

**SPAWNING AND LARVAL DEVELOPMENT OF
MUREX TRIBULUS L. (PROSOBRANCHIA: MURICIDAE)
UNDER LABORATORY CONDITIONS**

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ABSTRACT

In *M. tribulus* the egg mass is a honey comb like structure composed of vasiform capsules. The number of capsules per egg mass ranged from 166 to 367; the number of eggs per capsule from 24 to 98. The larvae hatched out 17-18 days after spawning and the newly hatched veliger larva (about 560-600 μm length) has a four lobed velum and a thin shell. The hatching rate of the number of larvae per capsule ranged from 15 to 28. The newly hatched larvae were fed with diatoms. Metamorphosis took place after 6-8 days. Juveniles were given bi valve spat and newly settled barnacles as feed. The survival rate of the juveniles was $> 100\%$ after 60 days of culture.