CONTENTS

Chapter I. Growth and reproduction in decapod crustaceans: A review.

1.1. Pattern of sexuality among crustaceans 3
1.2. Sex determination 4
1.3. Sex differentiation and sexual dimorphism 5
1.4. Physiology of moulting 5
1.4.1. Stages of moult cycle 6
1.4.2. Ecdysis 8
1.5. Physiology of reproduction 8
1.5.1. Gonadal morphology 9
1.5.1.1. Male reproductive system 9
1.5.1.2. Female reproductive system 10
1.5.2. Gametogenesis 10
1.5.2.1. Spermatogenesis 11
1.5.2.2. Oogenesis 11
1.5.2.2.1. Vitellogenesis 12
1.5.2.2.2. Chemistry of yolk 13
1.5.2.2.3. Vitellogenin and its synthesis 14
1.6. Physiology of storage tissues in relation to growth and reproduction 17
1.6.1. Hepatopancreas 17
1.6.2. Haemolymph 18
1.6.3. Muscles 19
1.7. Regulation of growth and reproduction in crustaceans 19
1.7.1. Regulation of growth 21
1.7.1.1. Stimulatory principles 21
1.7.1.2. Inhibitory principles 22
1.7.2. Regulation of reproduction 24
1.7.2.1. Stimulatory principles 25
### Chapter 1. Seasonal programming of growth and reproduction

1.7.2.1.1. Vitellogenesis stimulating ovarian hormone
1.7.2.1.2. Mandibular organ
1.7.2.2. Inhibitory principles
1.7.2.2.1. Gonad inhibiting hormone
1.7.2.2.2. Mandibular organ inhibiting hormone
1.7.3. Interaction between growth and reproduction
1.8. Concluding remarks and future prospects

### Chapter 2. Seasonal programming of growth and reproduction in *Sesarma quadratum*

2.2. Introduction
2.2. Materials and methods.
2.2.1. Investigation area
2.2.2. Sampling data
2.2.3. Maintenance of crabs
2.2.4. Statistical analysis
2.2.5. Micro-imaging system
2.3. Results
2.3.1. Identification of moult stages
2.3.2. Characterization of moult stages
2.3.3. Characterization of ovarian maturation stages
2.3.4. Frequency of premoult - postmoult activity
2.3.5. Frequency of breeding activity
2.3.6. Correlation between vitellogenesis and embryogenesis
2.3.7. Reproductive investment
2.3.8. Energy budget for reproduction
2.3.9. Spawning
2.4. Discussion
2.5. Summary
Chapter-3. Oogenesis in *Sesarma quadratum*, a continuous breeder.

3.1 Introduction

Section A. Gonadal differentiation in pre-pubertal crabs

3.2. Materials and methods.

3.3.A. Results

3. 3.A.1. Undifferentiated gonad of juvenile crabs

3. 3.A.2. Juvenile female

3. 3.A.3. Juvenile male

3. 4.A. Discussion

Section B Oogenesis in *S. quadratum* a continuous feeder

3.2. B. Materials and methods

3.2. B.1. Histology

3. B.2.2. Electron microscopy

3.2. B.3. Biochemical analysis

3.2. B.3.1. Proteins

3. 2.B.3.2. Lipids

3. 2.B.3.3. Carbohydrates

3. 2.B.3.4. Total free amino acids

3. 2.B.3.5. Individual free amino acids

3. 2.B.3.6. Quantification of amino acids from chromatogram

3. 2.B.3.7. Thin layer chromatography

3. 2.B.3.8. Ascorbic acid

3. 2.B.4. Histochemistry

3. 2.B.4.1. Proteins

3. 2.B.4.2. Lipids

3. 2.B.4.3. Carbohydrates

3. 2.B.4.4. Nucleic acids

3. 2.B.5. Statistical analysis

3.3 B. Results
3. 3.B.1. Morphology of the reproductive system in female *S. quadratum* 65
3. 3.B.2. Vitellogenesis 65
3. 3.B.3. Ovarian factor 66
3. 3.B.4. Gonadosomatic index 67
3. 3.B.5. Nucleocytoplasmic index 67
3. 3.B.6. Histology of the ovary 68
3. 3.B.7. Histochemistry 71
3. 3.B.7.1. Proteins 71
3. 3.B.7.2. Lipids 71
3. 3.B.7.3. Carbohydrates 72
3. 3.B.7.4. Nucleic acids 72
3. 3.B.8. Electron microscopy 72
3. 3.B.9. Biochemistry 75
3. 3.B.9.1. Water 75
3. 3.B.9.2. Total Protein 75
3. 3.B.9.3. Lipids 76
3. 3.B.9.4. Polysaccharide fraction 76
3. 3.B.9.5. Oligosaccharide fraction 77
3. 3.B.9.6. Total FAA 77
3. 3.B.9.7. Individual Amino acids 78
3. 3.B.9.8. Ascorbic acid 78
3. 4.B. Discussion 79
3. 5. Summary 89

Chapter -4. Regulation of growth and reproduction

4.1 Introduction 92
Section A Control mechanisms through extrinsic factors 92
4.2. A. Materials and methods. 94
4.3.A. Results 95
4.2. A. 1  Salinity  95
4.2. A. 2  Temperature  96
4.2. A. 3  Photoperiod  97
4.2. A. 4  Rainfall  97
4.2. A. 5  Relative humidity  98
4.2. A. 6  Lunar rhythm and programming of moult and reproduction  98
Section B  Control mechanisms through intrinsic factors  100
4.2.B.  Materials and methods.  103
4.2. B.1.  Mandibular organ  103
4.2. B.2.  Deeyestalking experiments  104
4.2. B.3.  Radioimmunoassay  105
4.2. B.4.  Statistical analysis  106
4.3. B.  Results  106
4.3. B.1.  Mandibular organ  106
4.3. B.1.1.  Electron microscopy  107
4.3. B.2.  Deeyestalking experiments  109
4.3. B.2.1.  On moulting  109
4.3. B.2.2.  On oogenesis  110
4.3. B.2.3.  Effect of eyestalk ablation on biochemical constituents of ovary of S. quadratum  111
4.3. B.2.3.1.  Histology  111
4.3. B.2.3.2.  Total protein  111
4.3. B.2.3.3.  Total lipids  112
4.3. B.2.3.4.  Polysaccharide fractions  112
4.3. B.2.3.5.  Oligosaccharide fractions  113
4.3. B.3.  Ecdysteroid titre through Radioimmunoassay  113
4.3. B.3.1.  Hemolymph ecdysteroid levels in relation to vitellogenesis  113
4.3. B.3.2.  Hemolymph ecdysteroid levels in relation to moult stages  114
4.4.  Discussion  114
4.5.  Summary  123
REFERENCES  126