

Force hatch of fish embryos

Background

In ideal situations, the hatching period for a given spawn is at minimum

This will reduce size differences and facilitate management

When a portion of embryos are reluctant to hatch for whatever reasons, hatchery management is disturbed

If an embryo stays too long before hatch, it may die in its shell

This phenomenon leads to think about “force hatch”

Force hatch

Hatching glands in embryos secrete “chorionase” enzyme

“Chorionase” is responsible for the solubilization of egg chorion and before hatch

Force hatch is species-specific

Examples:

Switching off lights in species that will not hatch in daylight

Water renewal or specific quality

Shut down water and/or air for a very short time (restore after)