



# Channel Catfish Life Cycle in the Hatchery:

## Macroscopic vs Microscopic

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1



Broodstock are gathered and stocked into a spawning pond.



2



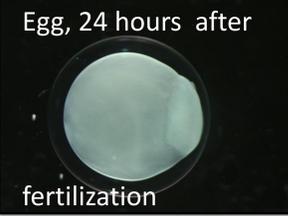
Remove the eggs from the pond



3



Bring the eggs to the hatchery and weigh them. Keep water flowing over the eggs as they wait for the next step. This is usually done 24 – 72 hours after fertilization.



Egg, 24 hours after fertilization



Use one gallon of 1.5% sodium sulfite for every pound of eggs to remove the matrix glue. Soak the eggs from 7-10 minutes in the solution, then pour off the solution and matrix.



4



Now measure the volume of eggs and use a small sample to count how many eggs there are in each ml.

5

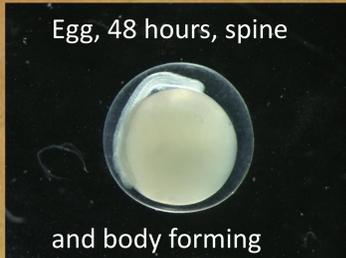


Put the eggs in an egg jar. After awhile the foam and extra particles float away to leave a nice clear slowly moving jar of eggs.

6



72 hours. A normal egg with shell and one where the shell is removed to make the embryo is more visible

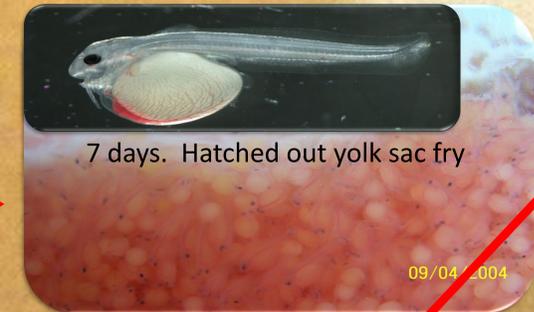


Egg, 48 hours, spine and body forming



After a few days, the circulatory system develops to give the eggs a pink color. The eggs are heavier and roll closer to the bottom of the jar. Original egg level was at the top of the blue tape.

7



7 days. Hatched out yolk sac fry

8



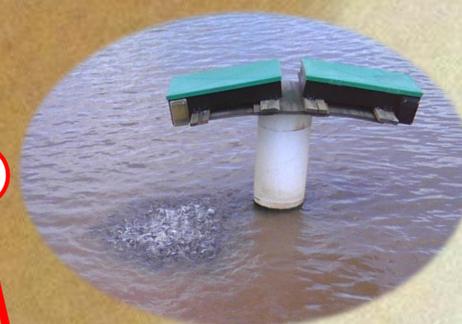
After a few more days pigment colors the spine and then moves down the sides of the body, leaving a white underbelly.

9



The fry absorb the yolk sac and become swim-up fry as they swim to search for food. Here an automatic feeder supplies dinner for the fry.

10



Two month old fry eating in a pond

11



16 months later fish are harvested

12