

Hatchery production of sea snail

Hemifusus pugilinus collected from the Kakinada Bay of Andhra Pradesh spawned in the Mariculture hatchery of Visakhapatnam Regional Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute. Female of 80.13mm shell height, 41.39 mm shell width and total weight 53.04.g, laid a string of 35 egg capsules on 16th October, 2012. The capsules were held together by a common holdfast. Development was inside the capsule and the hatchlings were released from the capsules on the 28th to 30th day

of incubation. About 2500 hatchlings hatched out from 35 capsules. The hatchlings were fed bivalves such as *Perna viridis*, *Meretrix casta* and also meat paste of squids and attained a size of 10 mm. Hatchlings of *Hemifusus* sp. have been produced in the hatchery for the first time and given their fast growth under capture conditions; it is a suitable candidate species for mariculture.



Hemifusus hatchlings with egg capsules