



Spawning and larval rearing of coral trout at Gondol

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Coral trout, *Plectropomus leopardus*, is a popular candidate for mariculture in the Asia-Pacific region. The Research Institute for Mariculture (RIM) at Gondol, Bali, Indonesia, is currently researching the development of hatchery technology for this species, known locally as *sunu*. Ninety wild broodfish, ranging from 1.3 to 3.5 kg, were collected in 2003 and 2004. Sixty broodfish were maintained in a 150 m³ concrete tank, and the remainder in a 100 m³ concrete tank — both tanks were supplied with flow-through seawater at ambient temperature. Coral trout broodfish were fed trash fish and squid (2:1 ratio). The fish commenced spawning after seven months in the broodstock tanks and produced between 500,000 and 2,500,000 eggs per day (both tanks combined) for three to seven days each month.

Fertilized eggs were stocked in a 5 m³ concrete larval rearing tank. Starting on the second day after hatching (D2), larvae were fed with rotifer at a density of 5 per milliliter (ml). Rotifer density in the larval rearing tank was maintained at 10 to 30 per ml until D27. From D19, larvae were fed *Artemia nauplii*, and *Artemia* feeding was continued until metamorphosis (35 days after hatching). Juvenile coral trout were fed live tiny shrimp.

At the time of this writing, there are still a total of 195 juvenile coral trout at RIM. These fish are being used to assess the general grow-out husbandry of this species.



Figure 1.
Plectropomus leopardus hatchery-raised juveniles.



Figure 2.
Plectropomus leopardus wild broodstock.

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