

Practical No. -6-

Reproduction

Decide on the stage of maturity of the gonad in accordance with the following description:

Stage I: Immature, tiny and thread-like gonads.

Stage II: Maturing, thread-like gonad extending to about one sixth (1/6) of the body cavity.

Stage III: Ripening, gonads occupy about one third of the body cavity. Contents opaque, not differentiated.

Stage IV: Ripe, gonads occupy two thirds of body cavity with internal contents seen but still opaque.

Stage V: Running, gonads filling the abdominal cavity, contents transparent, and liberated on slight pressure on belly.

Stage VI: Spent, gonads wrinkled and sac-like, almost empty.

Stage VII: Dormant, gonads look like those of immature stage. (This occurs in adult fish).

“Maturity Stages”

I

II

III

IV

V

VI

VII