

METAMORPHOSIS, GROWTH, AND SURVIVAL OF TOP SHELL
LARVAE (*TROCHUS NILOTICUS*) IN CULTURES WITH FOUR
SPECIES OF MICROALGAE.

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ABSTRACT

The gastropod *Trochus niloticus* was studied during 42 days in cultures added 4 species of microalgae: *Tetraselmis* sp., *Chaetoceros gracilis*, *Isocrysis galbana*, *Nannochlorosis* sp. Unfiltered sea water served as a control. Metamorphosis was fastest when *Tetraselmis* sp. was present in the culture dish and slowest in unfiltered sea water. The highest growth and survival were observed among the larvae feeding on *Isochrysis galbana* for 42 days (1816.7 ± 43.7 µm and 47.3 ± 8.3% respectively). Very poor survival was found in treatment with *Tetraselmis* sp., *Chaetoceros gracilis* and *Nannochlorosis* sp.