Oocyte development and maturity classification of boarfish (Capros aper) in the Northeast Atlantic - DTU Orbit (07/10/2019)

Oocyte development and maturity classification of boarfish (Capros aper) in the Northeast Atlantic. – ICES Journal of Marine Science, 69: 498–507. This study presents the first detailed investigation of the oocyte development and maturity classification of boarfish, Capros aper, which has recently become the target of an industrial fishery in the Northeast Atlantic. A total of 2014 boarfish were collected from January to December 2010. Mature male and female boarfish were sexually dimorphic and could be readily identified based on external characteristics. A comprehensive maturity scale was developed, which indicated that the length at 50% maturity for males and females was 9.7 cm total length. Female boarfish were observed to spawn in Irish waters in June and July. Once spawning ceased the remaining mature oocytes were resorbed. Preliminary analysis of reproductive strategy indicates that the boarfish is likely an asynchronous batch spawner with indeterminate fecundity.

General information
Publication status: Published
Organisations: National Institute of Aquatic Resources, Section for Population Ecology and Genetics, Marine Institute
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Pages: 498-507
Publication date: 2012
Peer-reviewed: Yes

Publication information
Journal: ICES Journal of Marine Science
Volume: 69
Issue number: 4
ISSN (Print): 1054-3139
Ratings:
BFI (2012): BFI-level 1
Scopus rating (2012): CiteScore 2.35
Web of Science (2012): Impact factor 2.277
ISI indexed (2012): ISI indexed yes
Web of Science (2012): Indexed yes
Original language: English
DOIs:
10.1093/icesjms/fss037
Source: dtu
Source ID: n:oai:DTIC-ART:highwire/363640090::15524
Research output: Contribution to journal › Journal article – Annual report year: 2012 › Research › peer-review