

EFFECT OF SALINITY ON HATCHING, LARVAL GROWTH, AND SURVIVAL  
IN THE GREEN MUSSEL *PERNA VIRIDIS* (LINNAEUS)

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ABSTRACT

The effect of salinity (0-30 ‰) on egg development, growth, and survival of the D-larvae to the plantigrade stage in *Perna viridis* were studied. Eggs were able to develop into D-larvae from 6 to 30 ‰ salinity. Optimum development of eggs to the D-larvae occurred at salinities between 24 and 30 ‰, where more than 80 % of D-larvae were formed. The D-larvae were able to survive to the settling stage when cultured in salinities from 18 to 30 ‰, with the best survival occurring in 24 ‰ (25.5-31.5 %). In 24 ‰ salinity, first settling occurred on the 21st day compared to 24th day for larvae cultured in 30 ‰; and 28th day for those cultured in 18 ‰.