

Hatchery produced spat of green mussel in open sea cages

Hatchery produced spat of green mussel *Perna viridis* was grown in the open sea in Netlon cages From 15 December 2010 to 15 February 2011. Good growth and significant production was recorded in a period of 61 days. Nearly 5 kg of spat were stocked in 12 cages: the average weight of the spat was 1.42 g. After a period of two months 20 Kg mussels were harvested, recording 4 times increase in total weight. Due to high infestation of barnacles on the cages, the experiment was terminated. However, the mussels were restocked in bigger netlon cages for further growth and production.

Hatchery produced spat of green mussel *Perna viridis* (3rd cycle) were stocked in netlon cages and suspended from a rack in Bhimili estuary to test the suitability of Bhimili estuary for mussel farming and to see the growth of spat in the Bhimili estuary. The spat measured an average length of 1.5 mm and 0.5 g.

A huge bunch of egg capsules of *Sepia* sp. (tentatively identified as *Sepia aculeata*) comprising nearly 1000 capsules obtained from VFH were maintained in the hatchery on 24-11-2010. Within a span of 10 days, hatching occurred and a



Hatchery produced spat grown in sea

total of 720 hatchings were obtained. The hatching was over 72 %. The hatchlings were fed *Artemia* nauplii during the first week of rearing, thereafter minced *Acetes* sp were given as feed to the hatchlings. The hatchlings were reared up to 25 days after which there was total mortality due to high temperature and fluctuations in salinity.

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