

# Intensive culture of walleye fry to fingerlings: Foundation of research in sport fish culture

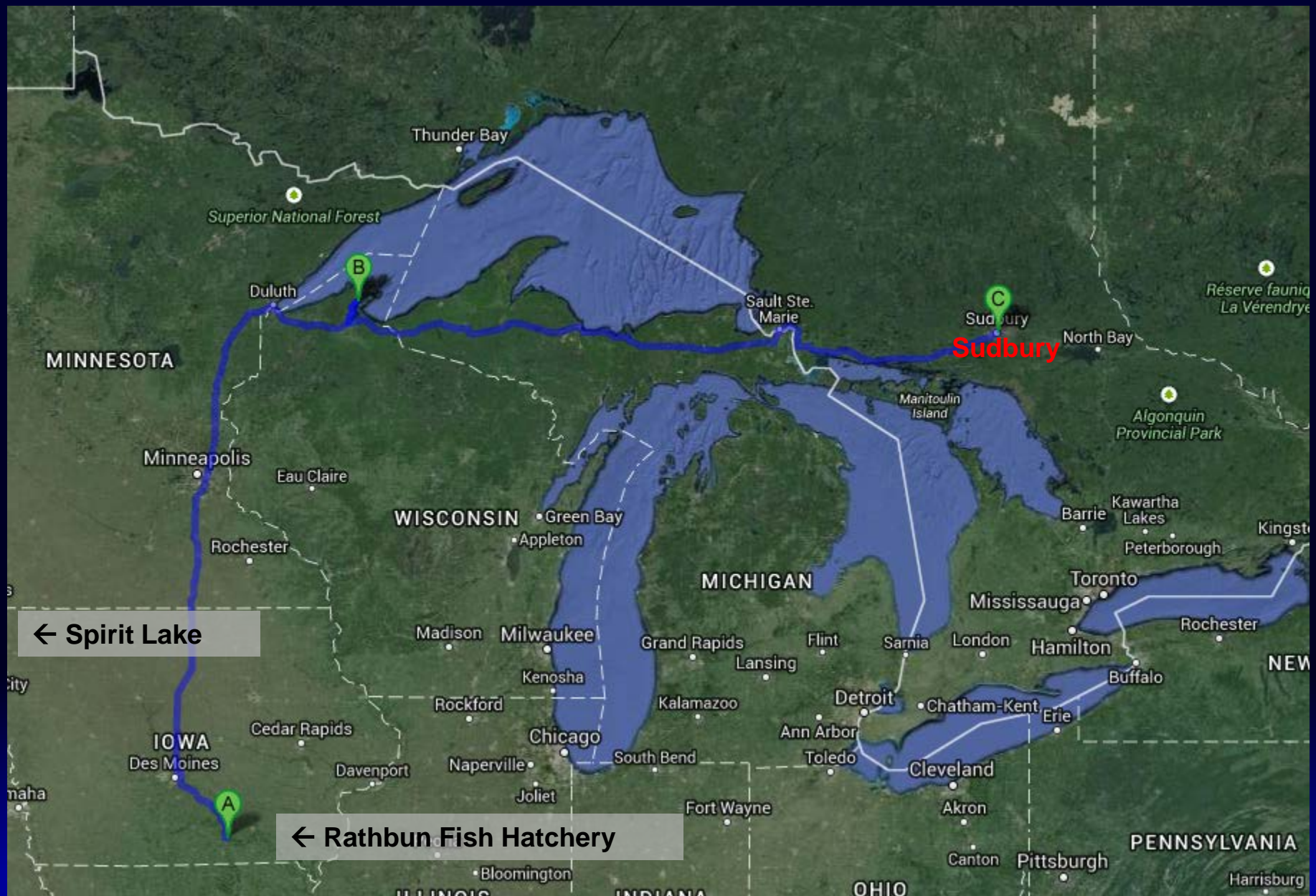
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**J. Alan Johnson**

Rathbun Fish Hatchery and Research Facility, Moravia, IA

Some slides prepared by Randy Esser, Jay Rudacille







# Rathbun Fish Hatchery

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**Rathbun Fish Culture Research Team:**  
***“We don’t produce the walleye, we make walleye production better.”***

# **Iowa's Walleye Culture Program**

**Stockings**

**Fry :**

**110-150 mil.**

**Pond fingerlings:**

**500,000-1.2 mil.**

**Nursery Lake fingerlings:**

**100-150,000**

**Advanced Intensive:**

**200,000**

# Walleye Culture

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**Walleye are a valued as sportfish and food fish.**

- 3-4.5 million kg imported as food.
- 1.1 billion stocked in North American fisheries.

**Fingerling production systems:**

**Intensive fry culture – Live or manufactured diets.**

- 1972-79 Dry diet failures (Beyerle 1975, 1979)
- Live diet success (Howey et al. 1980)
- Currently:
  - Artemia to dry diets – Oneida Hatchery, NY
  - Dry diets only – experimentally by Iowa DNR, WI - NADF.

**Pond fingerling habituation to dry diets**

- 1965 – First reported (Cheshire and Steele 1972).
- 1970's Tim Nagel, Ohio DNR.
- Agencies currently in production: Iowa DNR , Ontario MNR, Vermont, Wisconsin.

# Why 9-inch Fish?

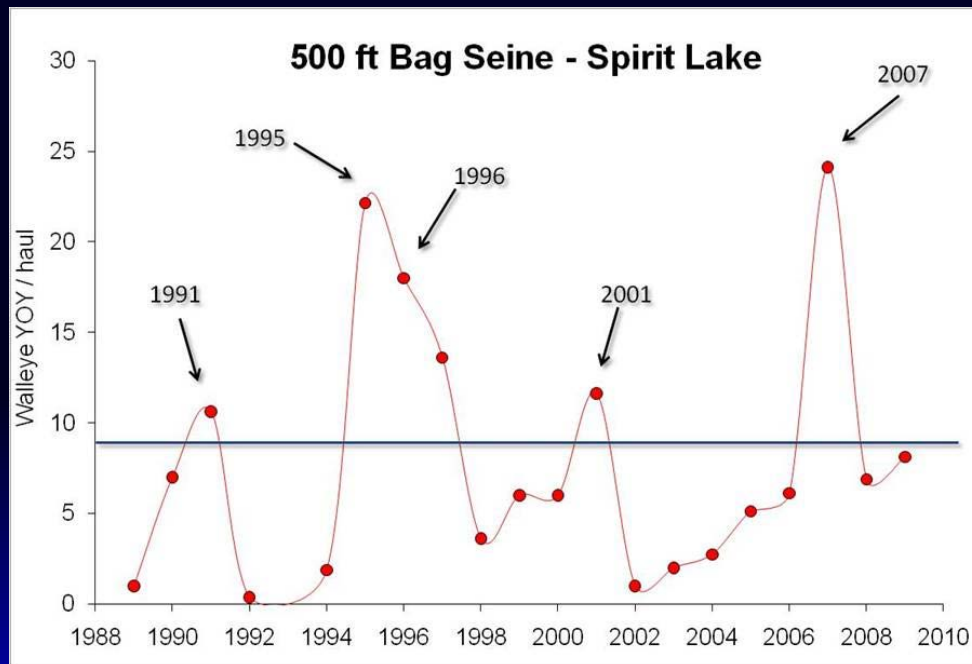
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- Pond to tank walleye culture began 1985 at RFH.
- Successfully rebuilt walleye population in Rathbun by 1989.
  - Biomass of walleyes longer than 17 inches was 0.9 lb/acre in 1987 and increased to 2.8 lb/acre in 1989; thus, the population biomass was tripled and the project goal was achieved (Mitzner 1992).
- Eight inch mean, six inch minimum - escapes predation.
- Better body condition, fat reserves for over-winter survival.
- Success in fisheries resulted in increased hatchery production goals.
- Stocked in broodstock lakes (10/ac.), other constructed lakes (5-10/ac).
- The densities of walleye in these lakes were not sufficient to meet the demands of the angler.
- Inconsistent recruitment, not over harvest, was the primary reason for the low densities and harvests of walleye.

# Advanced Walleye Culture

- Rear to 225 mm (9 inch) size.
- Purpose: sustain a fishery when fry recruitment is poor.
  - Fry recruitment highly variable – 3-5 yrs between yr classes.
  - 50-mm fingerlings – poor survival, vulnerable to predation.



Courtesy Michael Hawkins, IA DNR.

# Fisheries Value

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- Cost - \$1.23 per 9-inch walleye. 10 fry/penny.
- What is the value of our walleye to a fishery?
- Iowa Great Lakes (Michael Hawkins data) –
  - Spirit, East and West Okoboji lakes,
  - 112,700 angler trips annually,
  - 36-40% of trips target walleye,
  - \$23 per angler spent on a trip.
  - **This walleye fishery generates**
    - **\$18.30 per \$1 spent on cultured walleye**



# Progress in walleye culture

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In the past, the suitability of walleye for intensive production was questioned:

- Poor survival on feed,
- Poor growth rates,
- Poor feed conversion,
- Prone to disease.

Rathbun Fish Hatchery data is proof to the contrary.

- 1.4 feed conversion ratio.
- 1.5 mm/d growth rate
- Survival >70% fry to 9"



# Research Projects

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## **Research from fertilization to transportation.**

**Funded by Federal Aid to Sport Fish Restoration Grants.**

- **Egg fertility - \$0.001/fry**
- **Intensive culture - three phase system**
  - 7022 - Pond reared fry to fingerlings
  - 7003 – Pond Fingerling Habituation to feed
  - 7034 - Growout to 225 mm
- **Precious cargo – \$5,000 per truckload.**

# Overview

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## Walleye production on formulated feed.

- Consider challenging characteristics
  - Wild Broodstock sources.
- Feeding and culture techniques for walleye:
  - Larvaculture.
  - Grow out to 9-10”.

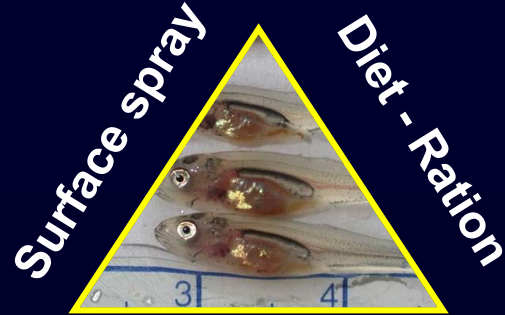


## Phase I



Harvest Size

**Pond**



Turbidity

**Tank**



## Phase II



Dark room

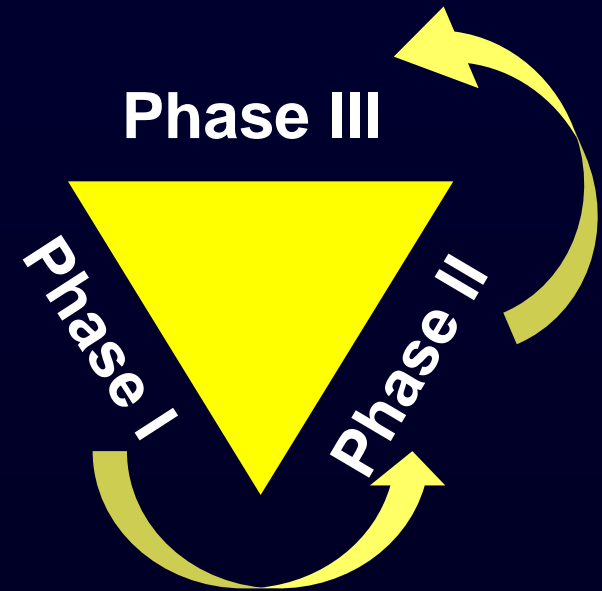
environment



## Phase III



Disease





# Keys to Success

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## Phase I Larval culture techniques

- Environment (tank, lights, water)
- Feeding (type and frequency)
- Husbandry

## Phase II On growing

- Transition period
- Size grading

## Phase III Growout

- Feed rates
- Control costs



# Larviculture

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## Why intensive tank culture of fry?

	Pond Culture	Tank Culture
Biosecurity	Low	High
Fingerling supply	Seasonal	Year round
Capitol costs	Land, ponds	Building, tanks
Larval care	Low	High
Deformity	Rare	Low
Controlled environment	Vulnerable	Controlled
Mechanical failure	Low	Vulnerable

**Bottom Line: Year-round harvest of food fish will require intensive fry culture.**

# Characteristics

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## Gas bladder inflation – physoclistus

### Diets

- Planktivorous Fry 8-9 mm at hatch.
- Piscivorous from fingerling to adult

### Coolwater species.

- Optimal growth 24-25°C
- Upper lethal limit: 31-33°C

### Tapetum lucidum

- Reflective surface at the back of the retina.
- Preadapted to life in low light environments (Moore 1944).

### Phototaxis

- Positive - hatch to 21 days.
- Negative - 21 days through adulthood.



# Important life stages

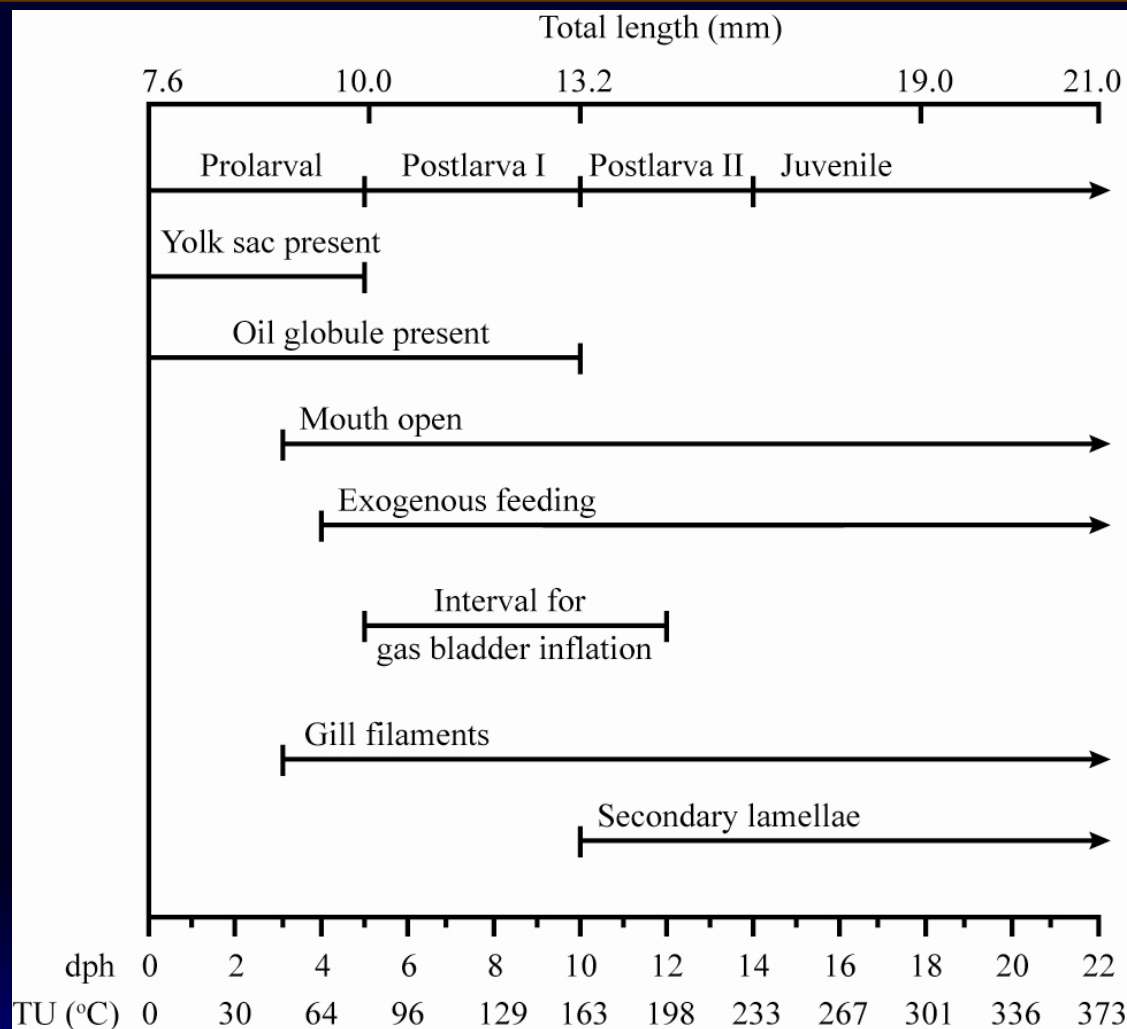
1. Exogenous feeding: Feed intake by 4 to 5 dph.
  1. Oil globule absorption
  2. Yolk absorption.
2. Gas bladder inflation by 12 dph.
3. Shift in light response 21 dph.





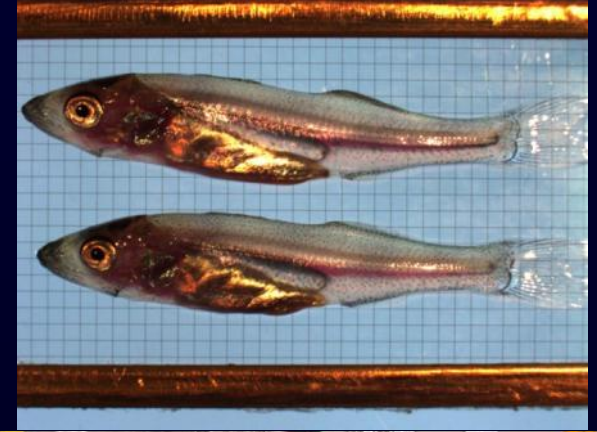
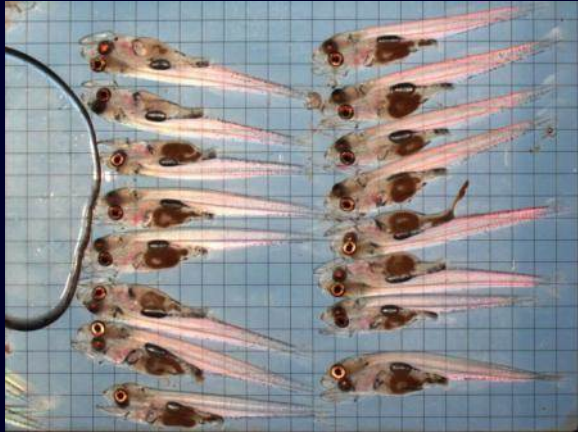


# Important life stages



Ontogeny of walleye development through 22 d posthatch (dph). Temperature units (TU, ° C) are cumulative (e.g., 30 TU at 2 dph is sum of 2 d, each 15° C). **Source FIGURE 13.1. Summerfelt et al. 2011.**

# Phase I Larviculture in tanks





# Larvaculture - Artemia

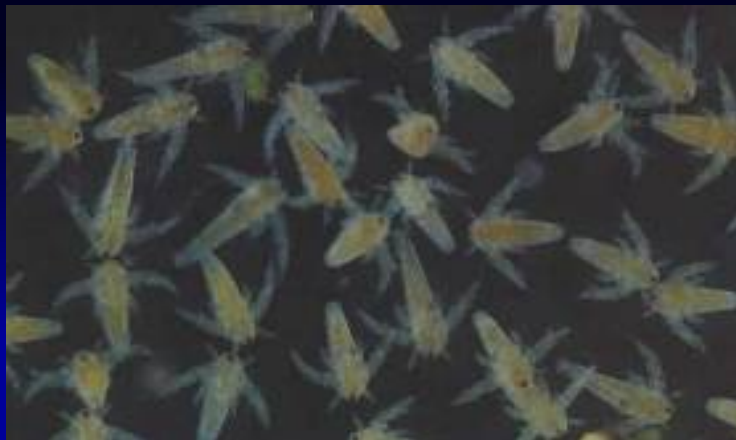
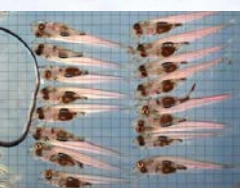
## 1. First feeding to 125 mm.

Quebec's La Station Piscicole de Baldwin-Coaticook.

- 25% survival during habituation to feed.
- To a fall fingerling – 70% survival
- 17.5% overall survival – 107 mm.

New York's Oneida Hatchery

- 40 days of Artemia, 10 day habituation to diets (50d)
- 30-50% mortality during habituation to feed.
- 25% survival from fry to 125 mm.



# Oneida Fish Hatchery, NY

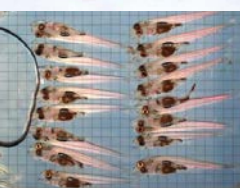




# Larvaculture - Diets

## 2. Manufactured diets.

- Research or production at Rathbun, ISU, NADF, and VT.
- First feed at 2 days post hatch.
- 50% to 80% survival at 35 days post hatch.
- Key techniques:
  - Surface spray
  - Turbid water
  - 100 lx light
  - Frequent feeding
  - Diet - Otohime.

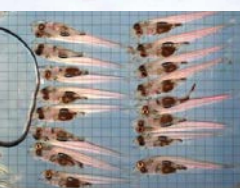




# Fry system

## Components for single pass culture

- Water source
- Water temperature control.
- Degassing for heated water.
- Clay slurry system
- Water process tank
- Pump or gravity flow
- Surface spray pump system.
- Culture tanks with screens.
- Fish feeders, timer.





# Fry system

## Water Source

- Surface water : Rathbun Fish Research
- Decolorinated tap water: Iowa State University
  - Activated Carbon filters
  - pH modification, add dilute acid by pH controller.
- Well water: Wisconsin NADF
- Check your water suitability for fish culture...

## Temperature control

- Desired temperature range: 10 C to 21 C.
- Begin with incubator temperature: 10-15 C?
- Increase to 18.5 by day 5 to stimulate feeding.
- Increase to 21 C to increase growth.

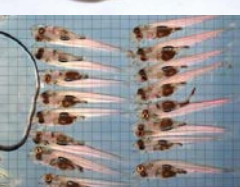
## Degassing for heated water

- Vertical degassing column.





# Fry system



## Clay slurry system

- Clay mixing tank (200 L)
- Agitator, stirrer.
- Clay delivery pump, peristaltic or centrifugal.

## Two method of clay addition:

1. Direct injection to culture tanks by timed and pumped slurry loop.
2. Water process tank and delivery of mixed culture water.

## Water processing tank

- Tank to blend clay slurry with culture water.

## Pump or gravity flow

- Pumping requirements or gravity head to be determined by culturist or engineer.





# Clay Turbidity

## Defined.

- Optical property that causes light to be scattered and absorbed rather than transmitted in straight lines.  
APHA 1998.

## Clay turbidity

- Larvae distribute in the water column and do not cling to the tank walls and surface.
- Improves feed acceptance, increases growth rate (2-3X)  
Bristow and Summerfelt (1994); Bristow (1996).

## Artificial turbidity

- Achieved by OM-4 clay (K-T Clay Co.)
- 50 NTU turbidity.

## Clay slurry tank

- 25 g/L stock solution.



# Clay Slurry System

## Components.

- 200 L Tank
- Agitator - 0.33 hp.
- Peristaltic pump.
- Can run a 12 gpm system for over 24 h.

Slurry added to water process tank then pumped to culture tanks.



# Water process tank

## Components

- Drop in heaters, 36 KW total.
- Two 0.5 hp Teel pumps
- Water level switch.
- Degas column
- Submersible Pump
- 15 gpm upper limit



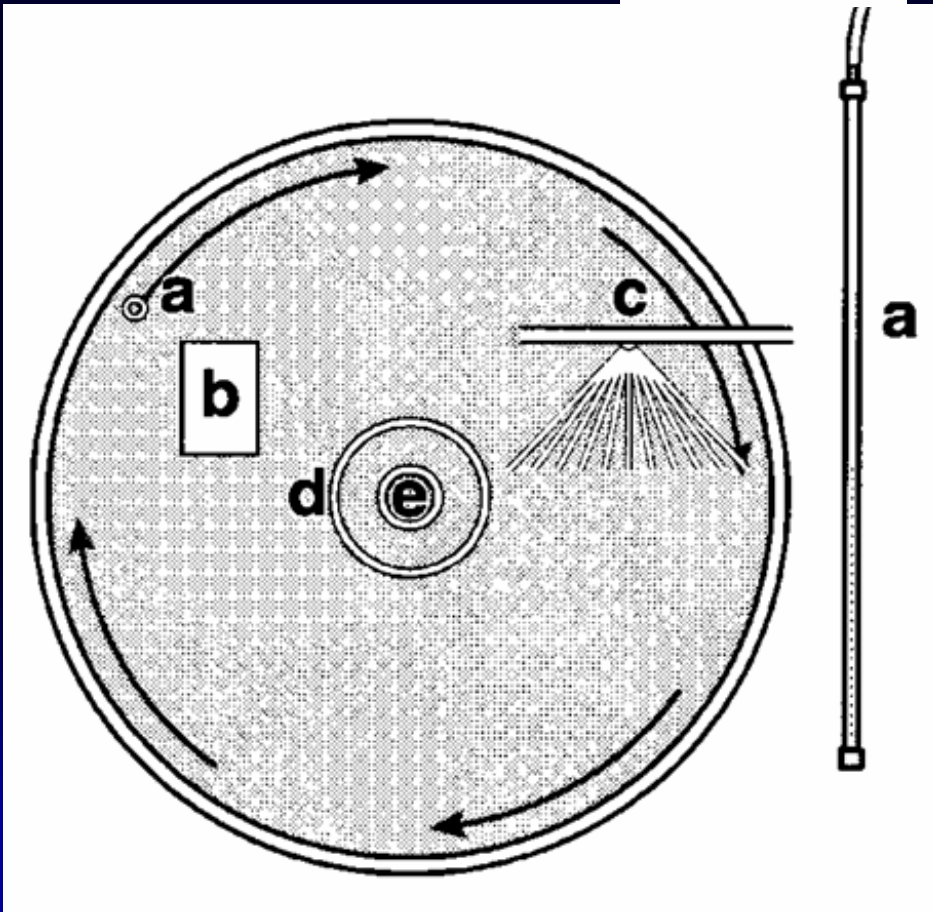
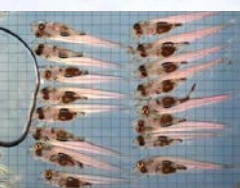


# Tank Design

## Tank

- Cylindrical, circular flow pattern.
- Diagrams of a 275 L culture tank.
- Surface spray bar.

**a** inflow  
**b** feeder  
**c** spray  
**d** screen  
**e** drain



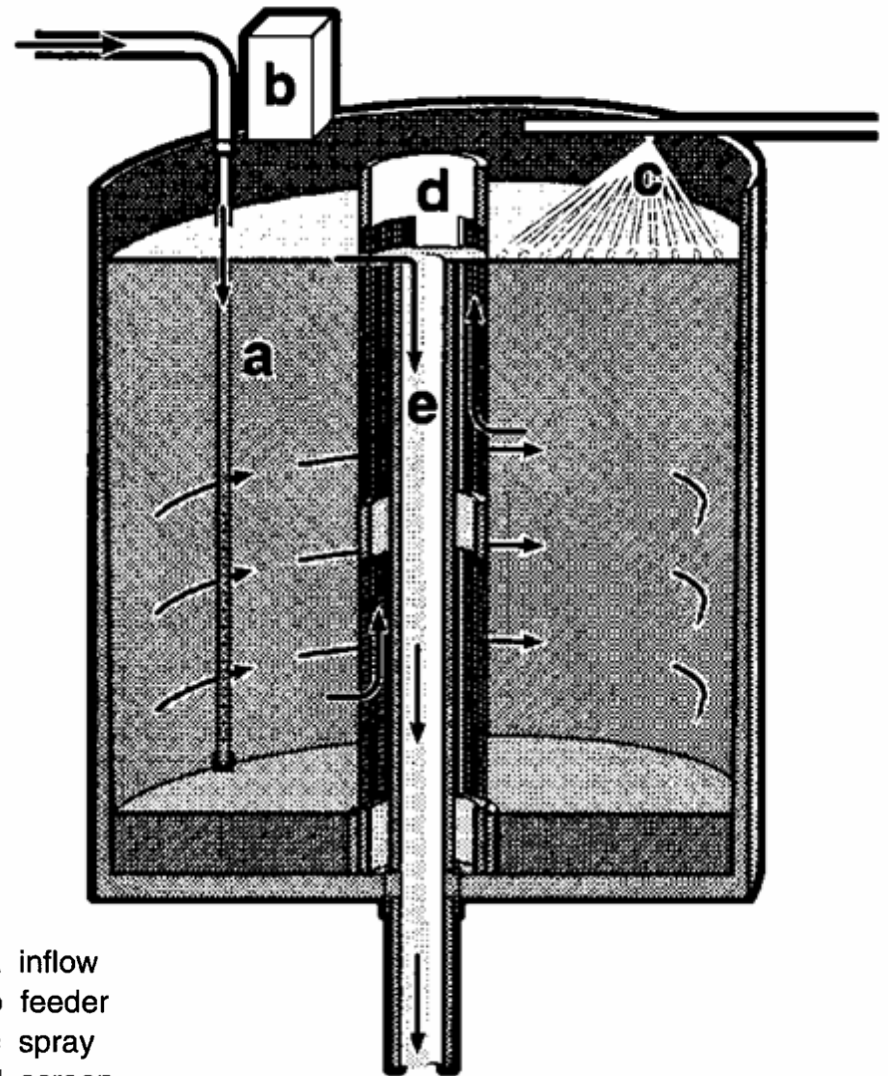
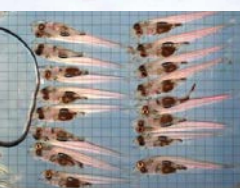




# Tank Design

## Note

- Black side walls to prevent reflection and fry cling.
- Grey bottom.
- Stand pipe screen to prevent fry escape.



- a inflow
- b feeder
- c spray
- d screen
- e drain











## Tank Screens

- Proper size?
- Set a mort on the screen and visually compare before increasing screen size.
- Note the red warning color of 1 mm screen.
- Large surface area due to small size, biofilms, fungus that can plug screens.



700 micron  
2 dph.

1 mm  
10-12 dph.

2 mm  
21 dph??  
*Experimental*



# Surface spray

## Gas bladder inflation

- Must initiate GB inflation by 12 DPH.

## Surface film

- Oils from dead fish
- Waste feed oils
- Prevents walleye from breaking surface tension to ingest an air bubble to inflate their gas bladder.
- After initial gas bladder inflation, gas gland regulates inflation.

## Surface Spray

- Force of downward spray clears surface film.
- Allows fry to ingest air bubble.
- Crucial development in culture technique to produce fish with functional air bladders.
- Surface spray continues after inflation to aid in feed dust removal.





# Tank Environment

Larvae are photopositive.

- Light reflected on water surface and tank walls concentrated the larvae on the walls and surface.

Overhead lighting

- Each tank has an overhead light, adjustable lux.
- Set light to about 100 lux at the tank surface.

Black tank walls

- Reduces light reflection on tank walls.
- Prevent surface and sidewall cling.







# Stocking density

## Initial stocking of tanks

- Range of 10 to 1,000 fry /L (multiple sources).
- Successful studies used 15-100 fry/L
- Rathbun uses 30 – 40 fry/L.

## Consider final density

- Previously at Rathbun we used 40 fry/L:
  - Typical temperature 18.5 C, duration was 28 dph, 28 mm fish.
- To successfully rear fry to a larger size we reduced density.
  - Temperature was increased to 20 C
  - Duration increased to 35 dph, and density was reduced to 30 fry/L.
  - Reduced initial density to 30 fry/L.
  - Achieved 42 mm fish.
  - Density of 15 g/L







# Feeders

## Feed

- Dry micro-particulate feed.
- Sizes: 300 microns to 1 mm during fry culture interval.

## Frequency

- Frequent feedings: 5 minute intervals

**Amounts: 4 g/1000 fry and up.**

## Need for a precise feeder:

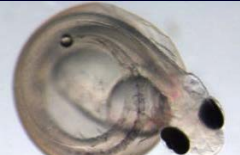
- 8,000 fry; 32 grams/day
- 5 minute intervals (288 feedings)
- 0.11 g/drop.



# Feeders

## Types:

- Vibratory (Sweeney Feeder) –not precise
- Solenoid (AMD Feeder) – precise
- Auger-type (no current manufacturer) – precise.





# Husbandry

## Daily Tank Cleaning

- Squeegee side walls
- Siphon tank bottom, waste collection, mortality counts.
- Daily screen cleaning.







# Water quality

## Daily

- Dissolved oxygen.
- Temperature (DO meter and logger).

## Weekly

- pH
- Total Ammonia Nitrogen (calculate  $\text{NH}_3$ )
- Turbidity (or as needed).







# Performance

Check ontogeny and performance regularly

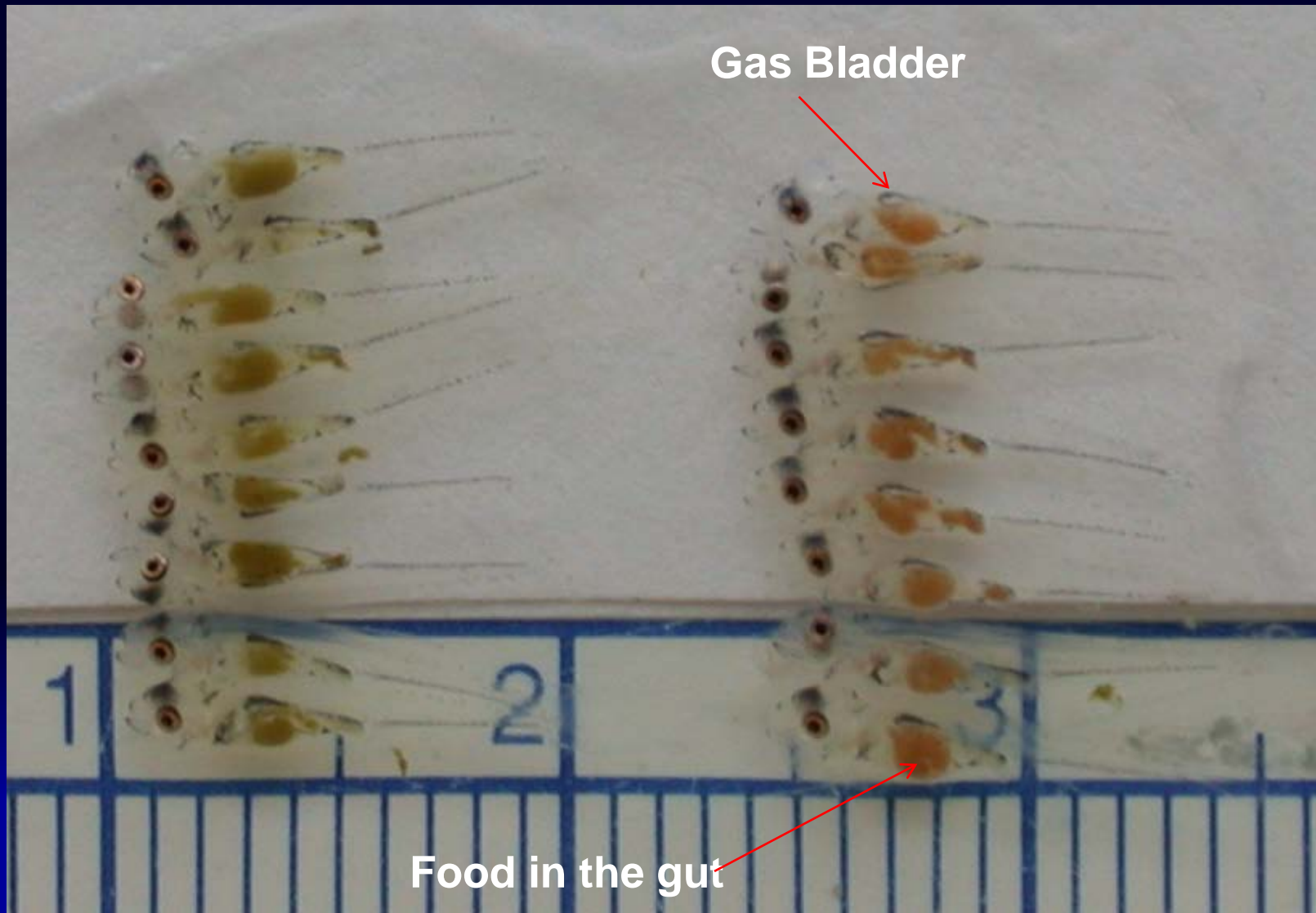
- Gas bladder inflation (GBI).
- Food in the gut (FIG).
- Growth: total length, weight.
- Deformity
- Typically 25 fish per tank.

Records are important for post analysis of success and failures.

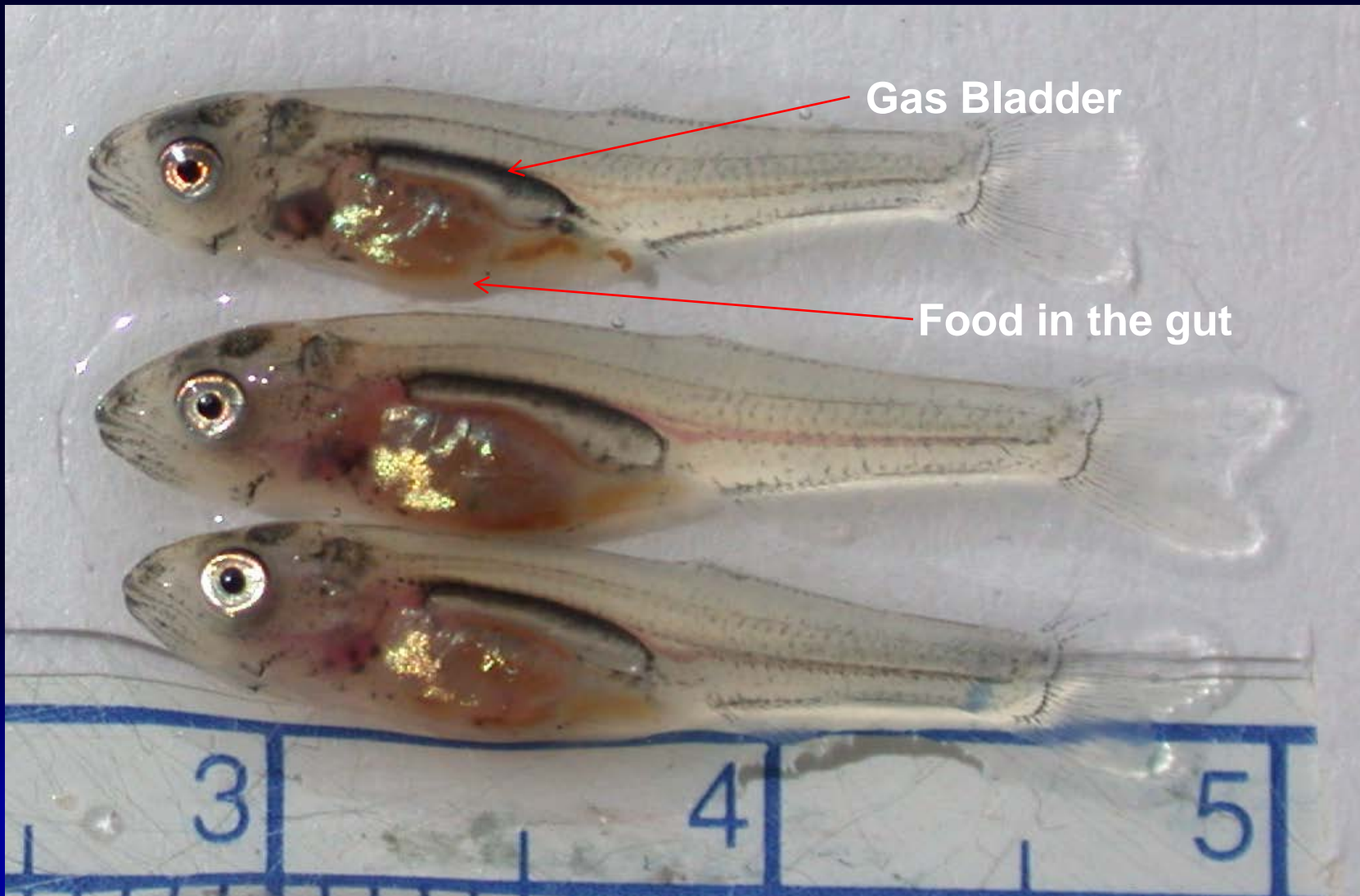


DPH →	3	7	14	21	28	35
TL (mm)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
FIG/GBI	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
W (mg)	✓		✓		✓	✓
Deformity			✓	✓	✓	✓

## 7 day old larva (11 mm)



## 21 day old larva (23 mm)



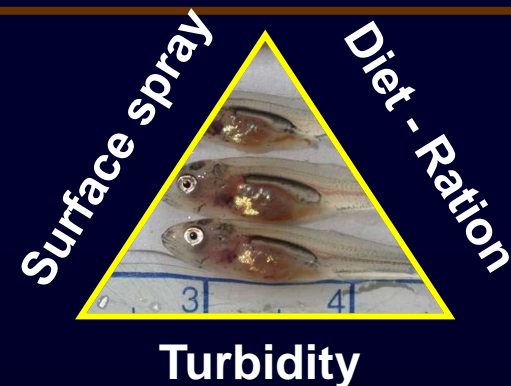


# Diets and feeding



## Changing strategies:

- Goal to produce 42 mm fish, 0.57 g.
- Reduce density from 40 fry/L to 30 fry/L.
- Increase temperature from 18.5° C to 21° C.
- Longer culture interval: up to 35 dph.
- Flow rates from 0.5 to 2 exchanges/hour.
- Started on grower diet.





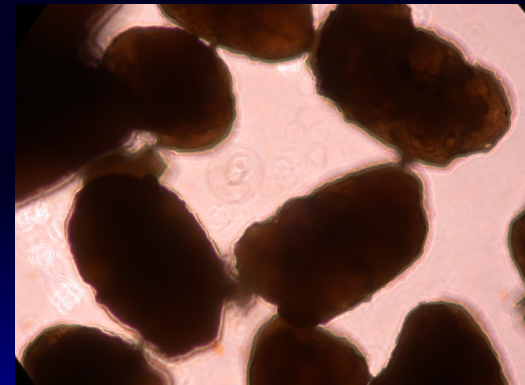
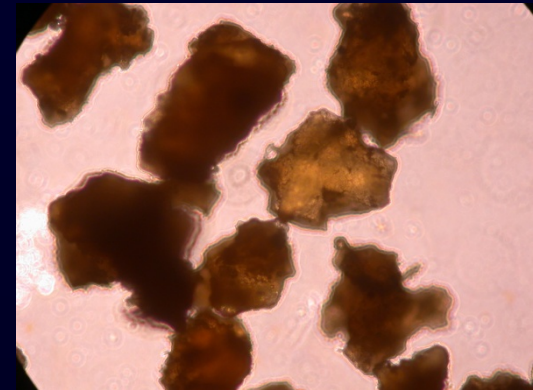
# Larval diets

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## Diet formulation research.

- 1997-2002 Rick Barrows formulated 10 diets.
- BioKyowa: 61% survival, 23.5 mm length
- Walleye Starter: 50% survival, 18.3 mm length.

Ingredient	WS 2000
Krill meal	27.0
Fish meal	26.3
Invert powder	14.0
Liver meal	9.0
Wheat gluten	5.7
Fish oil	5.5
Vit. Premix	3.0
Iso paste	3.5
Tetra-paste	2.7
Nano-paste	2.8
Stay-C	0.5



# Larval diets

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## Commercial diets.

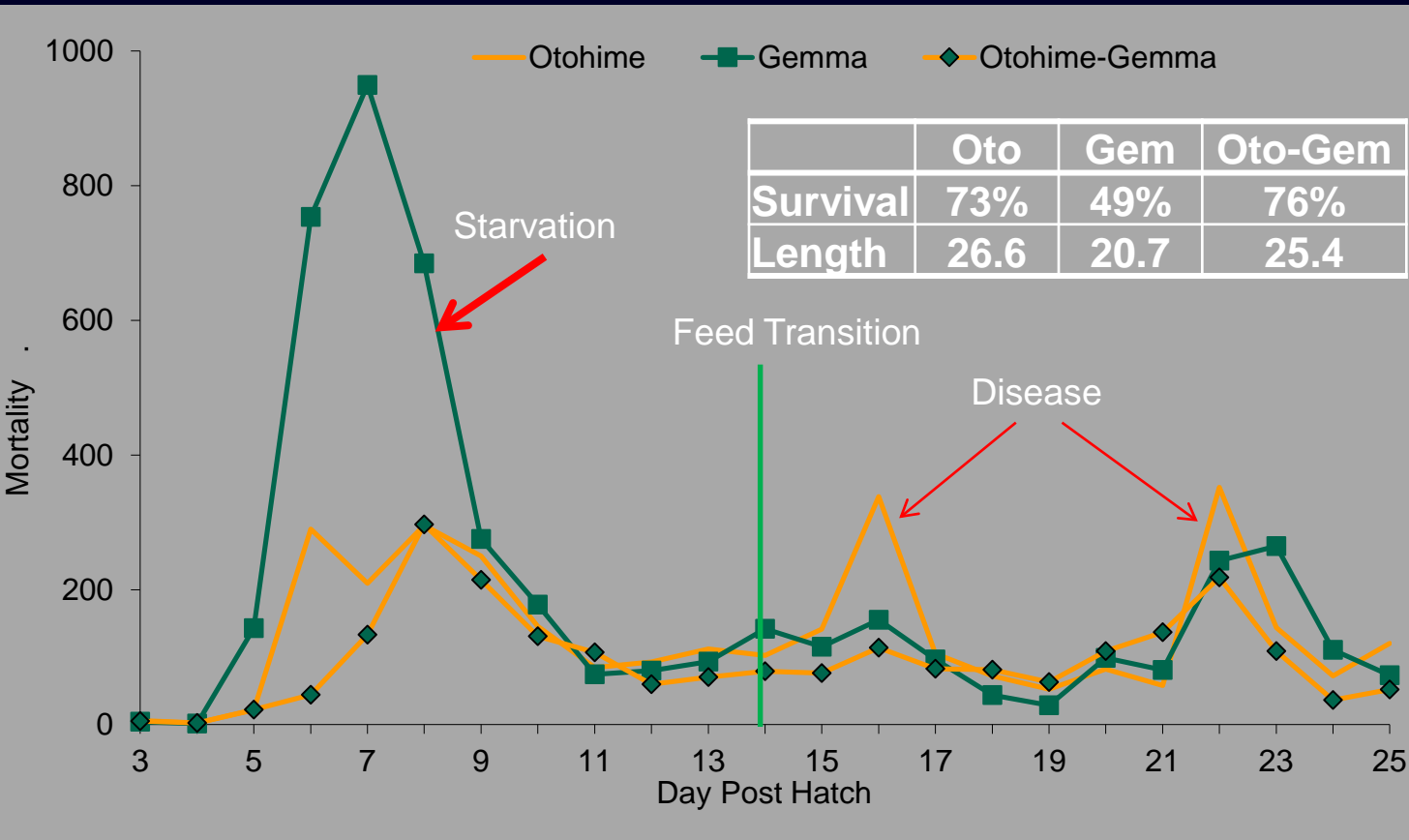
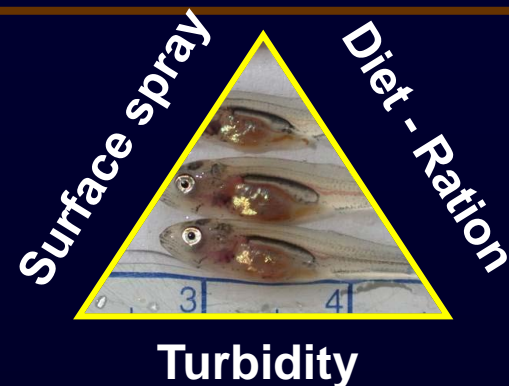
- BioKyowa pre-2001 was the standard.
- We have evaluated five commercial diets.
- Otohime is currently the best diet we have evaluated that is on the market today.

Diets	Survival (%)	Length (mm)	Age (dph)
BioKyowa	62.4	24.2	24
Gemma	39.4	27.3	27
Otohime	54.7	34.0	31

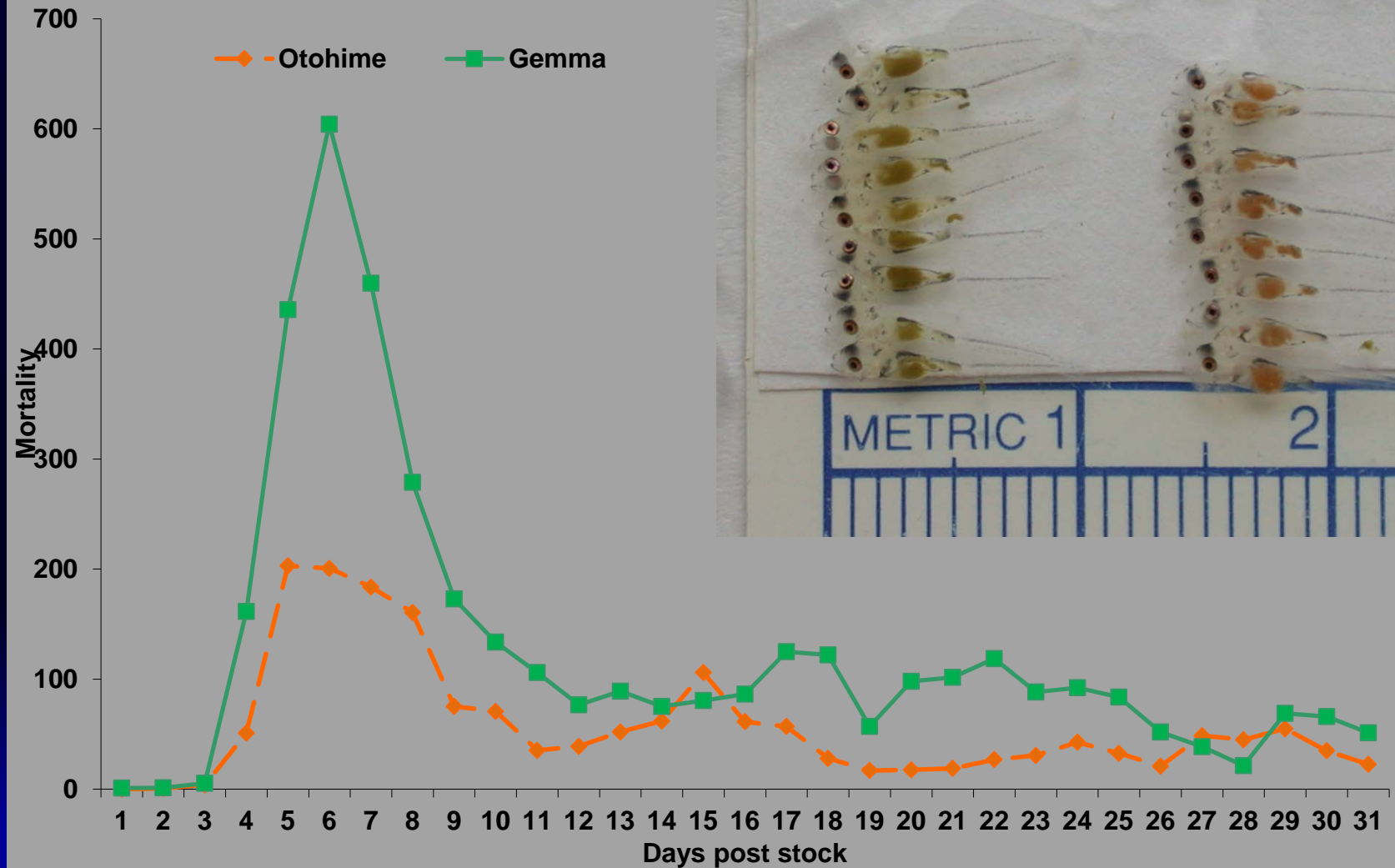
# Larviculture - diets

## Starvation vs disease:

- Palatability differences in diets.
- 2007 diet trial.



# Larval diets



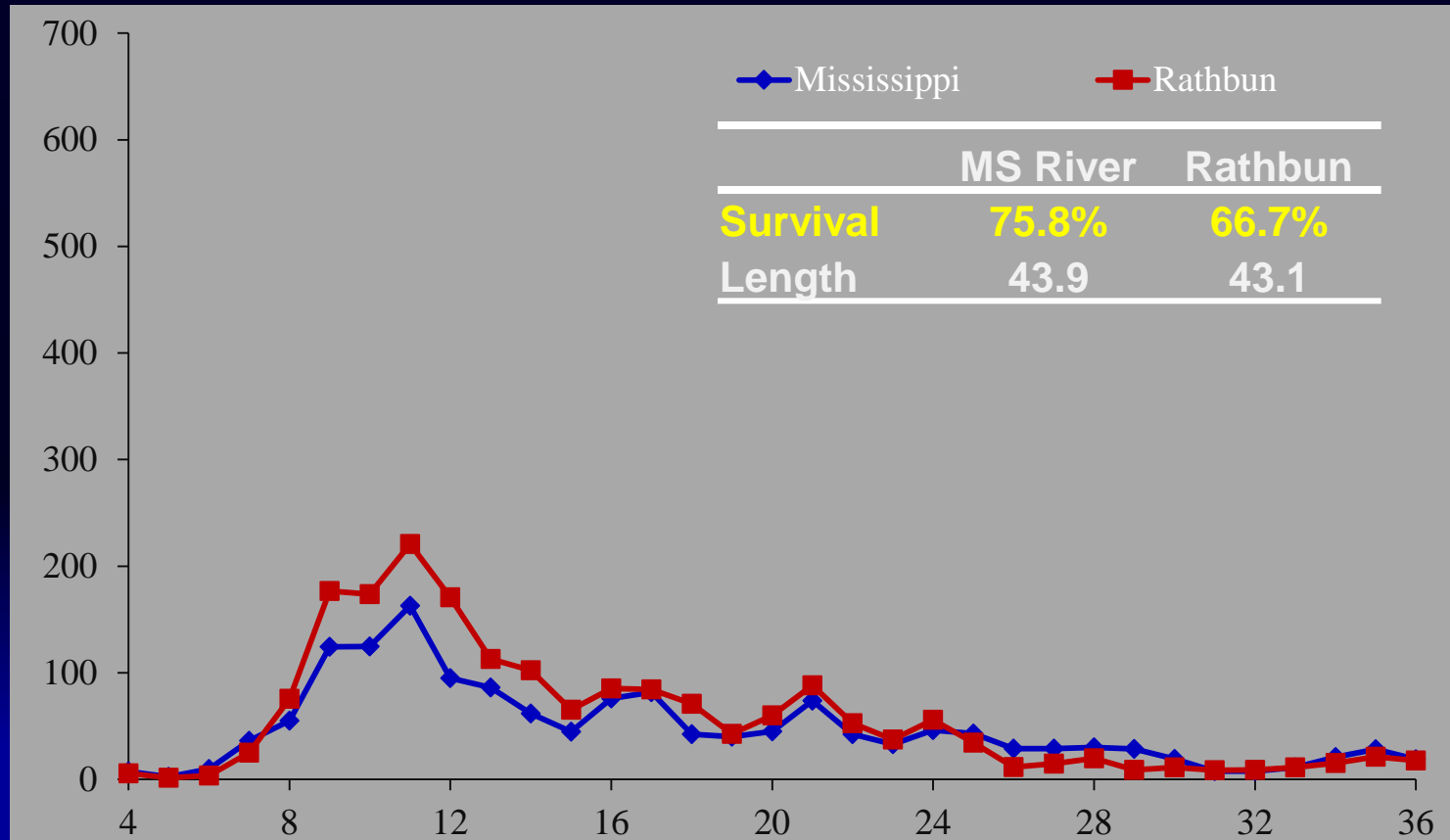
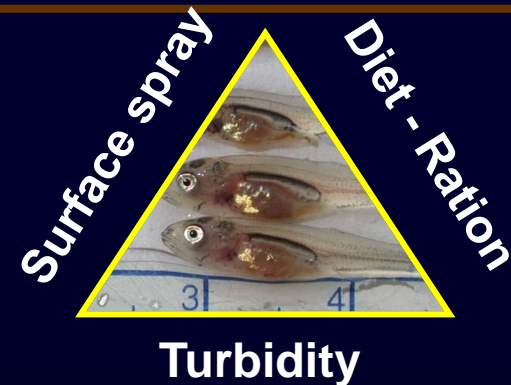


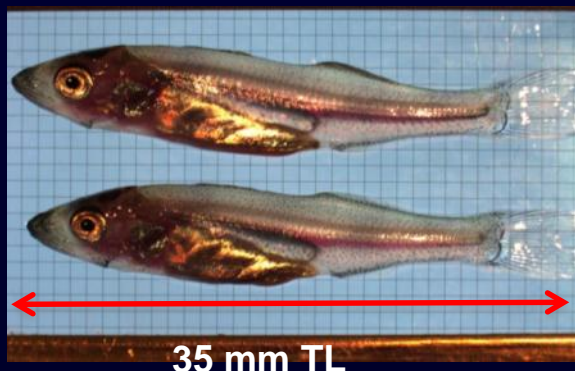


# Stock difference?

## Broodstock sources:

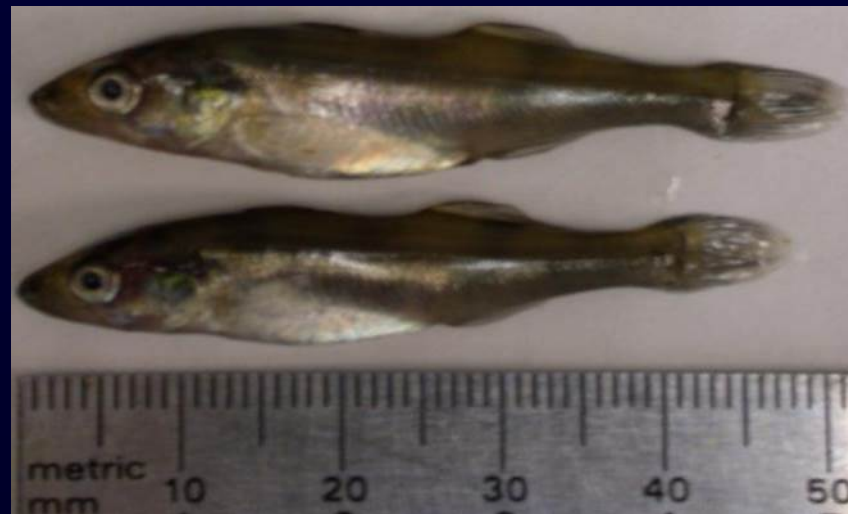
- Mississippi River or Rathbun
- 2012





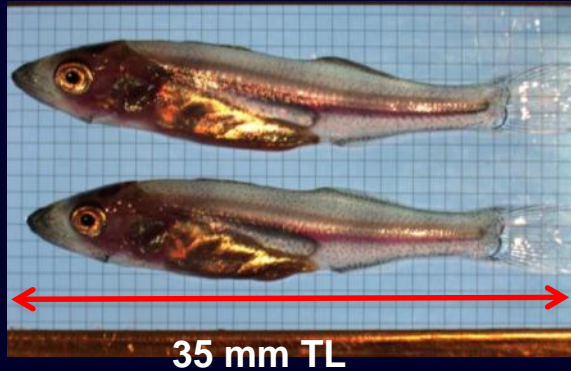
35 mm TL

Pictures  
are equal  
scale

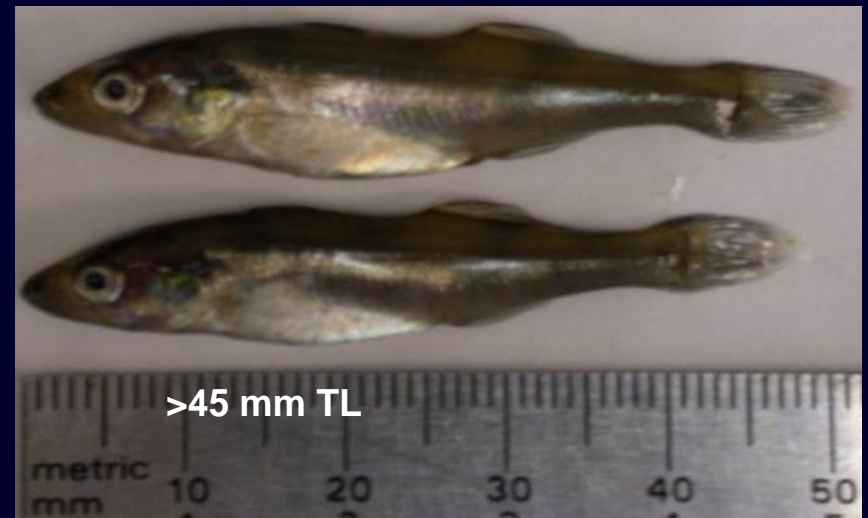


**Intensive reared fry had less than expected survival in transition to grower diets.**

- **Fingerlings at 25-30 dph are 25-32 mm.**
- **Scale development initiated at 24 mm complete at 45 mm.**
  - Priegel (1964)
- **Mechanical damage allows entry of Columnaris.**
  - Huissain and Summerfelt (1991)
- **“Transition period” has been a problem for larviculture.**
  - Barrows (1996) discussed need for transition diets.
- **Tank culture of pond reared fingerlings best above 0.57 g. (about 42 mm).** Johnson and Rudacille (2010).



Pictures  
are equal  
scale



**Theory: To improve survival after tank larviculture, produce larger fish, 0.57 g or 42 mm fish.**

## 2012 Methods to increase growth:

- Increased temperature. Previous standard was 18.5°C. While pond temperatures average 21°C.
- Feed, growth rate predictions. Monitor waste.
- Water flow increase as needed.
- Room for growth – reduce density from 40 to 30 larvae/L.



# 2012 Larviculture

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Study design:

**Tank**

**Pond**

**MS River  
Broodstock**  
Exelon, Cordova, IL



**Spirit Lake  
Broodstock**  
Rathbun Lake, IA



# 2012 Larvaeculture

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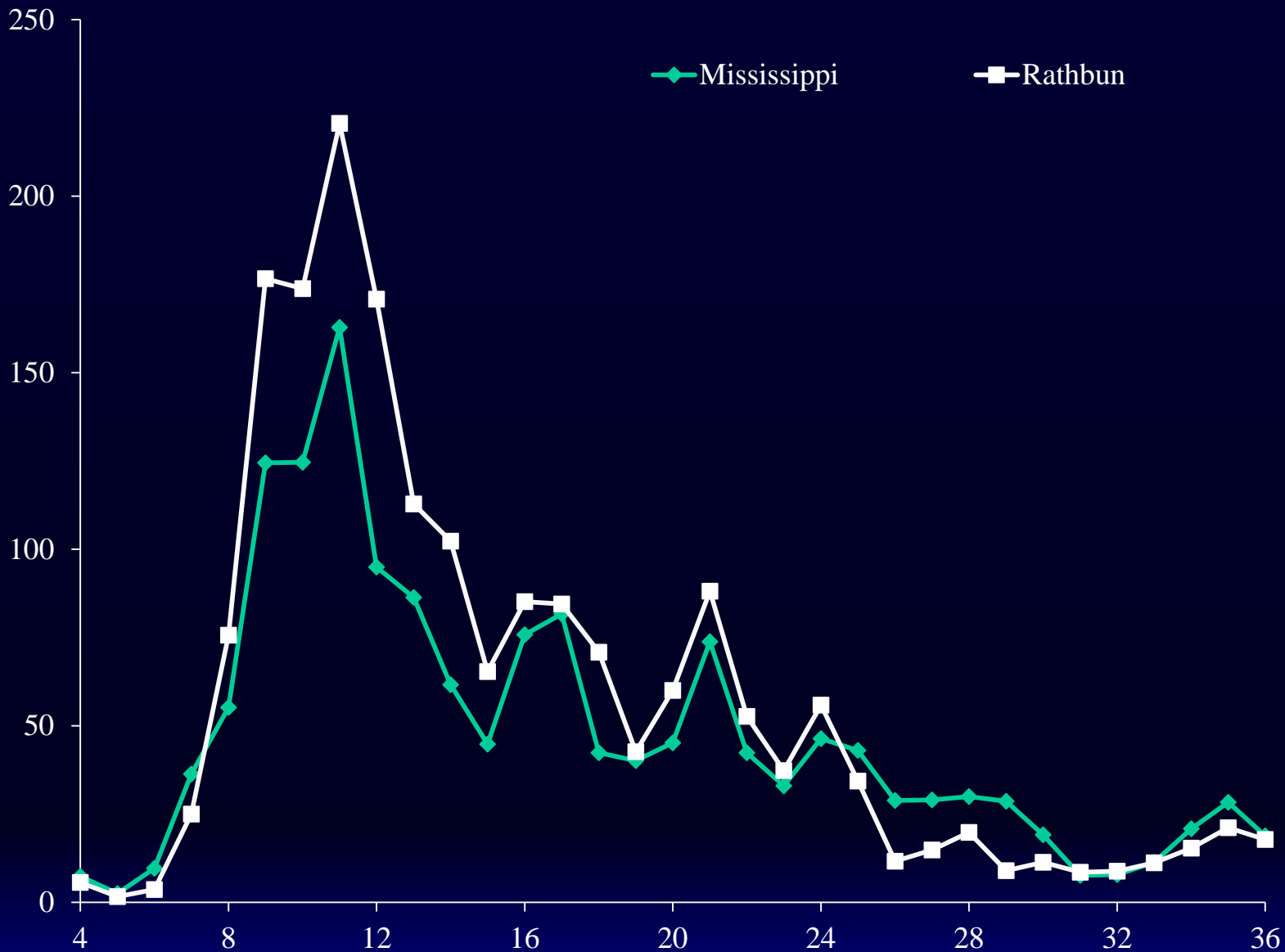
Larvae were from the same lot (jars) of eggs for respective strains.

**Tanks were stocked on 19-April (2-3 DPH)**

- Standard procedures, exception of temperature and density.
- Culture period: goal to reach 35 DPH.

**Ponds were stocked on 20-April (3-4 DPH)**

- Mixed Alfalfa-Soybean meal fertilization
- Culture period: reach 0.57 g size.



**2012 Mortality Curve - stock**



# Results

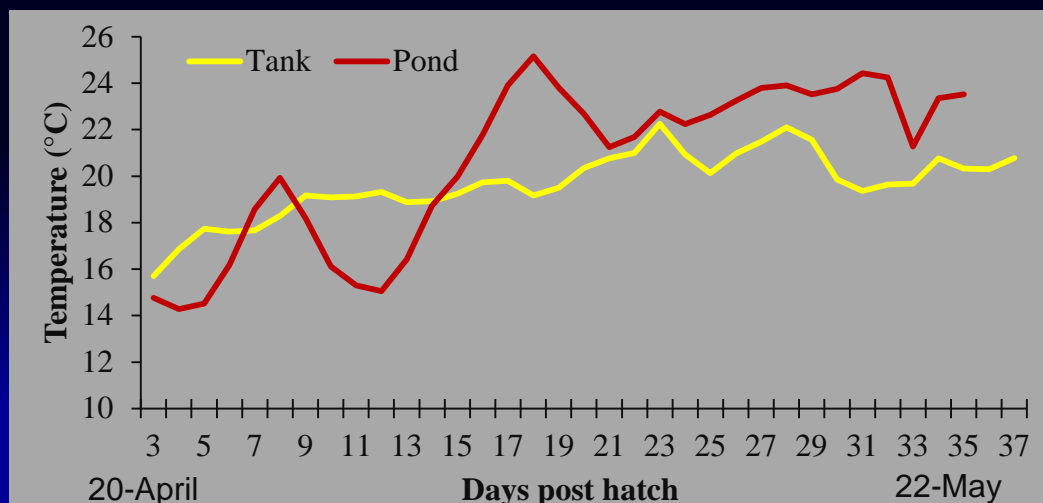
Performance comparison of walleye strains in tank larviculture.

	MS River	Spirit Lake	<i>P</i> -value
<b>Survival (%)</b>	<b>75.8%</b>	<b>66.7%</b>	<b>0.0095</b>
<b>Mortality (%)</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>23.3%</b>	<b>0.0105</b>
Unaccounted (%)	5.0%	10.0%	0.0862
Length	43.9	43.1	0.2683
Weight	0.665	0.684	0.5272
$W_R$ D35	83.9	87.2	0.5338
Deformity (%)	7.5%	5.6%	0.5060
<b>Density (g/L)</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>0.0290</b>
mm/d 28-35 DPH	1.51	1.38	0.2355

# Results

Performance comparison of walleye strains in tanks and ponds.

	Tank		Pond	
	MS River	Spirit Lake	MS River	Spirit Lake
<b>Survival (%)</b>	<b>75.8%</b>	<b>66.7%</b>	<b>88.7%</b>	<b>87.6%</b>
Length	43.9	43.1	40.3	44.2
<b>Weight</b>	<b>0.66</b>	<b>0.68</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.56</b>
$W_R$	83.9	87.2	75.1	70.6
Culture DPH	35		30.5	36
<b>Temperature (C)</b>	<b>19.7</b>		<b>20.6</b>	



**Table 2. Feed ration fed, temperature, and tank water exchange rate (R) during 3-35 days post hatch (DPH) at Rathbun Fish Culture Research Facility, 2012. Johnson and Esser (2012) Annual Federal Aid Report.**

		Flow		Fry	Fry	Otohome (% of ration)			
DPH	° C	R	Feed Rate	L	W	B1	B2	C1	C2
3	15.7	0.44	4g/1000	8.4		50	50		
4	16.9		4g/1000			50	50		
5	17.7		4g/1000			50	50		
6	17.6		4g/1000			50	50		
7	17.7		4g/1000	10.8		50	50		
8	18.3		4g/1000			50	50		
9	19.2		4g/1000			75	25		
10	19.1		4g/1000			75	25		
11	19.1		4g/1000			50	50		
12	19.3		4g/1000			50	50		
13	18.9	0.65	5g/1000			50	50		
14	18.9		5g/1000	16.4	0.03	25	75		
15	19.2		5g/1000			25	75		
16	19.7		5g/1000			25	75		
17	19.8	0.87	6g/1000				75	25	



**Table 2. Feed ration fed, temperature, and tank water exchange rate (R) during 3-35 days post hatch (DPH) at Rathbun Fish Culture Research Facility, 2012. Johnson and Esser (2012) Annual Federal Aid Report.**

		Flow		Fry	Fry	Otohime (% of ration)			
DPH	° C	R	Feed Rate	L	W	B1	B2	C1	C2
18	19.2		6g/1000				75	25	
19	19.5		6g/1000				75	25	
20	20.4		6g/1000				50	50	
21	20.8		10% BW/d	24.0	0.10		50	50	
22	21.0		10% BW/d				50	50	
23	22.3	1.09	10% BW/d				25	75	
24	20.9		10% BW/d					100	
25	20.1		10% BW/d					100	
26	21.0		10% BW/d					100	
27	21.5		10% BW/d					100	
28	22.1		10% BW/d	33.4	0.29			75	25
29	21.6		10% BW/d					75	25
30	19.9		10% BW/d					50	50
31	19.4		10% BW/d					50	50
32	19.6	1.75	10% BW/d					25	75
33	19.7		10% BW/d					25	75
34	20.8		10% BW/d					25	75
35	20.3		10% BW/d	43.5	0.67			25	75

# Pond vs Tank

**2009: Compared fingerling production in intensive fry culture and pond culture.**

	Fry culture	Pond culture	P-value
<b>Phase I (3-31 dph)</b>			
Survival	65.1	105.2	0.0012
Final L	32.7	42.3	<0.0001
<b>Phase II (31-58 dph)</b>			
Survival	81.0	84.0	0.7775
Final L	72.3	73.9	0.6152
<b>Phase III (58-120 dph)</b>			
Survival	84.0	82.0	0.1004
Final L	173.2	176.7	0.3618



# Larvaculture

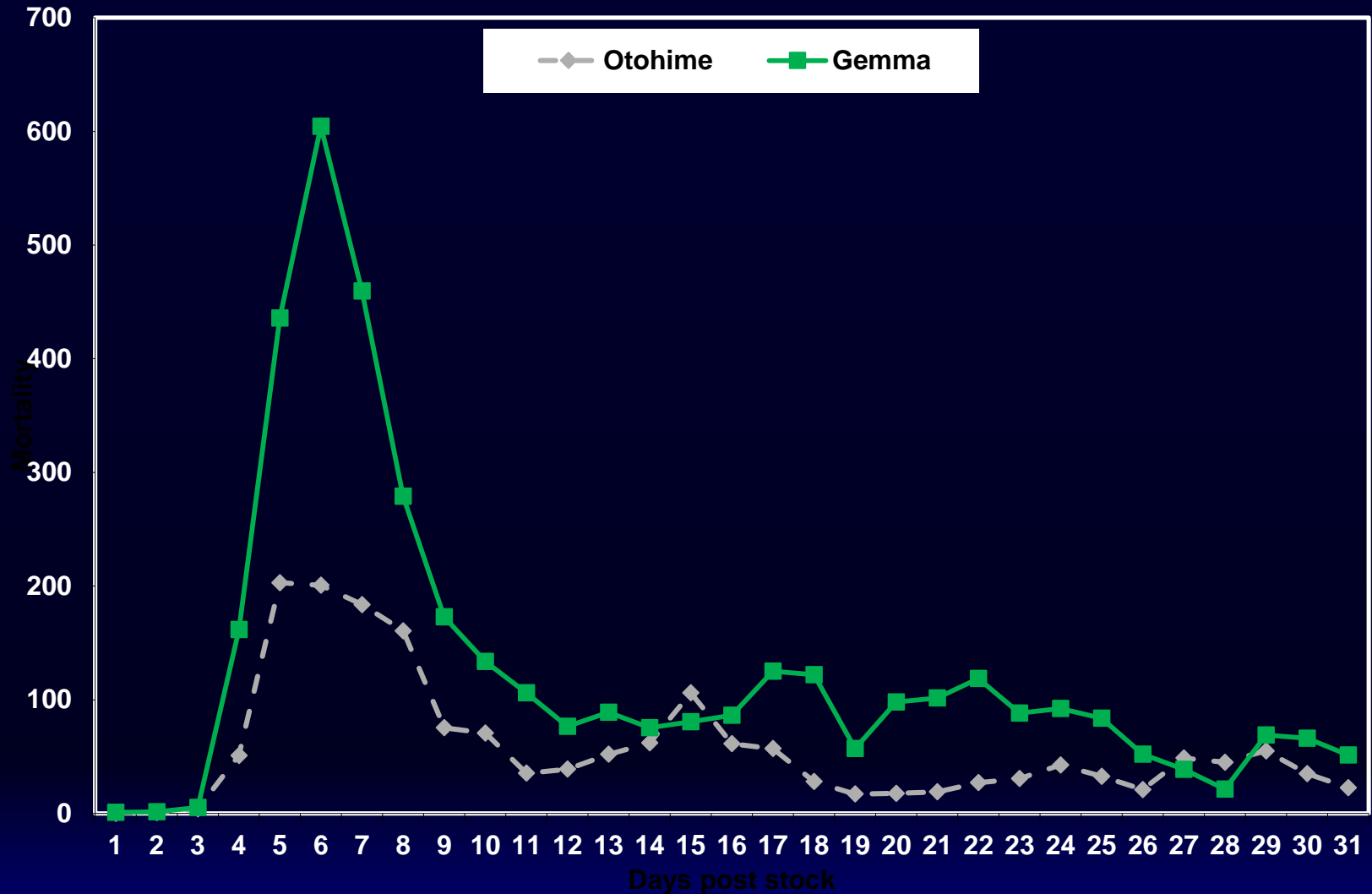
## 2011 Growout to 200 mm



2011 Data	Fry culture	Pond – Tank <sup>a</sup>
<b>Phase I</b>	<b>3-37</b>	<b>3-35</b>
<b>Survival (%)</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>91.9</b>
<b>Final L (mm)</b>	<b>42.3</b>	<b>50.6</b>
<b>Phase II</b>	<b>38-67</b>	<b>36-67</b>
<b>Survival (%)</b>	<b>69.4</b>	<b>71.5</b>
<b>Final L (mm)</b>	<b>91.6</b>	<b>93.8</b>
<b>Phase III</b>		
<b>Survival (%)</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>88.6</b>
<b>Final L (mm)</b>	<b>207.5</b>	<b>209.7</b>
<b>Deformity (%)</b>		
<b>Opercula</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>&lt;0.01</b>
<b>Jaw</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>&lt;0.01</b>
<b>Sloped head</b>	<b>1.60</b>	<b>&lt;0.01</b>
<b>Normal</b>	<b>97.40</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>a</sup> Values for Phase I and III pond culture fingerlings were obtained from Rathbun Fish Hatchery production averages for 2011. Phase II results were obtained in a research trial at Rathbun Fish Culture Research Facility.





**2010 Mortality Curve – Diets**

# Larviculture



	12 Tanks (275 L)	1 ac pond (0.4 ha)
Fingerlings produced	69,627	66,038
System volume (L)	3,300	3,785,000
Culture volume used (L)	2,583,360	3,785,000
	4 tank (890 L)	1 -1 ac pond
Water amendments	\$35 (Clay)	\$192 (Fert.)
Otohime Feed	\$725	
Electric	\$73	\$16
Labor	\$5,376	\$1,135
Facilities (20 yrs)	\$794	\$12,500
Total Annual Cost	\$7,003	\$13,843
Cost per fish	\$0.10	\$0.21

**In the Rathbun Research Facility floor space (40'X52'), 36 tanks (890L) could produce 624,000 0.66 g fish (65% survival) which exceeds walleye production in 10 acres (2012).**

**A case study:  
What went wrong.**

# Methods

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## Diets

- **Lansy**
  - Lansy 2/4 (INVE Aquaculture Inc, Ogden UT).
  - EPAC CW 4/6
  - EPAC CW 6/8
- **Gemma**
  - Gemma 0.3 (Skretting, Inc Vancouver, BC, Can.)
  - Gemma 0.5
- Proximate, amino acid, and vitamin analysis performed by commercial laboratory.



**Lansy 2/4**



**EPAC 4/6**

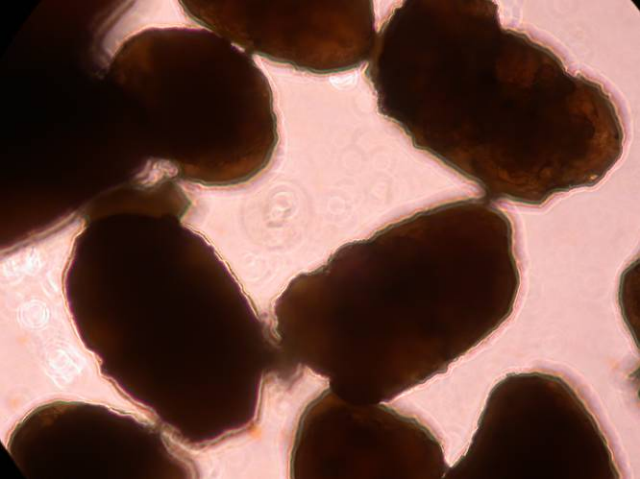


**Gemma 0.3**

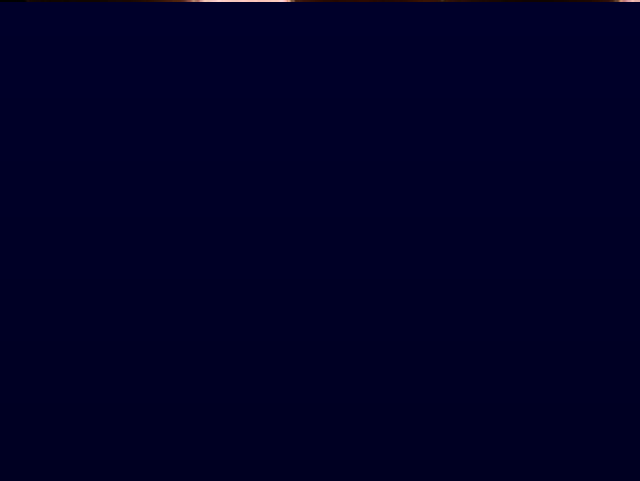


**Gemma 0.5**

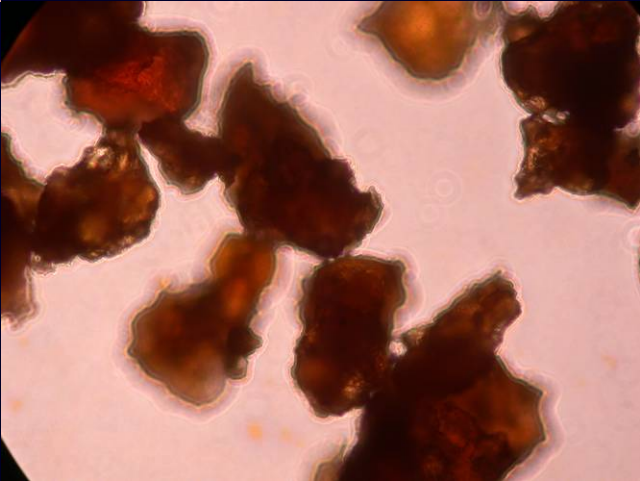




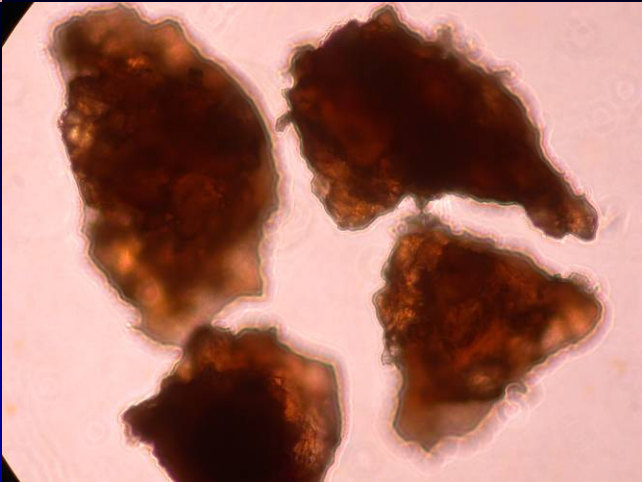
**Gemma 0.3**



**Lansy2/4**



**BioKyowa  
FFK B-400**



# Results

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## Gas bladder inflation (%)

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DPH	Lansy	Gemma	P-Value
7	98.7	92.0	0.0668
14	94.6	94.6	-
21	98.7	100	0.3739
28	93.3	98.6	0.4135

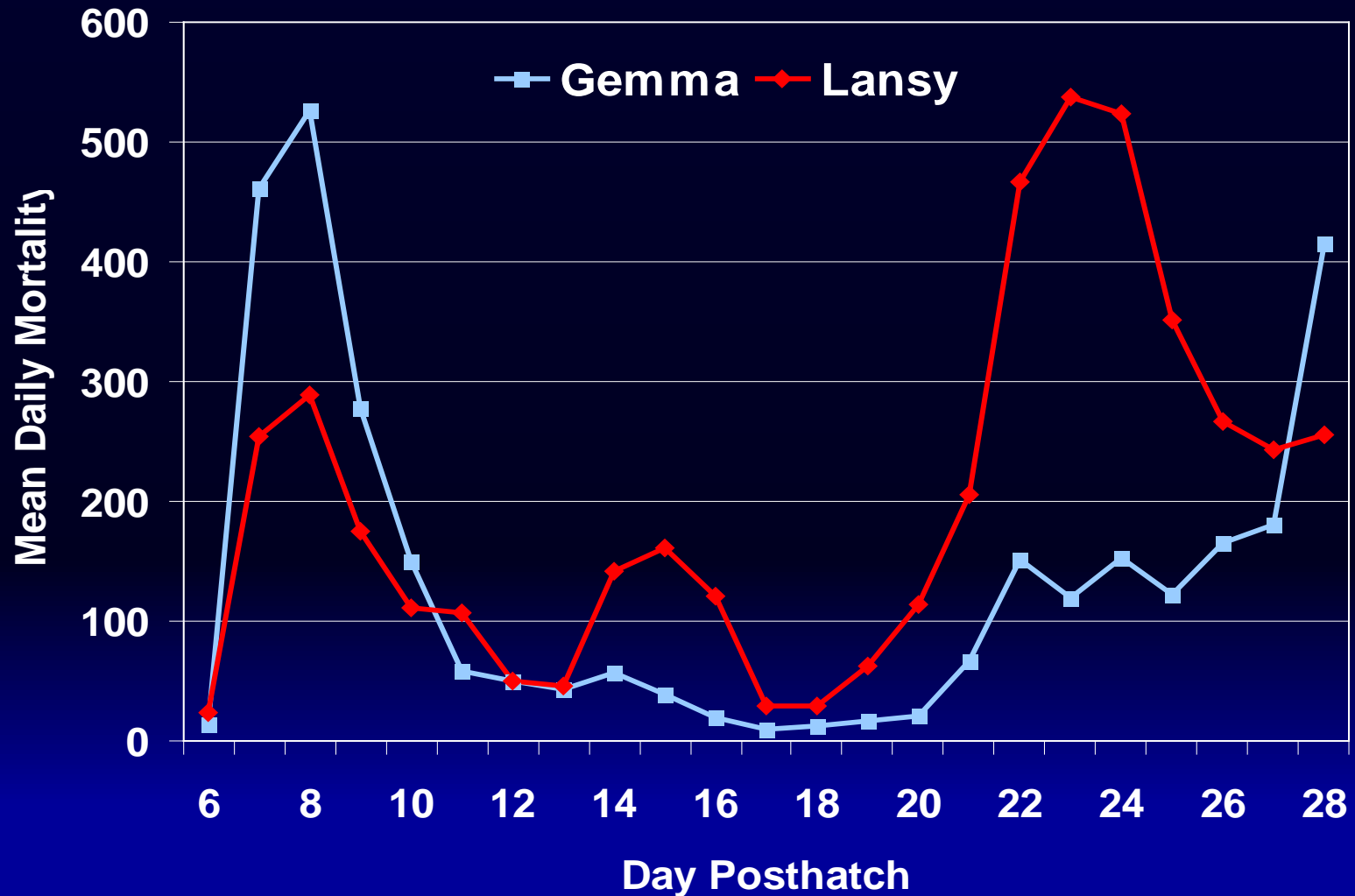
## Feed in the gut (%)

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DPH	Lansy	Gemma	P-Value
7	92.0	69.0	0.0435
14	61.3	98.6	0.0665
21	46.7	92.0	0.0002
28	88.6	94.6	0.4211

# Results

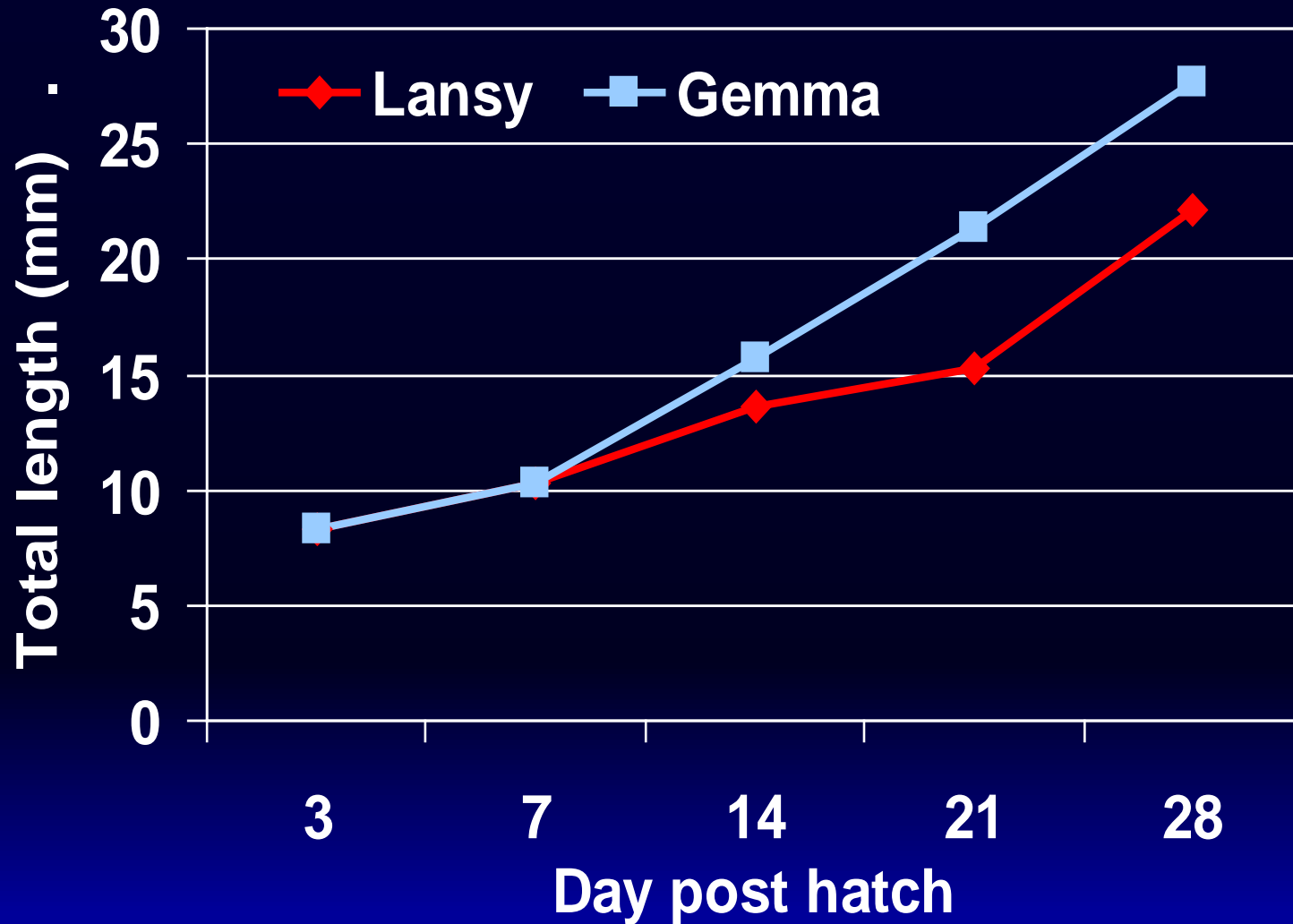
Treatment mean mortality





# Results

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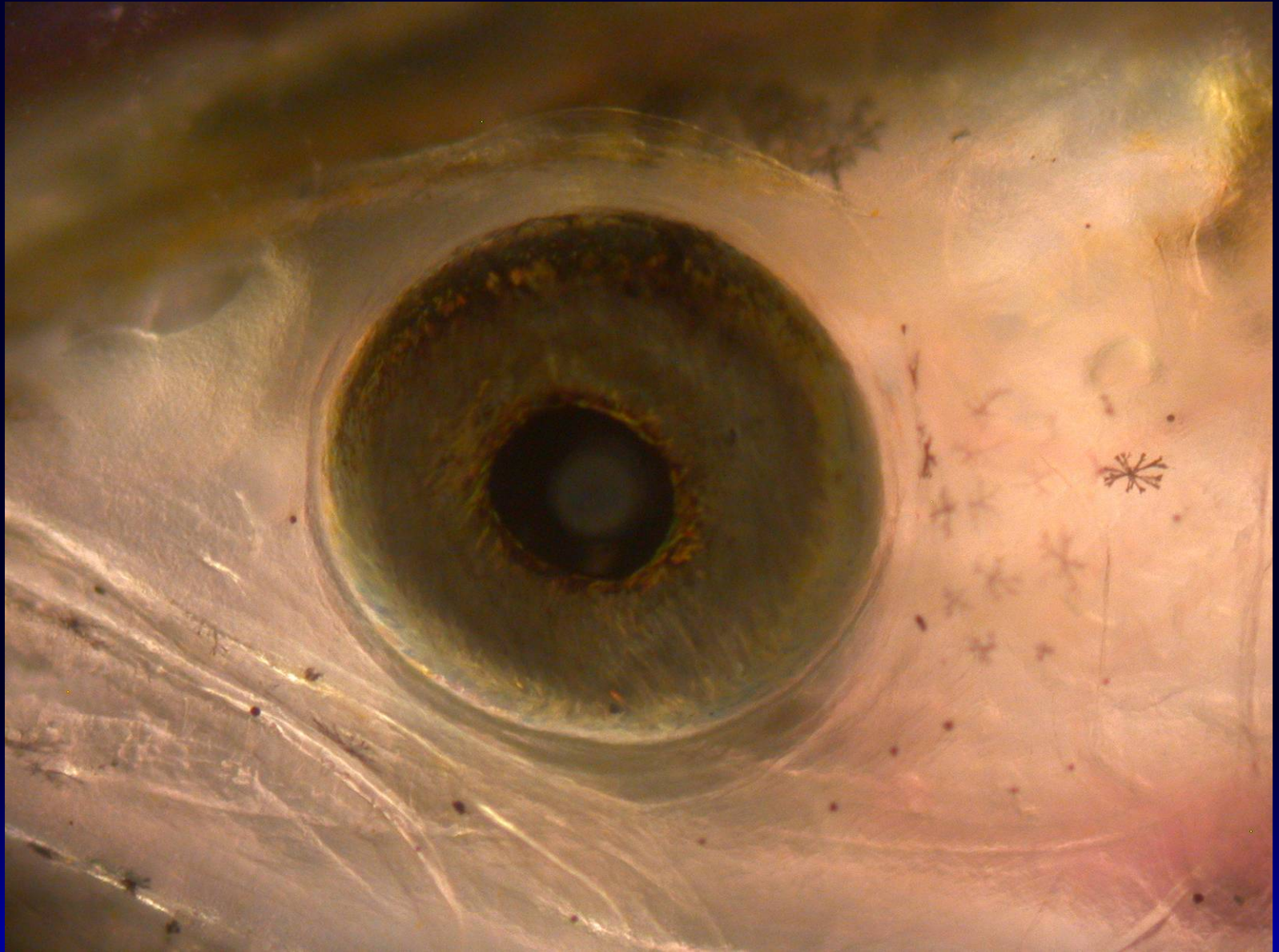


# Results

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**Survival, final length, weight and growth rates,  
and total deformity rate on day 28 post hatch**

	Lansy	Gemma	P-Value
<b>Survival</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>0.0008</b>
<b>Mortality</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>0.0001</b>
<b>Unaccounted</b>	<b>22.7</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>0.0528</b>
<b>Length</b>	<b>22.15</b>	<b>27.72</b>	<b>0.0004</b>
<b>Weight</b>	<b>81.73</b>	<b>156.97</b>	<b>0.0001</b>
<b>mm/d</b>	<b>0.553</b>	<b>0.776</b>	<b>0.0004</b>
<b>mg/d</b>	<b>3.119</b>	<b>6.128</b>	<b>0.0001</b>



# Results

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## Deformity rate

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	Lansy	Gemma	P-value
<b>D14</b>			
Cataract	34.7 ± 11.6	0.0	0.0406
Short operculum	97.3 ± 1.3	94.7 ± 5.3	0.6530
Long mandible	1.3 ± 1.3	0.0	0.3739
Lordosis	0.0	1.3 ± 1.3	0.3739
<b>D21</b>			
Cataract	74.7 ± 1.3	0.0	<0.0001
Short operculum	72.0 ± 14.0	73.3 ± 3.5	0.9311
Long mandible	5.3 ± 2.7	0.0	0.1161
Pughead	16.0 ± 8.0	2.7 ± 2.7	0.1890



# Results

	Lansy	Gemma	P-value
D28			
Cataract	26.7 ± 2.4	0.0	0.0004
Small pupil	24.0 ± 9.2	0.0	0.0589
Short operculum	96.7 ± 3.3	44.0 ± 4.6	0.0008
Long mandible	2.7 ± 2.7	0.7 ± 0.7	0.3486
Broken isthmus	1.3 ± 0.7	4.0 ± 3.0	0.4418
Jaw deformity	0.7 ± 0.7	2.7 ± 2.7	0.5072
Parrot beak	0.7 ± 0.7	2.7 ± 1.8	0.3486
Hump back	1.3 ± 1.3	0.0	0.3739
Lordosis	2.0 ± 2.0	0.7 ± 0.7	0.5614
Scoliosis	0.0	0.7 ± 0.7	0.3739
Total deformity rate	98.7 ± 1.3	50.0 ± 5.3	0.0009

# Deformity

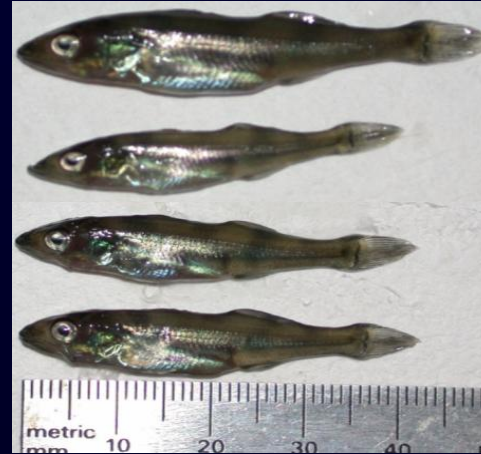
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**Intensive culture:**

**2009: 20.6% at 120 DPH.**

**2011: 2.6% at 147 DPH.**

**2012: 5.6% to 7.5% at 35 DPH.**

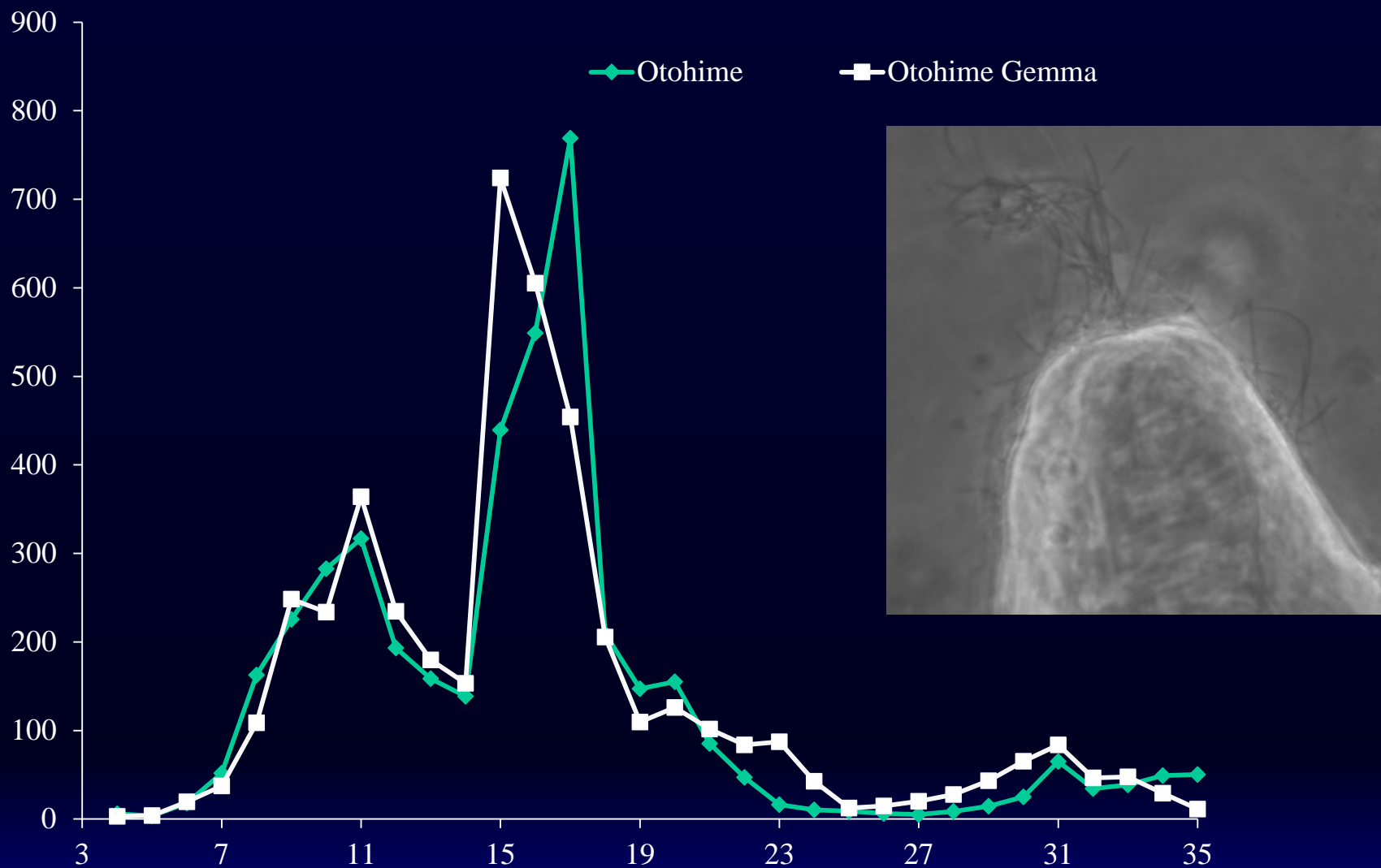


**200 mm pond to tank reared fingerlings.**

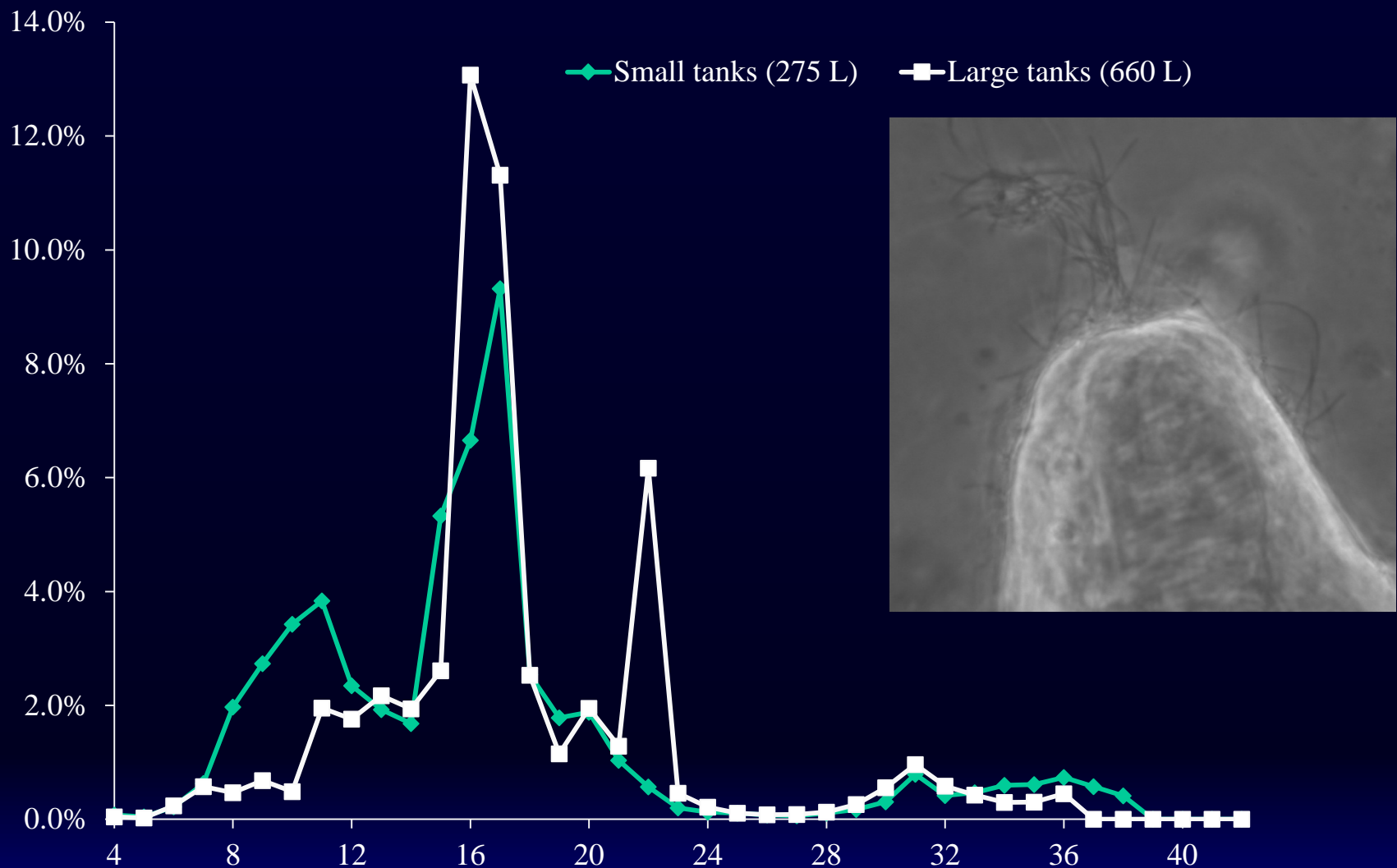
**Eye blindness: 5.7 to 10.2%**

**2012: two grow-out tanks had 9% shortened opercula at 167 DPH.**





## 2013 Mortality Curve - Diets



**2013 Mortality Curve – Tank size**

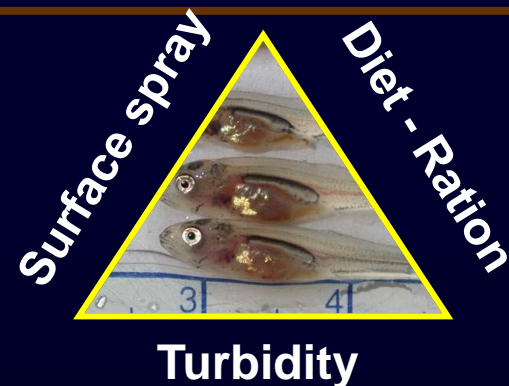




# Research needs



- Consistent survival rates
- Diet formulations
- Water Reuse systems, with clay.
- Shortened clay duration.
- Evaluate other clay types.
- Post-stocking survival fisheries.
- Production scale tanks and systems
- Mechanical cleaning systems for tanks.
- All female production systems
- Genetic improvement.
- Cold banking





# Self cleaning tanks



• Oceans Design Inc. San Diego, CA.