OF UCIDES CORDATUS (LINNAEUS, 1763) (CRUSTACEA, OCYPODIDAE) FISHERY IN THE PARNAÍBA DELTA REGION, BRAZIL

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In the Northeastern Brazilian coast, the crab Ucides cordatus is considered as an important fishery resource, generating job and income for thousand of families. The Parnaíba Delta region, located between states of Piauí and Maranhão (02°44'S; 041°59'W), exhibits the highest concentration of communities that depend on the crab fishery for their living. The aim of this work is to describe the current information about U. cordatus fishery, providing an improved basis for the development of effective management plans in this region. Data were collected from several research studies and from technical and regional meetings held between 2002 and 2004. Results showed that approximately 4,500 fishermen capture 21 millions crabs per year, and that about 40% to 60% of total catches are discarded without utilization. The wastefulness is caused by inadequate techniques of capture, handling, storage and transportation. Overfishing evidences, such as the reduction of mean individual sizes and the increase of capture effort, are observed because of the inexistence of appropriate exploitation policies associated with the high demand from market consumption in the last years. Considering these facts, from 2004 on, the Embrapa and partners will coordinate research and development projects to assure the sustainable fishery of U. cordatus in the Parnaíba Delta region. Besides the social and post-harvest handling and processing approaches, these projects include biological and management aspects such as distribution and abundance, reproduction, population structure, and habitat protection.

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