

Laboratory cultivation and experimental studies of salinity effects on larval development in the African River prawn



Larvae of the African River Prawn *Macrobrachium vollenhovenii*, indigenous to West Africa, were reared at various salinities (0-32‰). A salinity range of 16-24‰ was found most suitable with highest survival and growth, and lowest number and duration of instars. Freshwater was lethal already to zoea I - larvae. A mass culture experiment demonstrated the aquaculture potential of this *Macrobrachium* species. Larval rearing to postlarvae was possible applying the same methods as for *M. rosenbergii*. Detailed descriptions of rearing techniques are provided.

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