

## **STUDY ON CUTTLE FISH CULTURE**

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Cephalopod meat is well known as the best supplemental feed for marine finfish broodstocks. Neritic cuttlefish *Sepia* sp. is one of the cephalopods, which is locally available in Banten Bay Waters. In the area, supply of fresh cuttlefish meat can only be obtained when the cuttlefish is produced from aquaculture. However, data and information on the biology and culture of the cuttlefish is very limited. This study examines the effects of salinities on rate of hatching. Fertilized eggs were produced from a group of females in a culture tank of 200 litres capacity. The eggs were incubated in a series of 1800 ml capacity bottles with salinities of 29, 32, 35 and 38 ppt. Initial density was 200 eggs/l. The bottles were aerated during the incubation. The bottles were placed in a water-bath of 400 litres capacity in order to maintain a constant temperature. The study was terminated when all of the live eggs hatched. The average hatching rates were 46, 68, 76 and 52% for those incubated in 29, 32, 35 and 38 ppt salinity respectively. Best incubating salinity for cuttlefish egg is 35 ppt seawater, however, statistically there is no significant difference compared to those incubated in 32 ppt seawater.