

**REGENERATION OF SIPHONAL CANALS IN THE MURICIDS
CHICOREUS VIRGINEUS AND *RAPANA RAPIFORMIS*
(PROSOBRANCHIA: NEOGASTROPODA)**

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ABSTRACT

Males and females of *Chicoreus virgineus* (6.2-7.3 cm length) and *Rapana rapiformis* (6.0-6.7 cm length) were selected. In the first experiment, 5 mm of the siphonal canal was amputated in 125 specimens of both species. *C. virgineus* males regenerated in 183 days; females in 207 days; *R. rapiformis* males regenerated in 195 days; females in 223 days. The mantle, foot, and adductor muscle lost weight during the regenerative process. *C. virgineus* had minimal concentrations of protein, carbohydrate and lipid after 120 days. A similar pattern was found in *R. rapiformis*, except for tissue of the foot where all relative concentrations were minimal after 140 days in both sexes. In the second experiment, the feeding rate was highly reduced in labial tooth regenerating animals. It took 90 days for male *C. virgineus*, and 100 days for females, to regenerate amputated labial teeth. During the first 50 days of regeneration, the consumption of bivalves, *Meretrix meretrix* was 9-11 bivalves $10\text{ d}^{-1}\text{ ind}^{-1}$ against a consumption of 18-20 bivalves $10\text{ d}^{-1}\text{ ind}^{-1}$ in snails with untreated labial teeth.