

EFFECTS OF ORGANO TIN ON MARINE BIVALVES

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ABSTRACT

The well-known worldwide environmental problems with organic tin compounds and their use for antifouling purposes have been focused mostly on their extremely high toxicity and hormonal disturbances to gastropods and are described in several papers. However, other investigations have shown that also many other organisms are affected in different ways from the cellular up to the population level. For bivalves the earliest described effects are shell deformation in oysters. Furthermore, organotin compounds are easily bioaccumulated and may interact with internal physiological processes and some of the effects are described and discussed in the present paper.