

ZEBRAFISH (*DANIO RERIO*)



Fonte: Braunbeck *et al.* (2004)



The ZIRC logo features the acronym 'ZIRC' in large, bold, blue letters. The letter 'C' is stylized to incorporate a silhouette of a zebrafish and a DNA double helix. Below the acronym, the full name 'Zebrafish International Resource Center' is written in a smaller, blue font. The background is a blue-tinted image of a zebrafish swimming, with a large, semi-transparent DNA double helix on the right side. A blue line extends from the brain image on the left towards the bottom of the ZIRC logo area.

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Countries/Territories</i>	<i>Records</i>	<i>No. of institutes doing zebrafish research</i>	<i>Records/Institute</i>	<i>Percent^a</i>
1	USA	8196	877	9.35	47.625
2	Germany	1871	359	5.21	10.869
3	England	1393	180	7.74	8.094
4	Japan	1284	228	5.63	7.451
5	People's Republic of China	1151	255	4.51	6.703
6	Canada	902	113	7.98	5.243
7	France	877	219	4.00	5.098
8	Netherlands	501	77	6.51	2.914
9	Spain	449	138	3.25	2.601
10	Taiwan	431	84	5.13	2.509
11	Singapore	421	34	12.38	2.445
12	Italy	419	167	2.51	2.433
13	Australia	322	74	4.35	1.866
14	South Korea	275	99	2.78	1.593
15	Switzerland	251	54	4.65	1.454
16	Sweden	238	34	7.00	1.379
17	Belgium	215	47	4.57	1.246
18	Norway	208	43	4.84	1.211
19	Israel	180	30	6.00	1.043
20	Scotland	176	17	10.35	1.020
21	India	170	50	3.40	0.991
22	Brazil	151	51	2.96	0.875
23	Austria	131	27	4.85	0.765
24	Chile	103	16	6.44	0.597
25	Portugal	103	39	2.64	0.597

^aTotal percent is more than 100 because many articles have authors from different countries.



Legislazione italiana



Decreto legislativo 4 marzo 2014, n. 26. Attuazione della direttiva 2010/63/UE sulla protezione degli animali utilizzati a fini scientifici. (14G00036) (GU Serie Generale n.61 del 14-3-2014). note: Entrata in vigore del provvedimento: 29/03/2014.

ALLEGATO I

Elenco degli animali di cui all'articolo 10, comma 1

1. Topo (*Mus musculus*)
2. Ratto (*Rattus norvegicus*)
3. Porcellino d'India (*Cavia porcellus*)
4. Criceto siriano (o dorato) (*Mesocricetus auratus*)
5. Criceto cinese (*Cricetulus griseus*)
6. Gerbillo della Mongolia (*Meriones unguiculatus*)
7. Coniglio (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)
8. Cane (*Canis familiaris*)
9. Gatto (*Felis catus*)
10. Tutte le specie di primati non umani
11. Rana [*Xenopus (laevis, tropicalis)*, Rana (*temporaria, pipiens*)]
12. Pesce zebra (*Danio rerio*)

ART. 1 -OGGETTO E AMBITO DI APPLICAZIONE

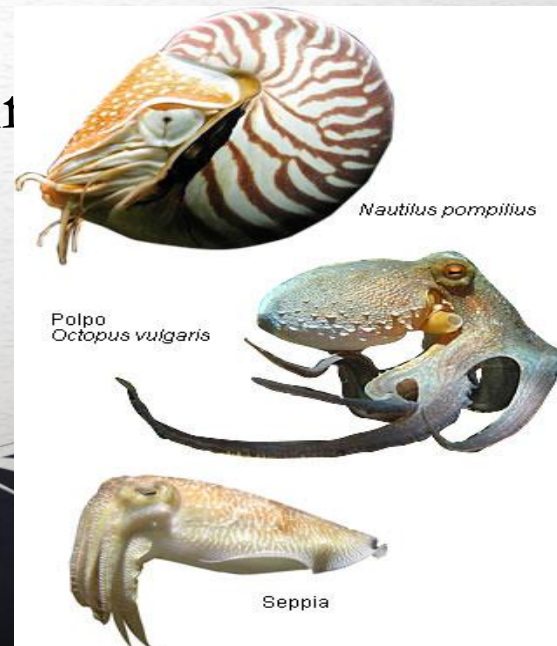
a) animali vertebrati vivi non umani, comprese:

1. forme larvali capaci di alimentarsi autonomamente;

2. forme fetali di mammiferi a partire

dall'ultimo terzo del loro normale sviluppo;

a) cefalopodi vivi.







Stabilimento utilizzatore per la specie zebrafish

Stabilimento allevatore per la specie zebrafish




Ministero della Salute
 Direzione Generale della Sanità Animale e dei Farmaci Veterinari
 Ufficio VI - Benessere Animale (ex-DGSA)


 177195848

Università degli Studi di Teramo
 protocollo@pec.unite.it
 mamorena@unite.it
 dzezza@unite.it

e, per conoscenza
 ASL di Teramo
 Servizio Veterinario
 c.a. Dr. Pasquale STRIGLIONI
 e-mail: pasquale.striglioni@aslteramo.it
 angelo.cameli@aslteramo.it

Oggetto: D.lgs 26/2014 in materia di protezione degli animali utilizzati a fini scientifici.
 Trasmissione autorizzazione ai sensi dell'articolo 20.
 Autorizzazione n. 02/2016-UT (risposta a DGSAF 0020361-A del 03/08/2015)

Si trasmette l'autorizzazione n° 02/2016-UT, rilasciata in data 11 marzo 2016, ai sensi dell'art. 20 del D.lgs 26/2014.

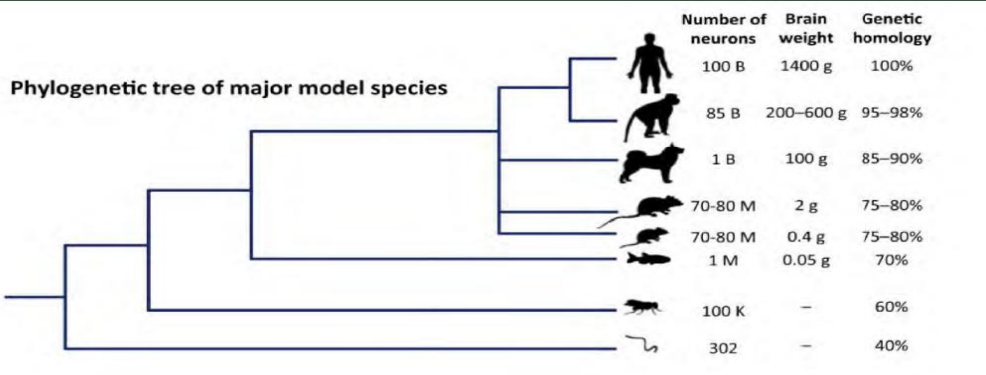
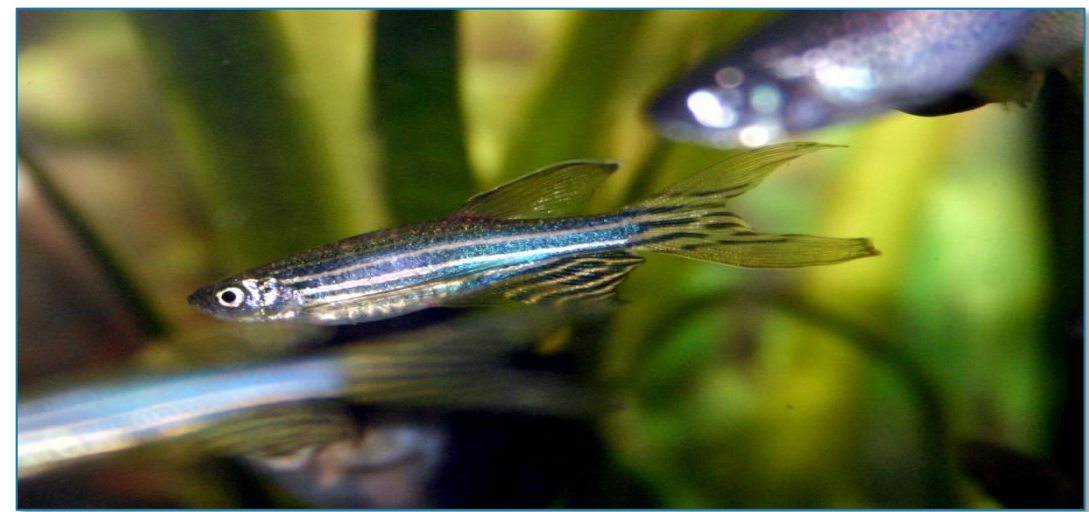




What is Zebrafish ?



- *Danio rerio*
- tropical fresh water fish
- Cartilaginous fish
- Origin Ganges and Brahmaputra river basin
- Male and female
- Good model of replacement (common molecular pathways with mammals)



Last common ancestor with humans was 445 million years ago: far more remote from humans than other animal models such as rodents

Scientific classification	
Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Chordata
Class:	Actinopterygii
Order:	Cypriniformes
Family:	Cyprinidae
Genus:	<i>Danio</i>
Species:	<i>D. rerio</i>

by Stewart et al., Trends Neurosci., 2014





Genome sequencing

- The **Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute** - zebra genome sequencing project
- **2009**- Institute of Genomics & Integrative Biology, New Delhi
- 17 April 2013- zebrafish reference genome sequence was published





INTRODUCTION



Embryo



Larva



Adult

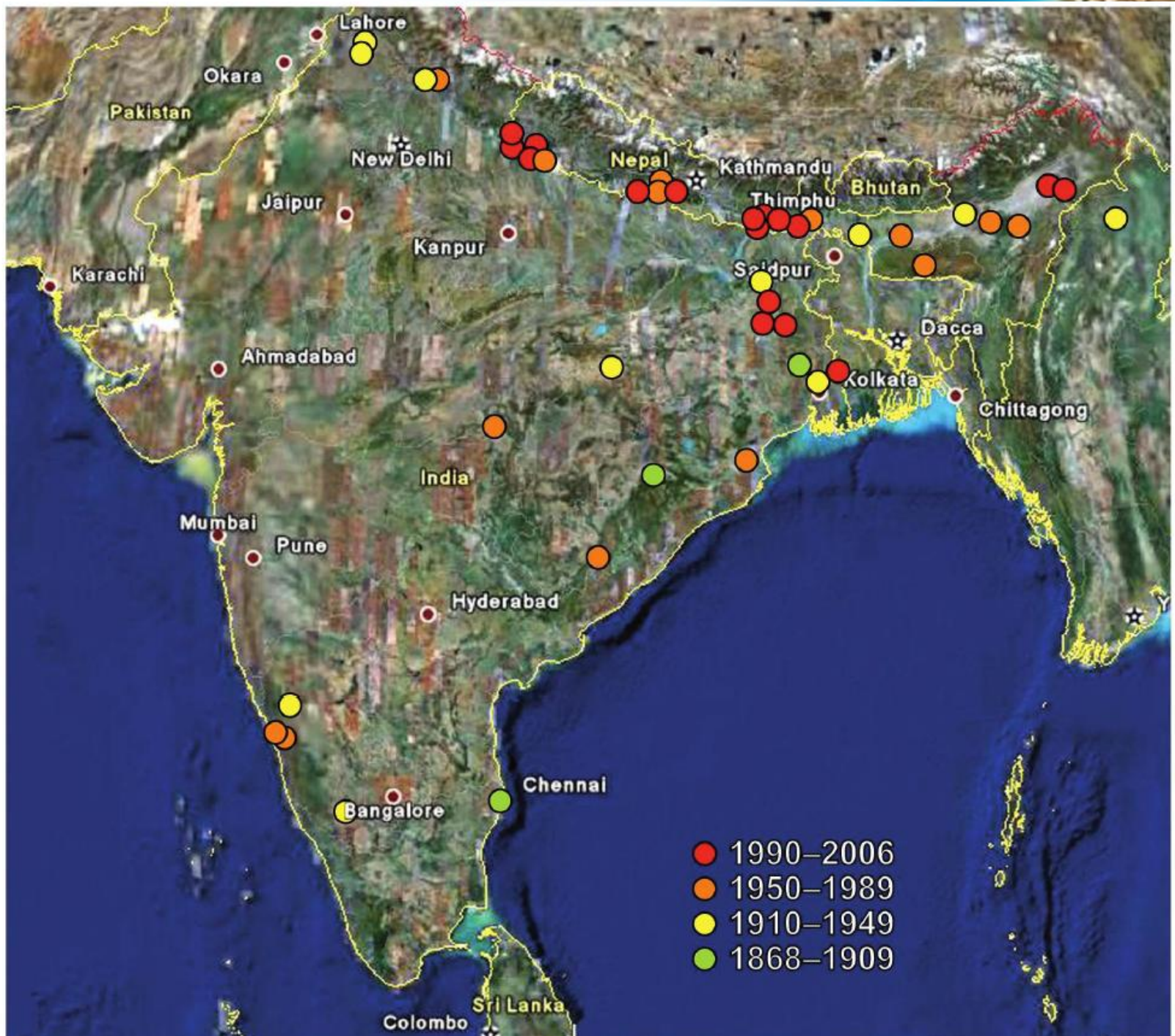


Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*):

- Family *Cyprinidae*
- Freshwater fish (Asia)
- Length 4-5 cm (adults)
- Males and females. Sexual dimorphism in zebrafish is minimal
- Adult develops stripes that run along the length of the body and look blue in colour.



Where is zebrafish in the world



Natural habitats of zebrafish



still water (currents, 0 m–sec to 0.1 m–sec) at 27° C to 34° C and pH 7.9–8.2; widths of water bodies ranged from 1 to 12 m, and depths ranged from 16 to 57 cm; water was relatively clear (transparent to 35 cm). 5-6 months for sexual maturation.



Zebrafish strain

- ❖ Wild type
- ❖ Mutant
- ❖ Transgenic



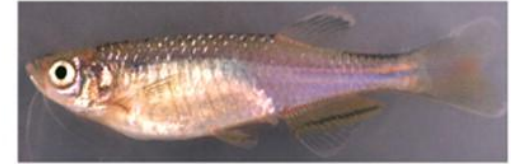
wild-type WT



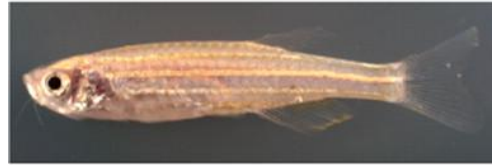
duchamp/+ DU



D. albolineatus Da



albino A



ednrb1 E



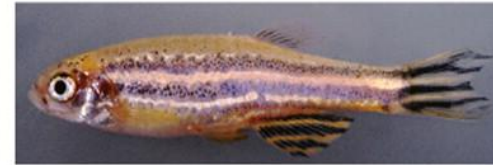
D. choprae Dc



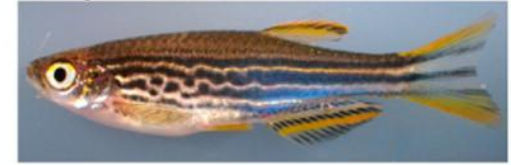
csf1r C



kit K



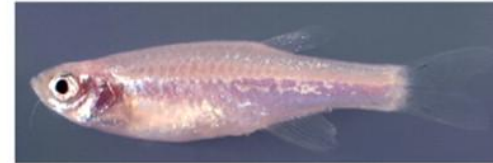
D. kyathit Dk



csf1r; ednrb CE



mitfa M



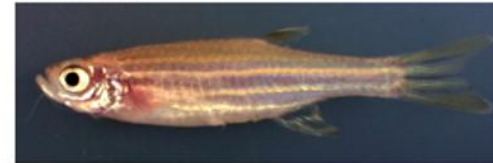
D. nigrofasciatus Dn



csf1r; kit CK



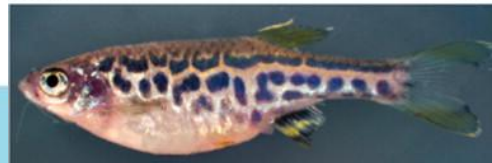
oberon O



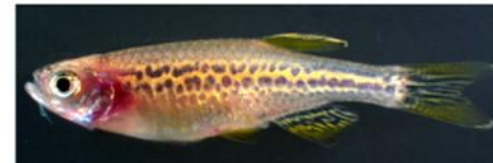
De. shanensis Ds



dali/+ DI



seurat S





Laboratory strains



AB

(pet shop derived)



TÜ



WIK

(Wild type India Kolkata)

They may look the same, but are genetically different!
WIK was used for mapping mutations from the first mutagenesis screens



Zebrafish breeding and reproduction





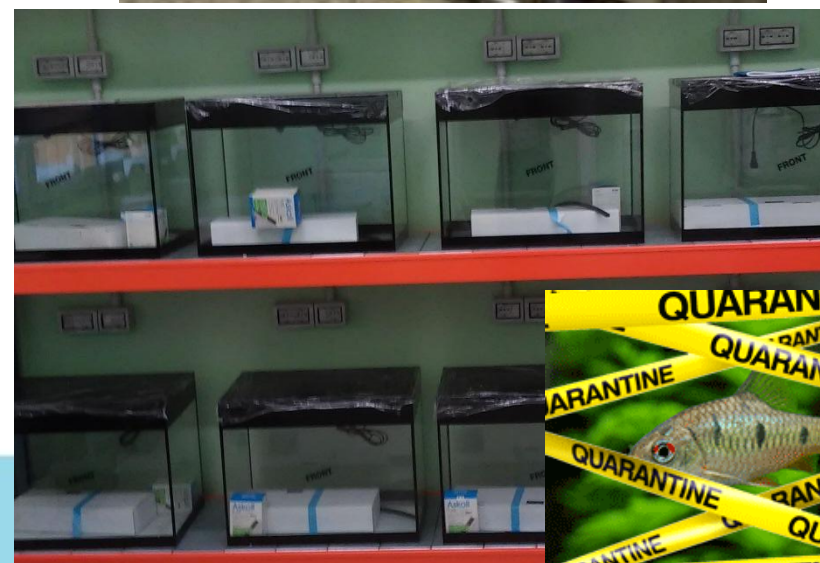
General Features



General Features	Benefits
Appearance <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Dimension ~4 cm-Salient distinguishable features of male and female-Often transparent adult bodies	<p>Large number can be kept easily and cheaply in lab</p> <p>Good model for visualization of cellular activity</p>
Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Fresh water fish- Tropical fish	Universally available
Feeding <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Omnivorous	Low cost of maintenance
Reproduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Female spawns every 2-3 days-Breeds all year round-Several hundreds of eggs produced in single clutch-External fertilization	<p>Large number of offspring- good for batch variation studies</p> <p>Easy availability of eggs</p>



The habitat in the lab... recirculating systems





Lab habitat: physico-chemical properties

Found in two recent studies:

Temperature: 12.3 - 38.6 °C

pH: 5.9 - 9.8

Conductivity: 10 - 271 μS

In the lab:

26-29 °C

6.5-8.0

250-600 μS

Light 14hours/day

Quite tolerant – in line to what was observed in the laboratory

Targeted values: $\text{NO}_3^- < 2.5 \text{ mg/l}$, $\text{NO}_2^- < 0.025 \text{ mg/l}$

Water Quality

Temperature

pH

Ammonia (NH_3
/ NH_4)

Nitrite (NO_2)

Nitrate (NO_3)

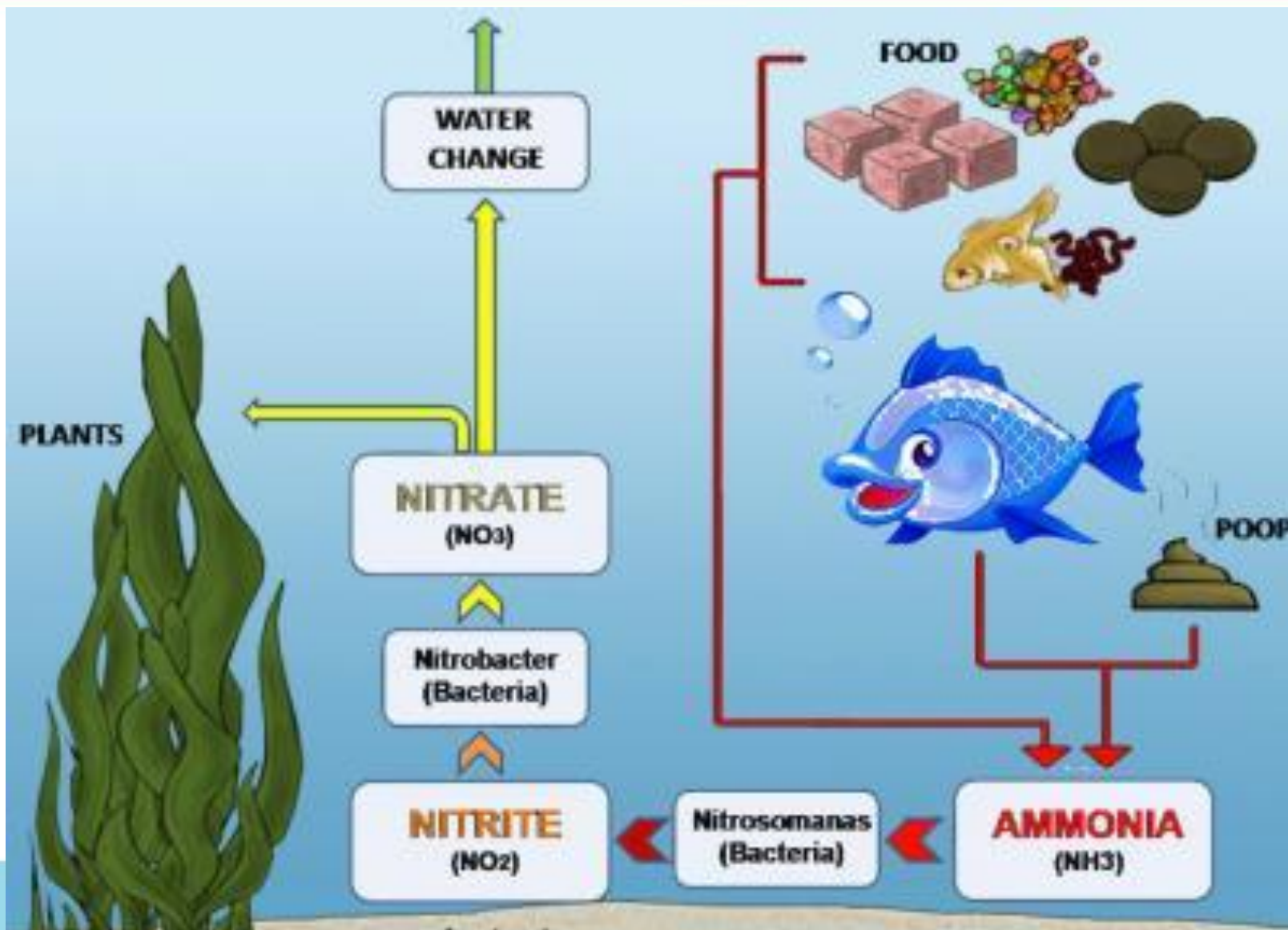
Dissolved Oxygen
(DO)

Conductivity





Nitrogen cycle

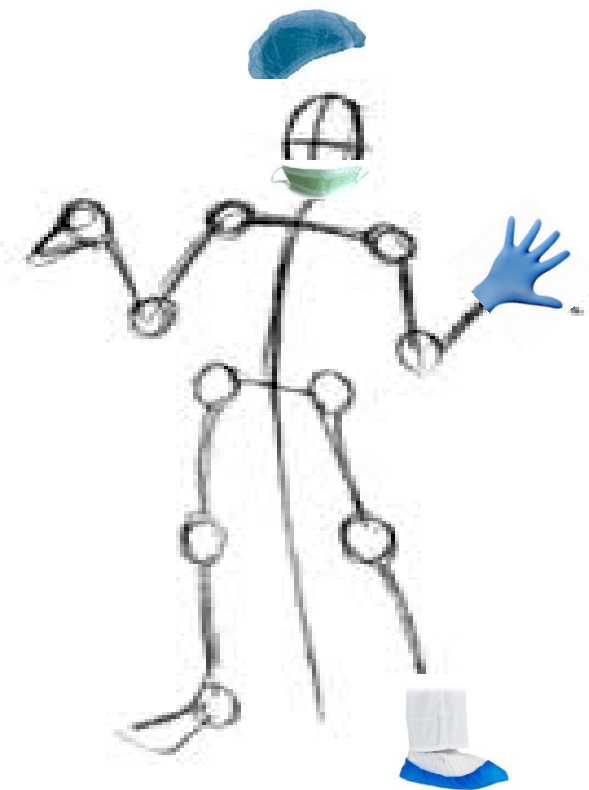


Internal biosecurity



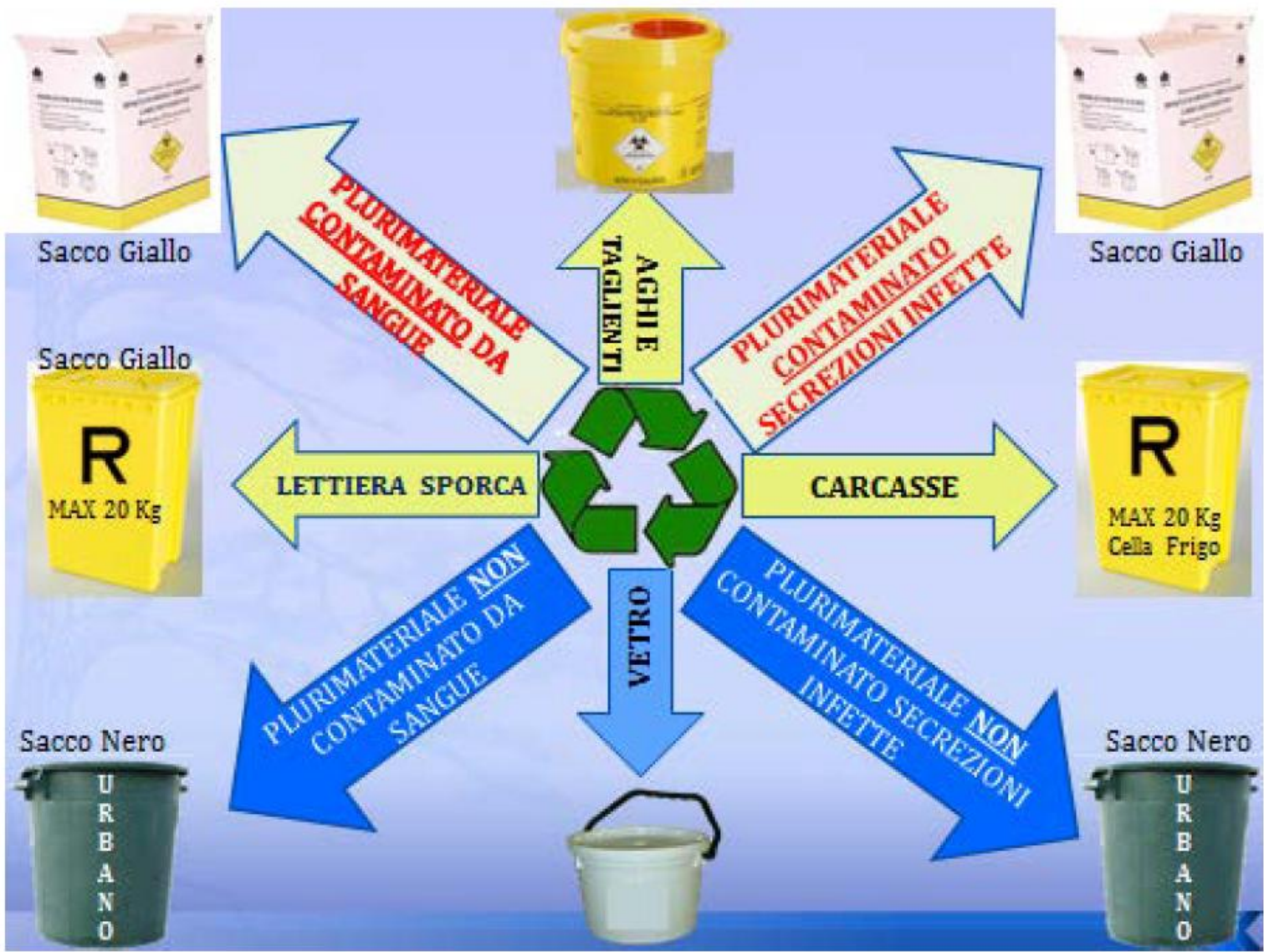
- Use nets in one tank only
- Set good temperature in the room
 - Light cycle
- Sanitize equipments between use
 - Keep sentinel fish!!!!

Use personal protective equipment (PPE)





Smaltimento Rifiuti - Procedura



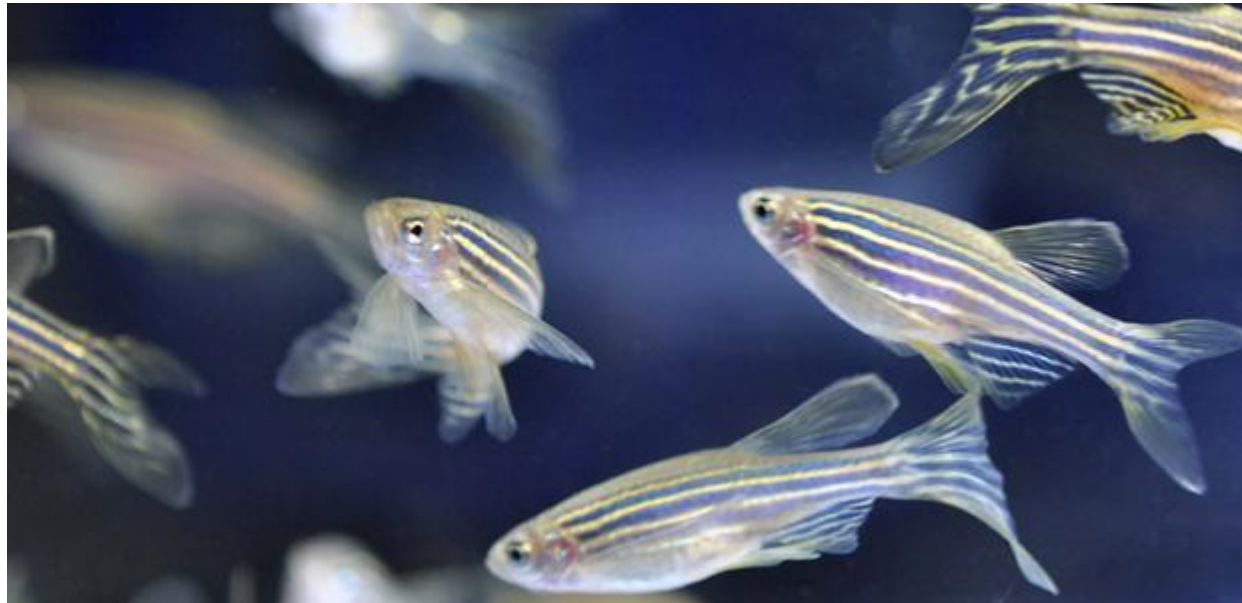
Biosecurity Quarantine

- **All fish from outside sources**
- **Isolated from central facility**
 - Tanks, racks, water system
 - Equipment, nets, glassware, etc.
- **Observation of adult fish**
 - Observe adults 2-3 weeks prior to breeding
- **Euthanate or treat sick fish**
- **Surface sanitize embryos**
 - Highly recommended





Behaviour



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F7JNB2k_S00

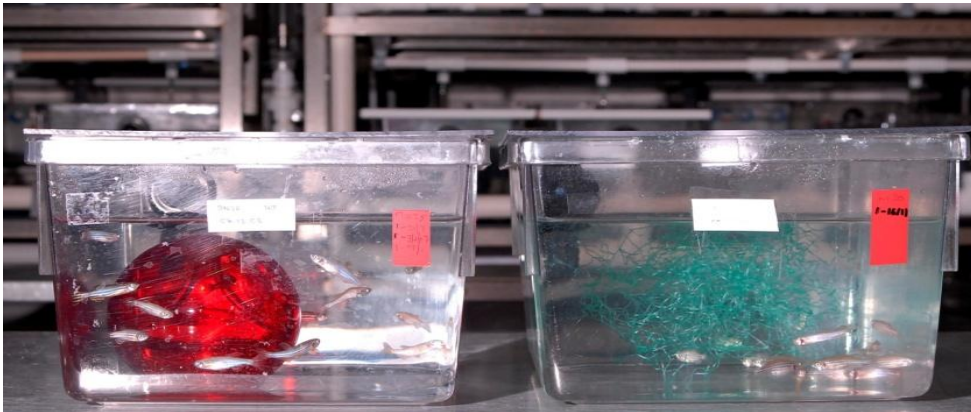
- Omnivorous and diurnal fish
- Good swimmer
- Show a territorial behavior and establish dominance
- Breed in large number, important social interaction
- Many behaviors are relatively similar between adult and larval zebrafish models
- Use of video-tracking software



Environmental enrichment



- Improve welfare.
- Promote natural behaviour.
- Reduce the stereotypy.



Common enrichment: plastic grass or plastic leaves or Artemia or marbles

Important : should be no toxic



Ontological guide for housing and feeding OECD fish species



Ontological guide for housing and feeding OECD fish species

Species	Ontology	Housing						Feeding									
		Density			Flow (cm s ⁻¹)			Ration			Live			Dry		Wet	
		Individual	Pair Spawn group	Group	Slow (0-3)	Medium (3-10)	Fast (>10)	Low (Maintenance)	Medium (Conditioning)	High (Growth)	Rotifer	Brine shrimp	Other	Flake	Pellet	Slurry	Paste
<i>Cyprinus carpio</i> Carp	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Adult	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Pimephales promelas</i> Fathead Minnow	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Adult	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Carassius auratus</i> Goldfish	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Adult	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Oryzias latipes</i> Medaka	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Adult	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Gymnocebus senegalensis</i> Sheepshead	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Adult	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> Trout	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Adult	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Psetta maxima</i> Turbot	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Adult		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Danio rerio</i> Zebrafish	Firstfeed			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Fry			X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X
	Juvenile	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Adult	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X



Diet of zebrafish



Food in the nature

Food in the lab

Insects (like ants) that have fallen into the water

crustacean larvae and other zooplankton and phytoplankton



prefer to feed at surface – upward gaping mouth

but chase prey also across the water
Artemia larvae as live food = tank enrichment!



Feeding

- **Larval Diets**

- Dry - micro-capsule
- Live - *Paramecia*, *Artemia* naupli, rotifers



- **Adult Diets**

- Dry - Flake, pellet, crumble, freeze dried
- Live - *Artemia* (brine shrimp)
- Varied diet recommended

- **2-4 feedings/day**

- Do Not Overfeed



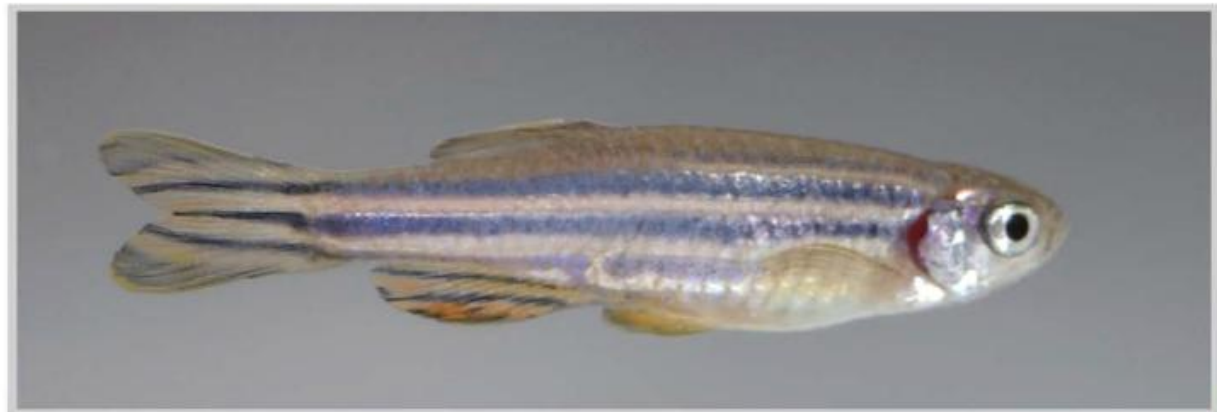


The zebrafish

Danio rerio Hamilton 1822

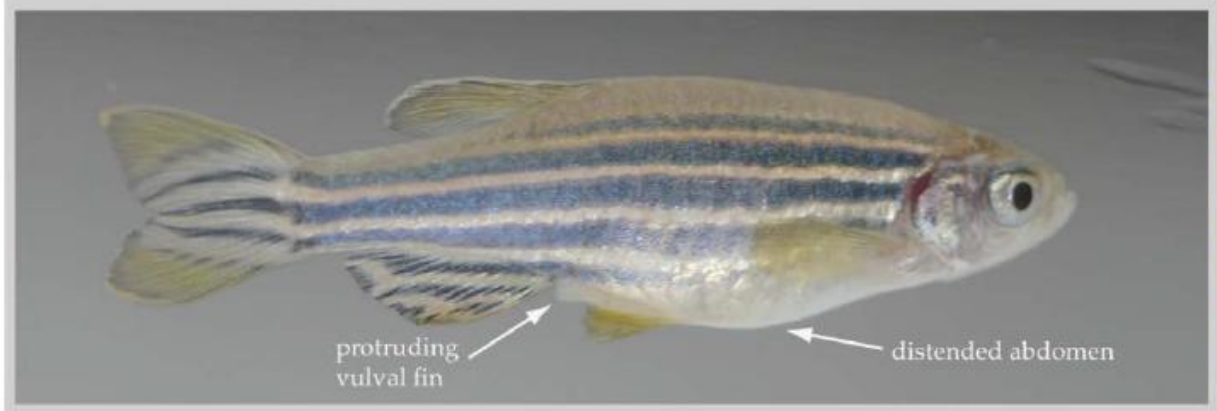
zebrafish
Zebrabärbling
poisson-zèbre
pez cebra

(in older literature also
Brachydanio rerio)



MALE

- faster and more slender in shape
- darker and more red in colour

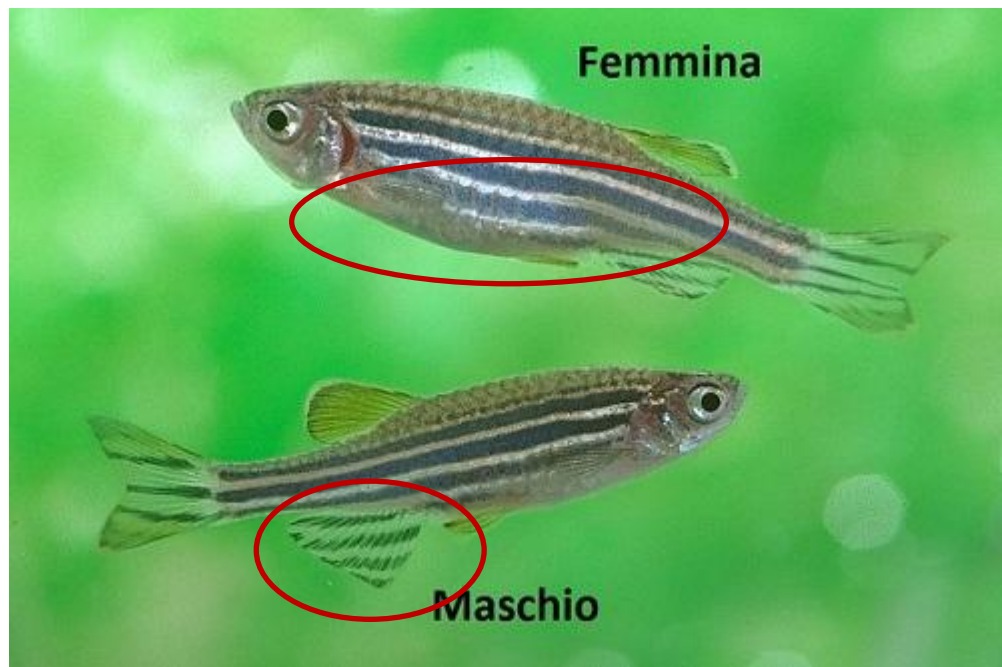


FEMALE

- more grey / silver in colour
- slower and fatter



Males and females





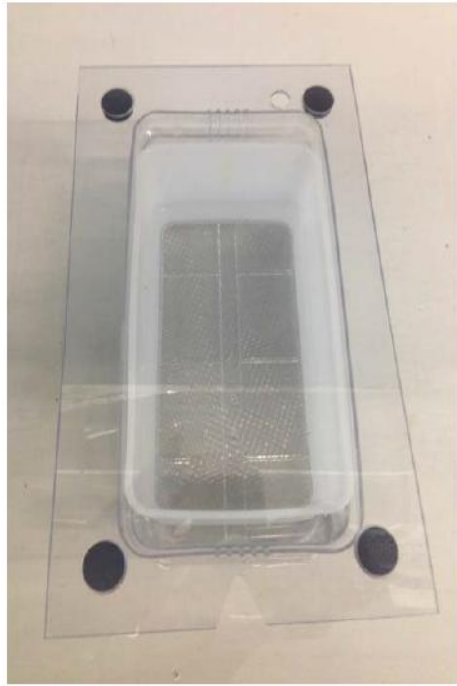
REPRODUCTION



- In the afternoon put females and males together into a mating tank (1:1 or 2:1 or all together)
- Leave alone fish, do not disturb
- Remove the partition if present
- Zebrafish typically lay eggs within the first two hours after the lights come on
- Do not over breed and allow 1-2 weeks between breeding events



REPRODUCTION



Set up fish late in the afternoon – they will wait with mating until the next morning

Or

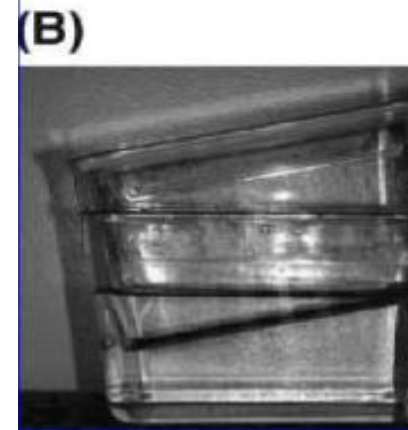
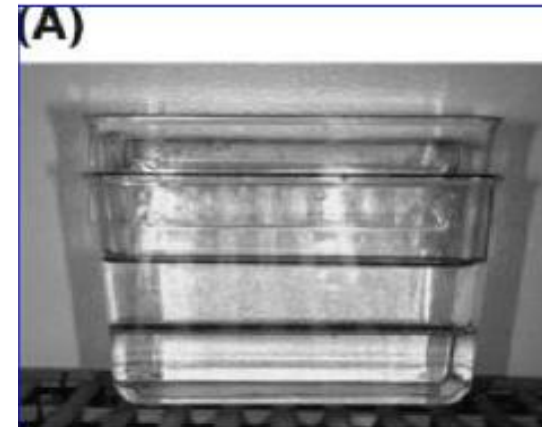
Separate male and female, put them together early next morning – generates precisely dated eggs

Typical breeding cage for single couple

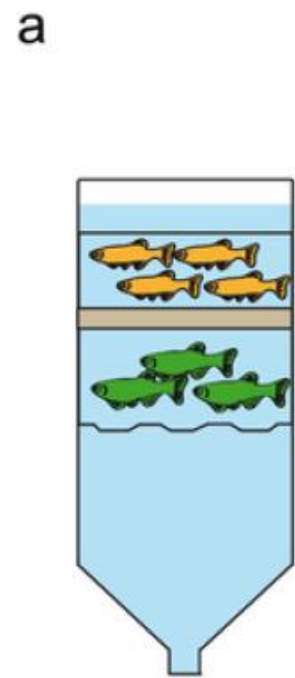
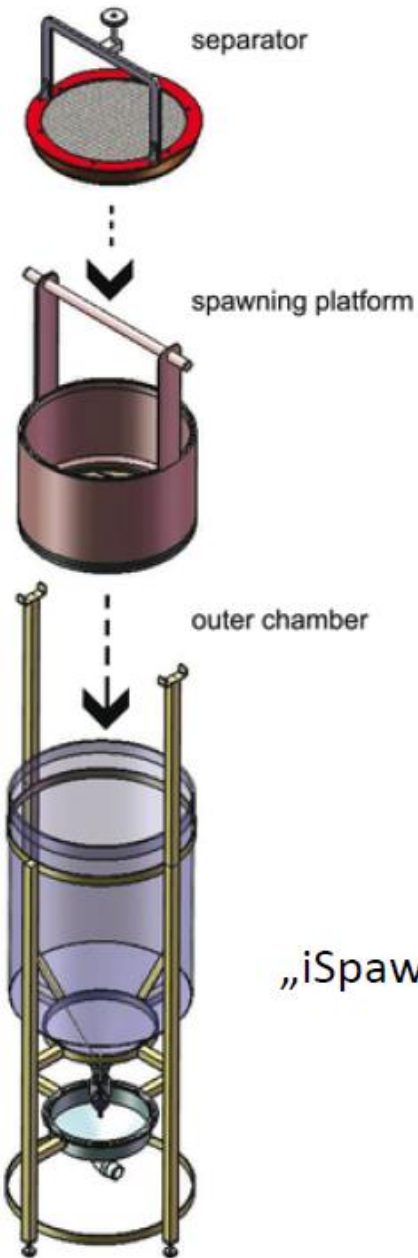
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wb1mEfACpY4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUNN7YzC4Zo>

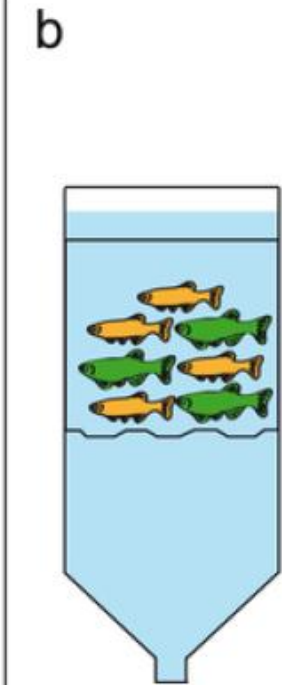
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-aecw9Hx3DU&t=5s>



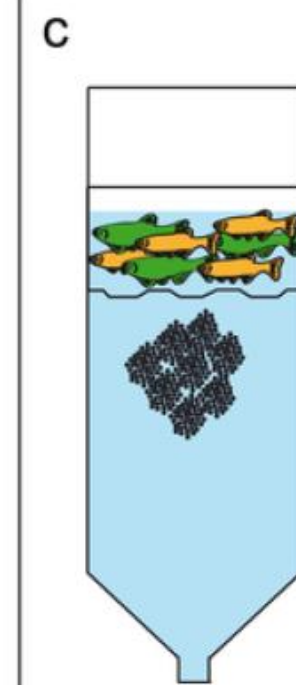
Mating – practical part



separation



„sex on the beach“



egg harvesting





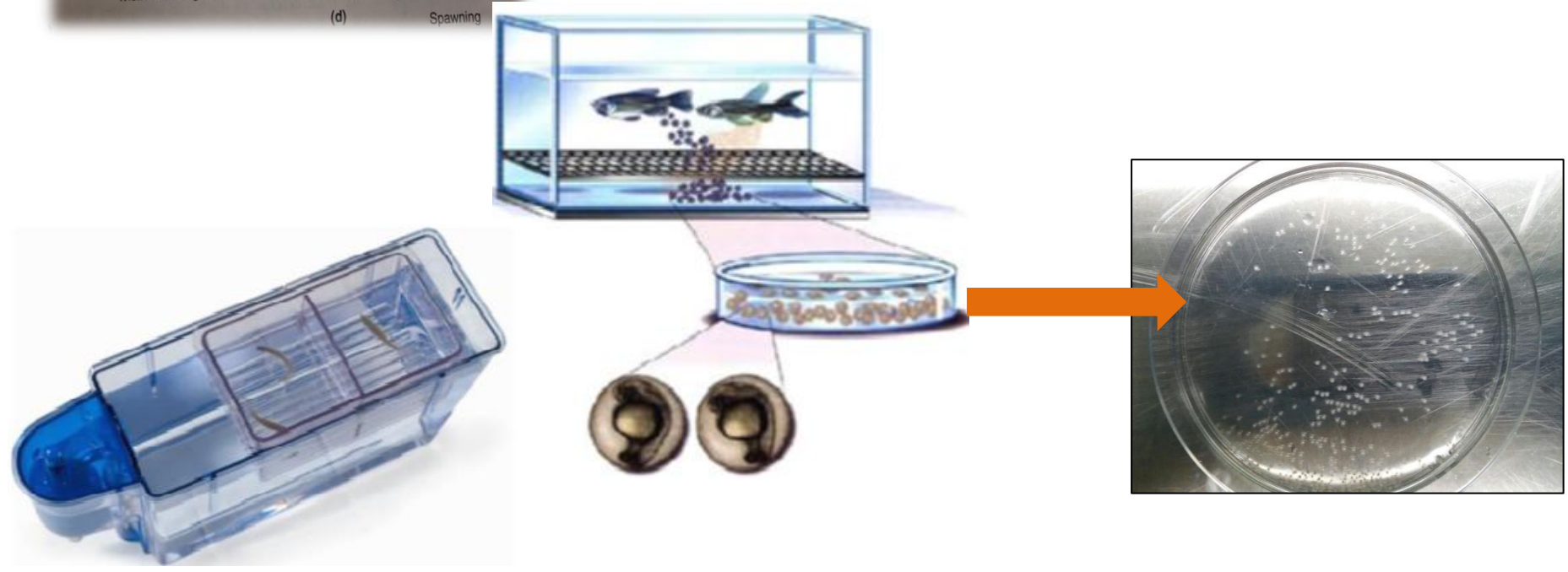
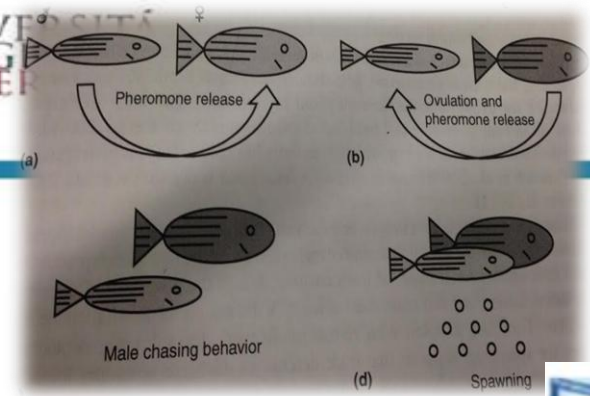
Stress



- As a result of:
 - handling,
 - disturbance,
 - poor water quality,
 - overcrowding,
 - aggression from other fish
 - loud sudden noise



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TORINO



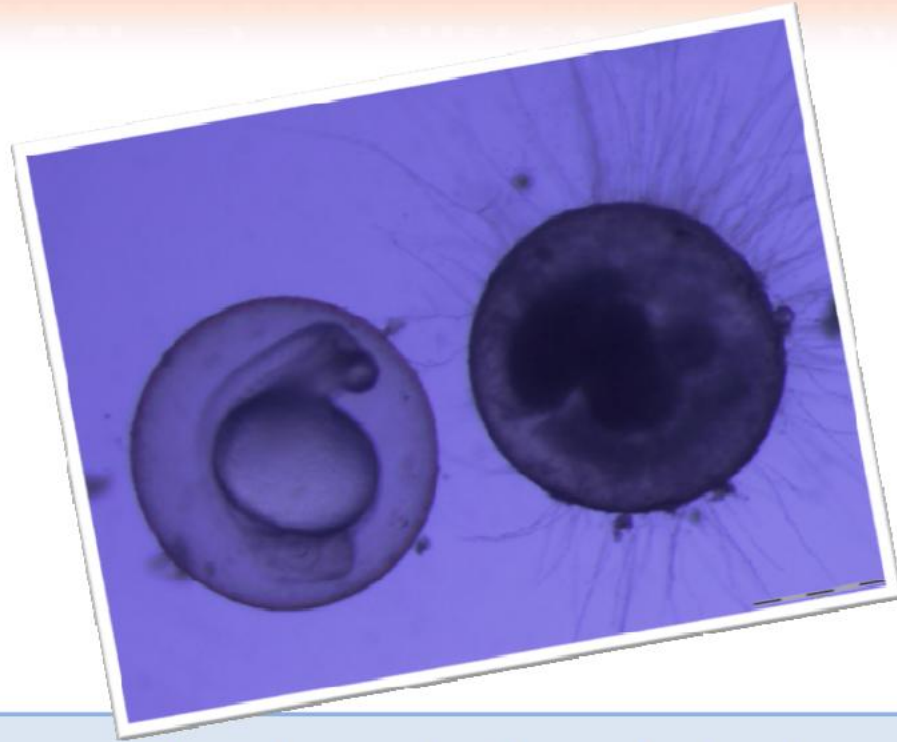
Breeding
*Stimoli scatenanti la riproduzione: stimoli olfattivi (Ref: C. Lawrence)
e contatto fisico.*

COLLECT THE EGGS AND INCUBATION

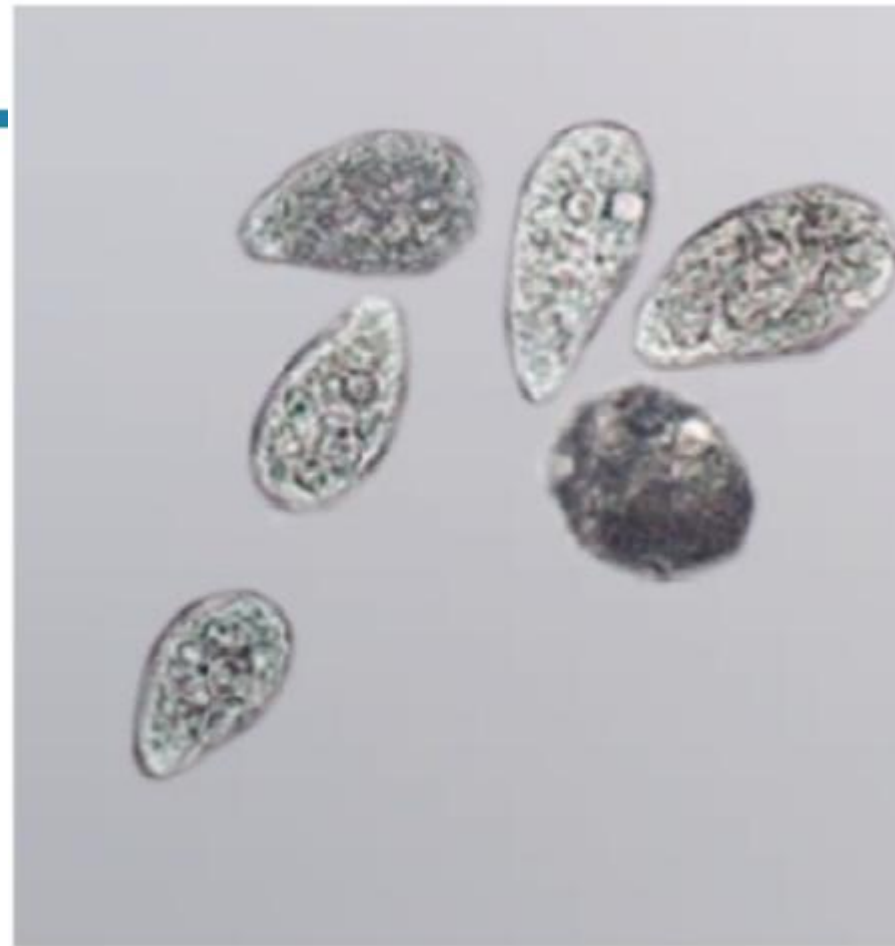


Incubazione degli embrioni
Passaggio fondamentale spesso sottovalutato

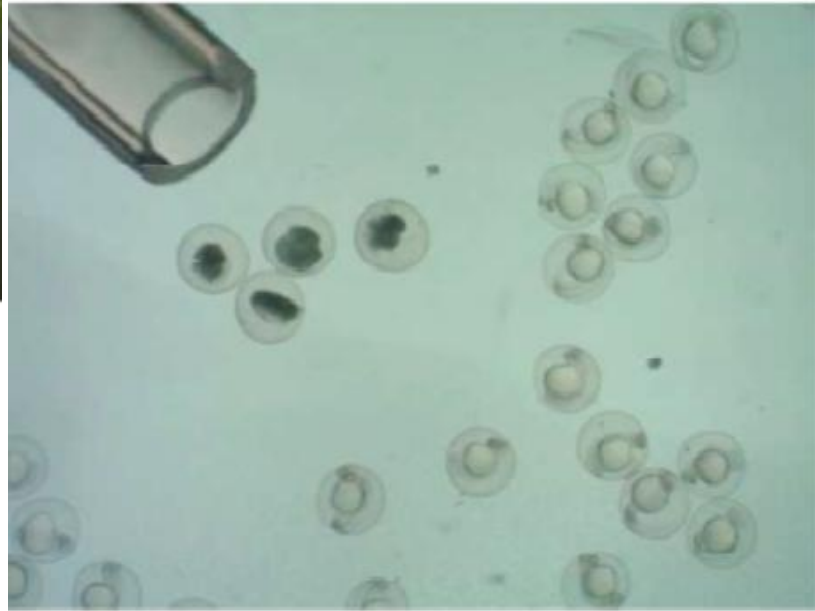
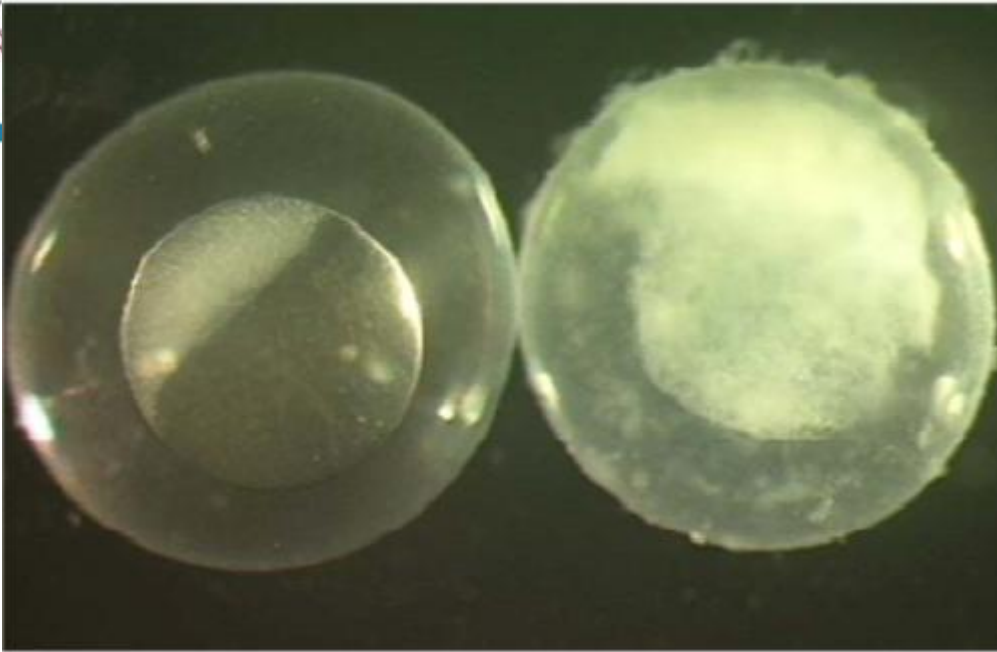
Breeding
Raccolta degli embrioni



PROBLEMS? FUNGI



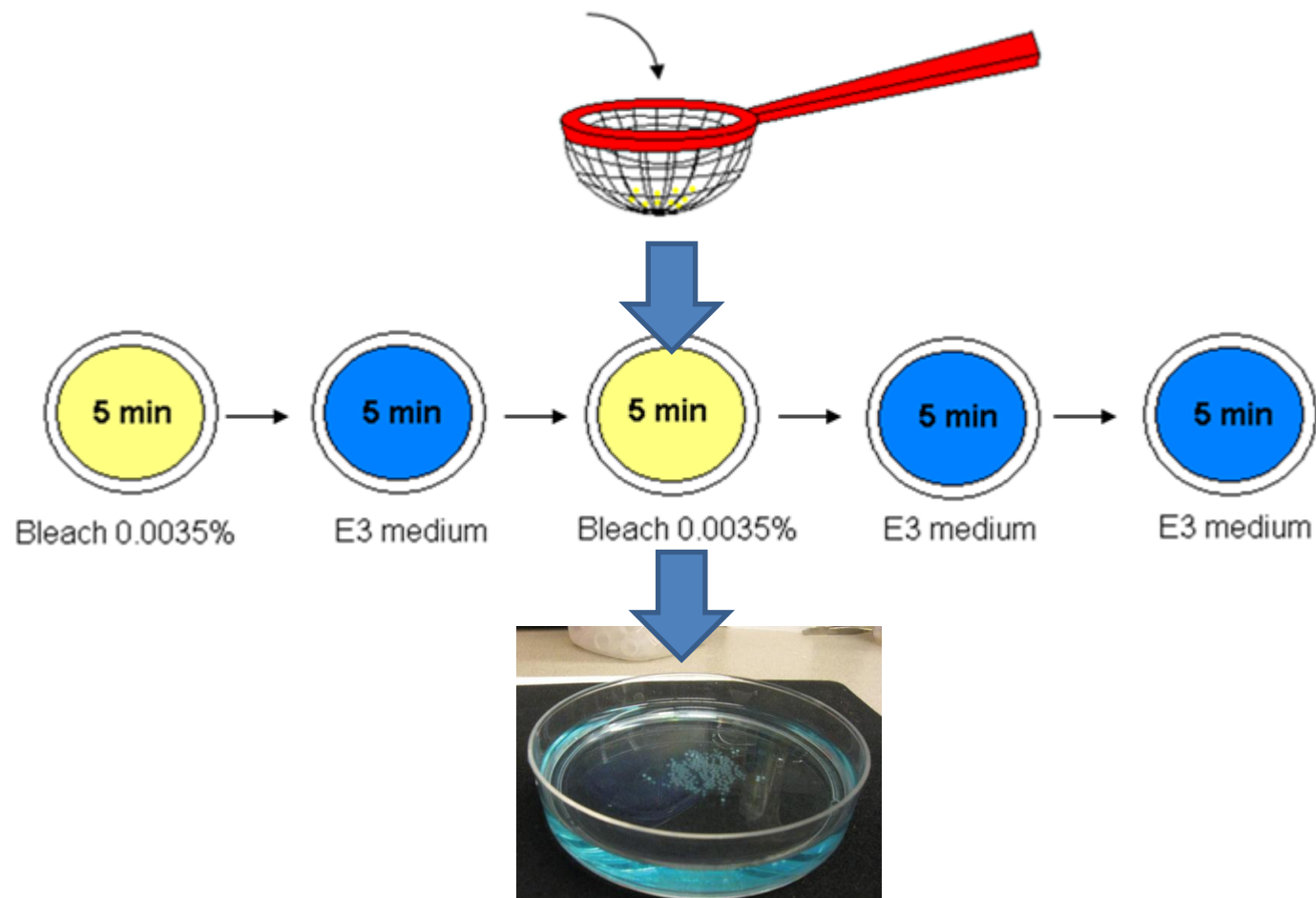
PROTOZOA



HYPOXIA



Collection of eggs





Different uses of zebrafish eggs

