

Determining the size of a spawning stock via an egg survey

The development of a fish stock is often determined based on the fish that actively participate in reproduction. The size of the spawning stock can be determined from the number of eggs floating in the sea and the egg production per female.

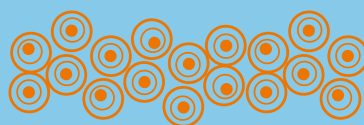
Step 1 Collecting fish eggs in the sea

The eggs are fished from the sea using a plankton net.



Step 2 Counting the number of fish eggs

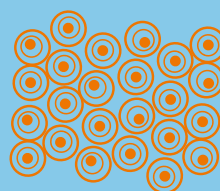
The number of fish eggs caught is counted.



Step 3 Egg production per female

The average number of eggs a female can produce is determined.

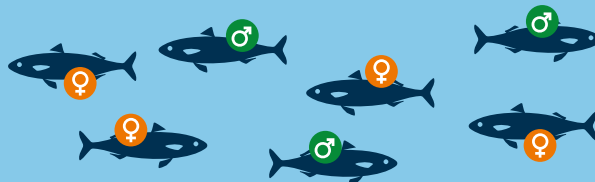
We call this fertility. We then divide the number of fish eggs in the sea by this fertility. This tells us how many females there are.



Step 4 Female-male ratio

Next, you determine the ratio of females and males. Since the number of fish eggs gives you an indication of the number of females, you can also estimate the number of males based on the ratio. This is how you determine the spawning stock.

Ratio ♀ : ♂



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