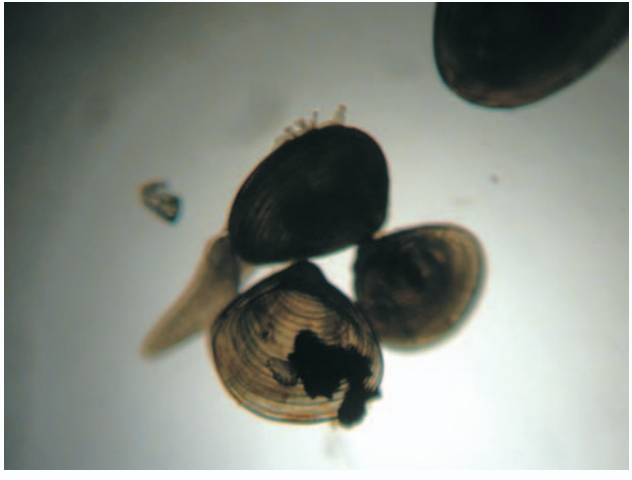
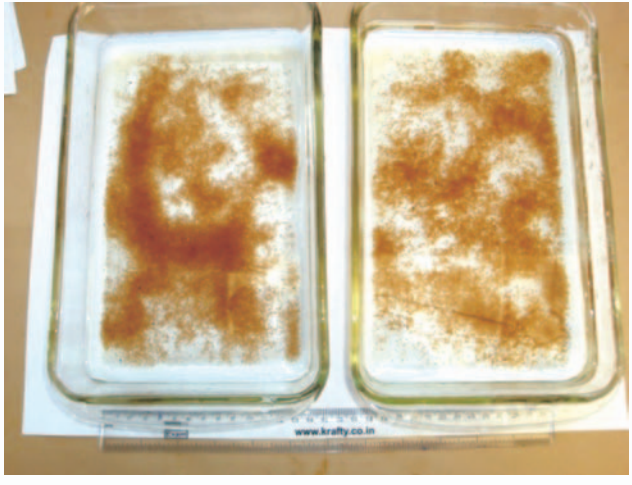
Large scale seed production of hard clam at Tuticorin RC

Under the in-house research project, "MD/IDP/01. Technology development for seed production of shellfish" routine seed production is being carried out in clam *Paphia malabarica* and pearl oyster *Pinctada fucata.* During this quarter (April-June'11) experiments on the seed production of *Meretrix meretrix* was conducted. Brood hard clam was collected from the Karapad bay and induced to spawn by thermal stimulation. The clam responded positively and viable larvae were obtained. The veliger larvae were reared following conventional method in the hatchery using *Isochrysis galbana* as feed. The larvae metamorphosed into pediveliger and settled on 14thday with an average size measuring 580 μ. Further rearing of the settled larvae continued and more than 3.0 lakhs young spats (1.0mm) are obtained. The young spats are being reared in the hatchery under a diet of mixed culture predominantly of *Chaetoceros spp.* The spats on reaching an average size of 5 mm would be relayed in the Karapad bay by erecting velon net pens for production potential estimates.

(Reported by
I. Jagadis,
Tuticorin RC of CMFRI)



Just settled spat of *Meretrix meretrix* (…μ)



Young spat of *Meretrix meretrix*