

A low running costs recirculating aquaculture using an integrated multi-trophic system



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European aquaculture challenges

Reduce environment impact

Increase production

Reduce production energy cost

IMTA

One way to resolve these issues

Reduce waste

Increase productivity

Aims of the experiment

Push the IMTA concept to its maximum

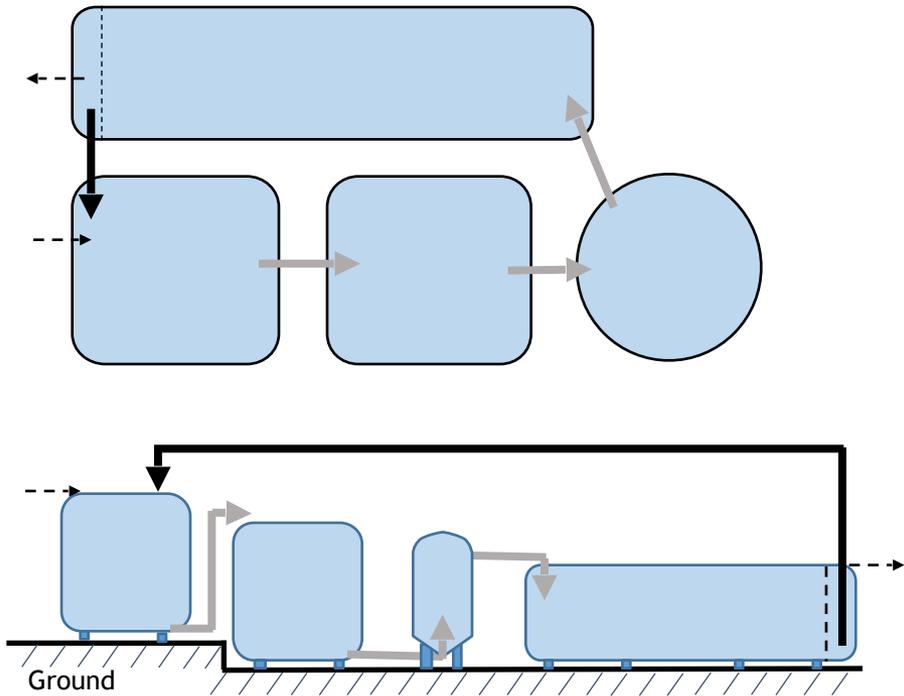
Decrease waste by using RAS

Increase productivity and decrease care by exploiting all the trophic chain level

Reduce energy cost & easy care system

LTR-IMTA

How technically the system works?

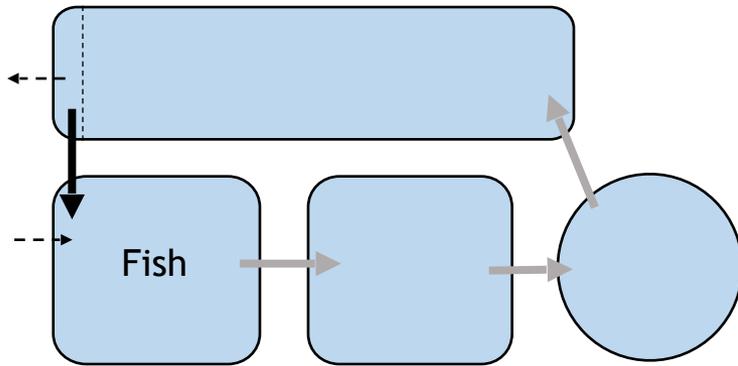


- ➡ Air-lift
- Gravity flow
- 5 % renewal water per day



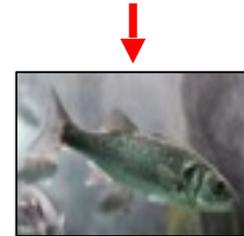
Only bioremediation
No pump: Energy saving

How biologically the system works ?



Dicentrarchus labrax
Fed aquaculture

Fish Food (nutrient intake)

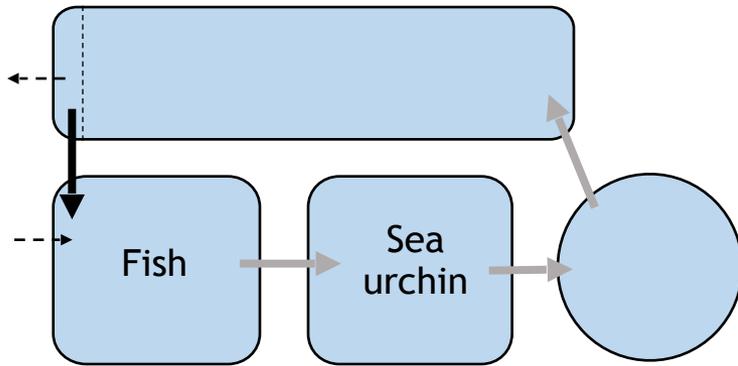


Fish tank:
400 l

Fish density:
 1.5 kg.m^{-3}

Fish diet:
2% of their body weight

How biologically the system works ?

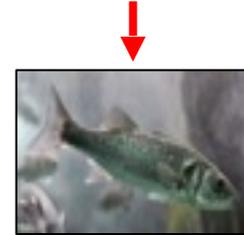


Paracentrotus lividus
Extractive aquaculture

Sea urchin tank:
400 l

Sea urchin density:
10 kg.m⁻³

Fish Food (nutrient intake)

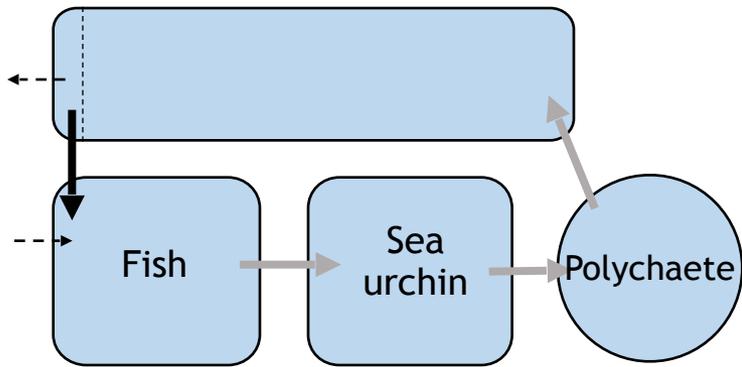


Wastes



Part of fish faeces intake
Uneaten fish food

How biologically the system works ?

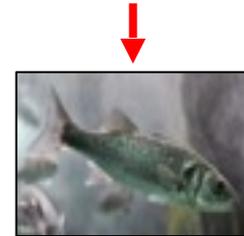


Hediste diversicolor
Extractive aquaculture

Polychaete tank:
220 l cylindroconical tank

Polychaete density:
10 kg.m⁻³

Fish Food (nutrient intake)

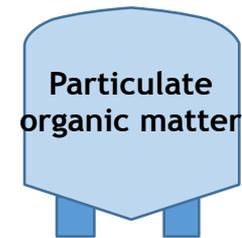


Wastes



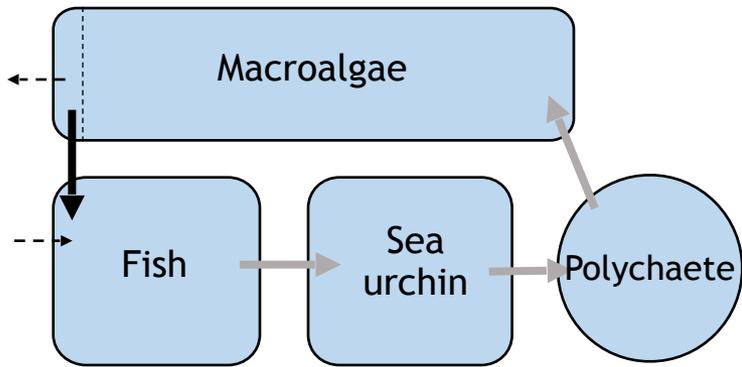
Part of fish faeces intake

Uneaten fish food



Particulate organic matter uptake

How biologicaly the system works ?



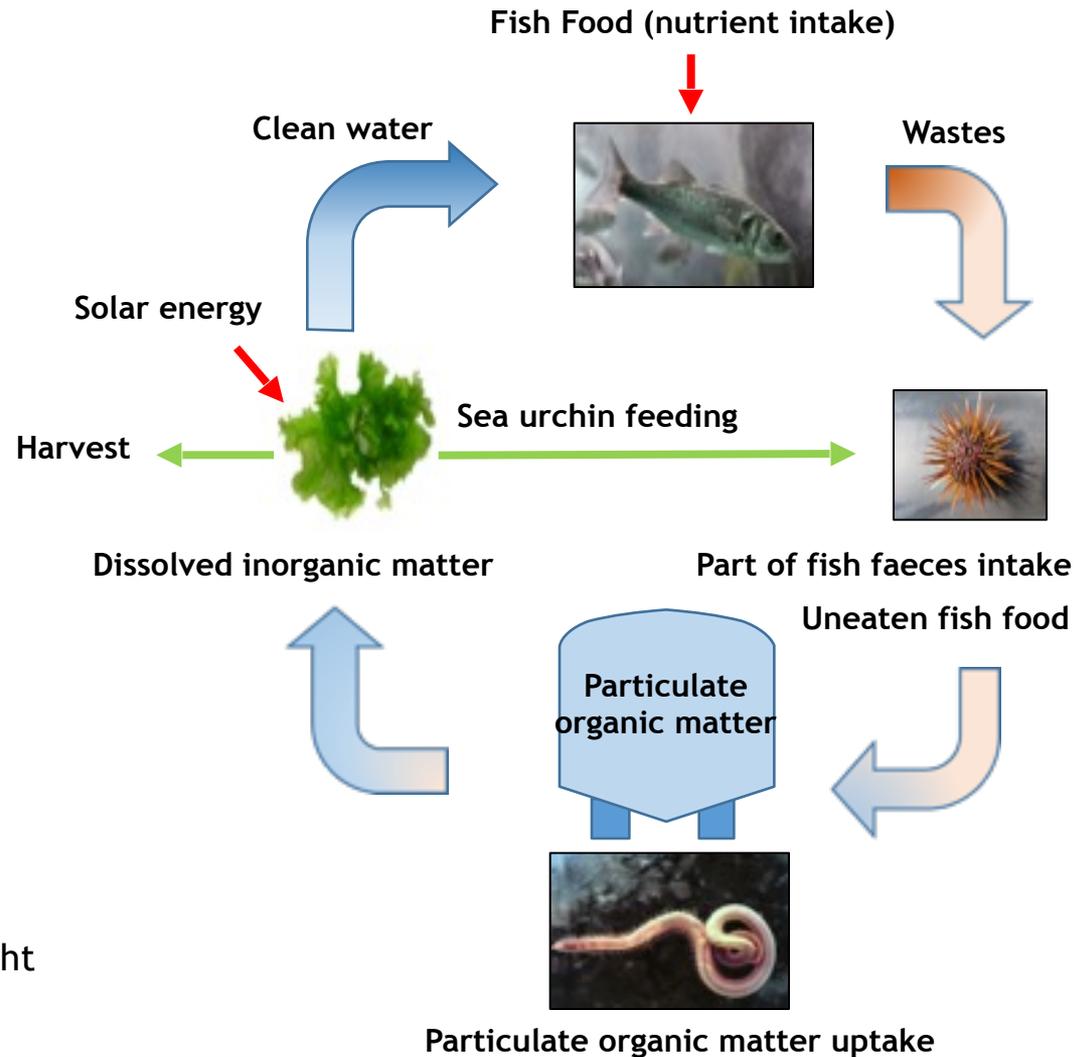
Ulva sp.
Extractive aquaculture

Macroalgae tank:
900 l

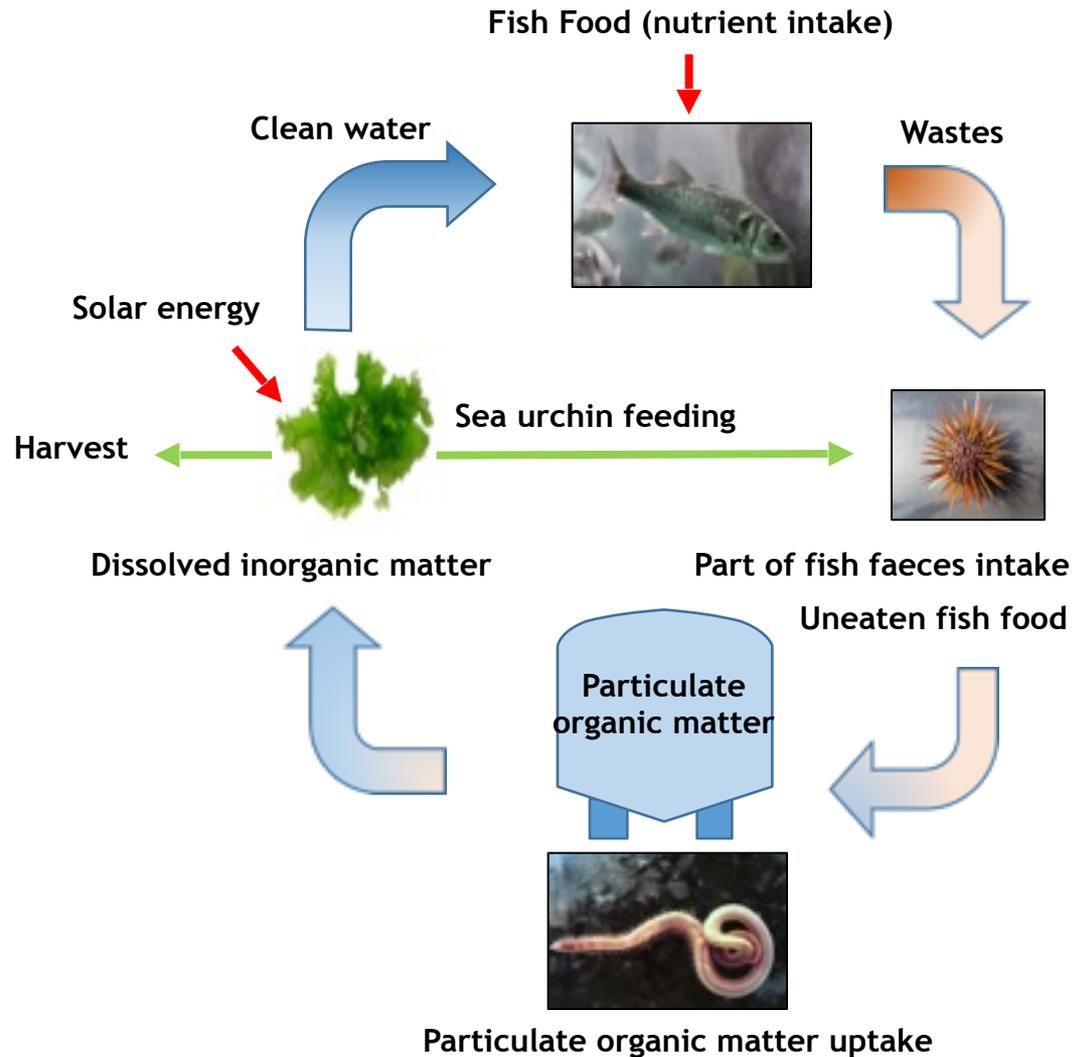
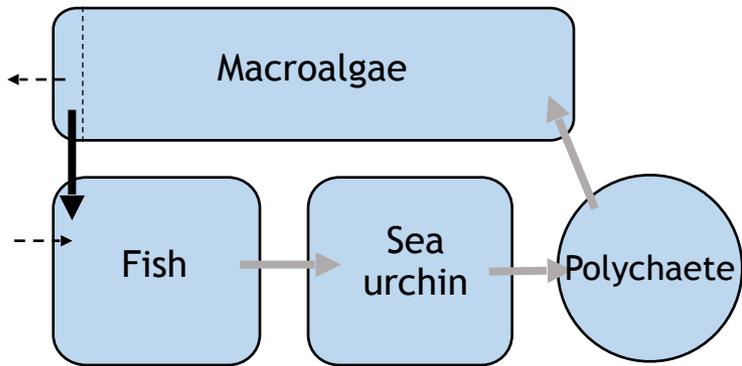
Macroalgae density:
 3.3 kg.m^{-3}

Harvested twice a week:

- Feeding sea urchin at 2% of their body weight
- Extract from the system

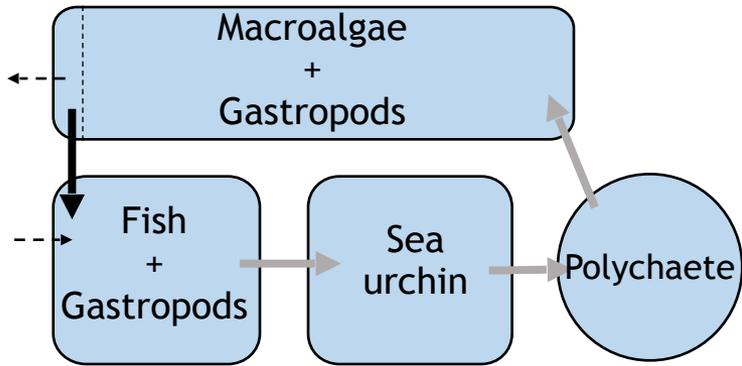


How biologicaly the system works ?



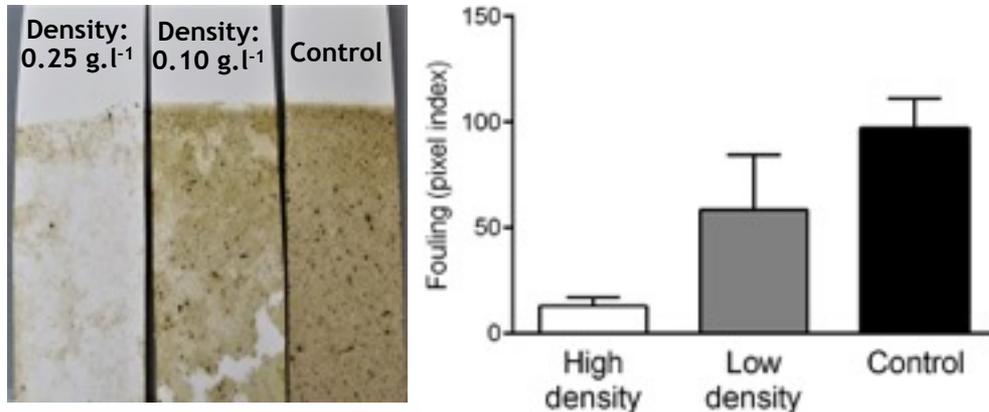
**Bioremediation:
Particulate matters
Dissolve matters**

How biological the system works ?



Phorcus turbinatus
Biofouling cleaner

1 week on fish farm effluent



Cleaning care reduced
(and productivity increased)

Water quality analysis

Measured once a week in each tank

- Ammonia
- Nitrite
- Nitrate
- Phosphate
- Biochemical oxygen demand
- Phytoplankton
- Total suspended solids



Controlled everyday

- Dissolved oxygen
- pH
- Salinity
- Temperature

Water quality analysis

- **Ammonia**
- **Nitrite**
- **Nitrate**
- **Phosphate**
- Biochemichal oxygen demand
- Phytoplankton
- Total suspended solids

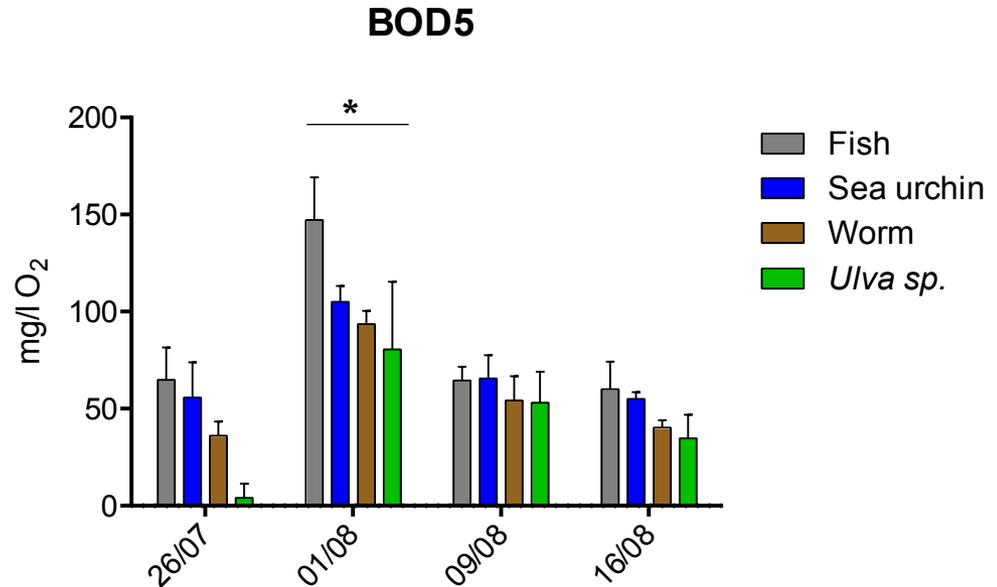
	NH4	NO2	NO3	P
Mean	< 0.03	< 0.01	0.6	0.5
Min	-	-	<0.01	< 0.03
Max	-	-	2.4	5.3

Nutrient widely under toxicity threshold

Water quality analysis

- Ammonia
- Nitrite
- Nitrate
- Phosphate
- **Biochemical oxygen demand**
- Phytoplankton
- Total suspended solids

Tukey's multiple comparisons test
Adjusted p value:
* : 0.0001
Fish vs. *Ulva sp.*: 0.005

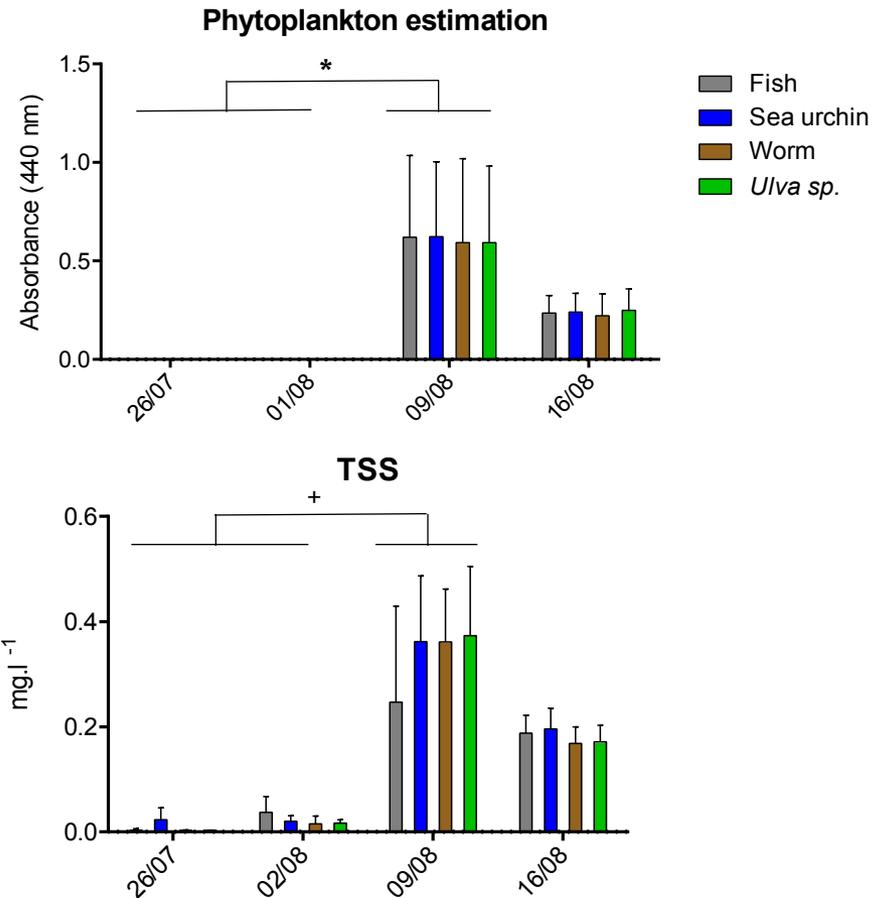


Fast increase followed by a supposed stabilization
Achieve a longer experiment

Water quality analysis

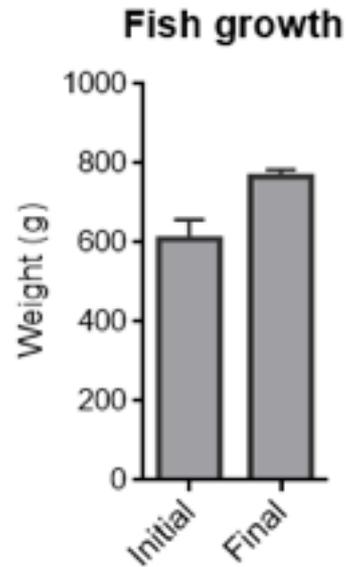
- Ammonia
- Nitrite
- Nitrate
- Phosphate
- Biochemical oxygen demand
- **Phytoplankton**
- **Total suspended solids**

Tukey's multiple comparisons test
Adjusted p value:
* : 0.003
+ : 0.03



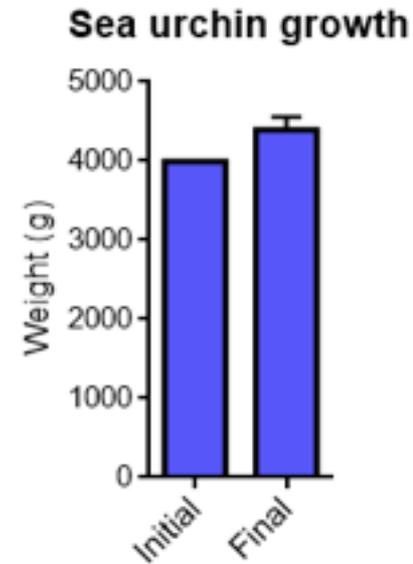
Difficulty to control particulate compartment
Achieve a longer experiment

Biological production



SGR
 $0.77\% \pm 0.31 \text{ d}^{-1}$
27% in a month

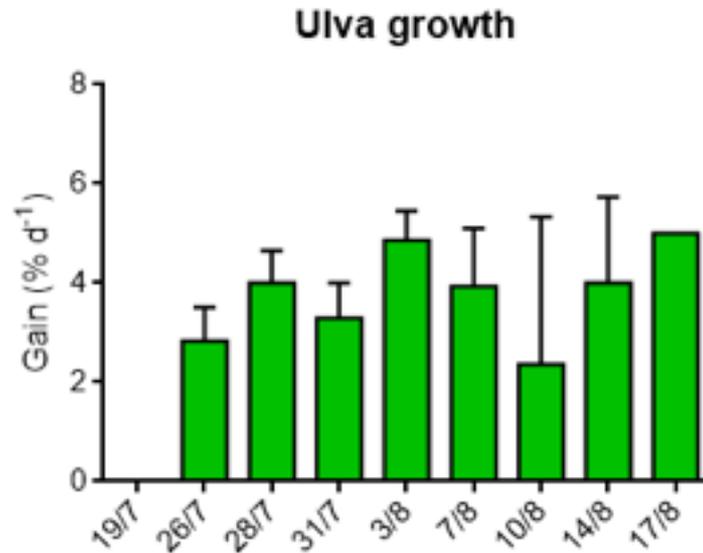
FCR
 2.3 ± 0.59



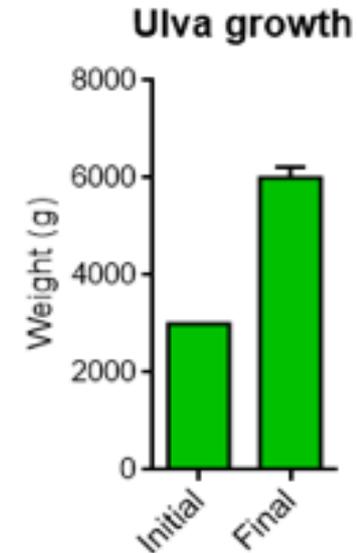
SGR
 $0.31\% \pm 0.12 \text{ d}^{-1}$
10% in a month

FCR
 3.49 ± 1.63

Biological production

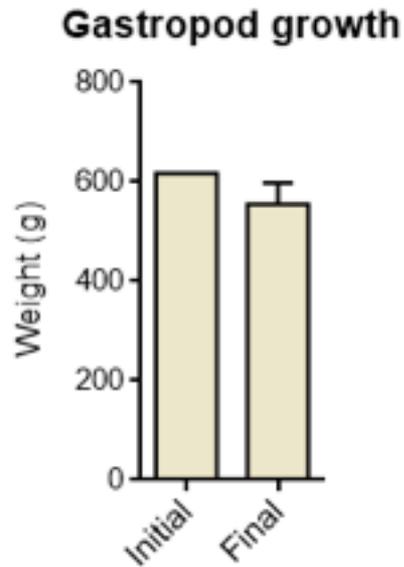


SGR
 $3.74\% \pm 1.44 \text{ d}^{-1}$

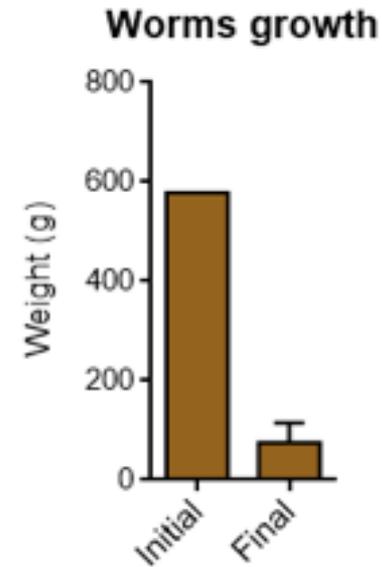


200 % growth in a month
53 % used to feed sea urchin

Biological production



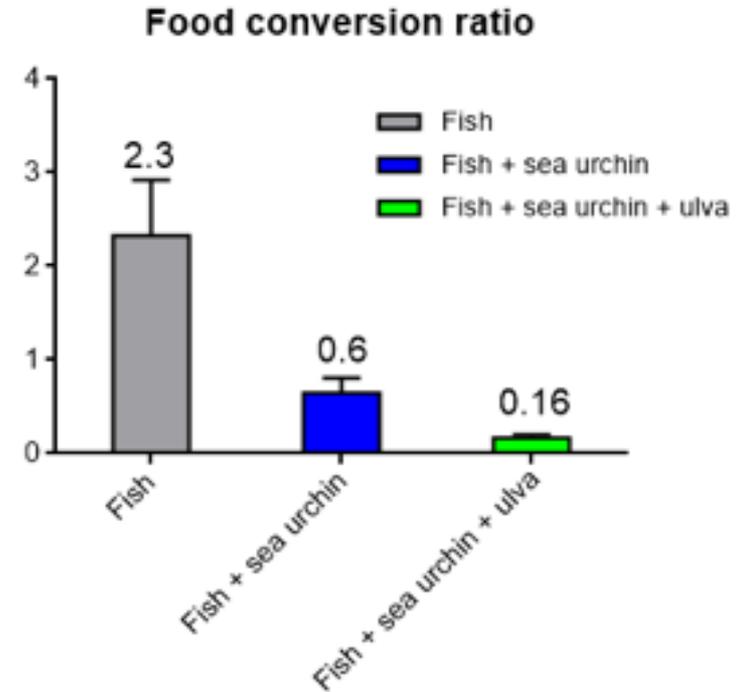
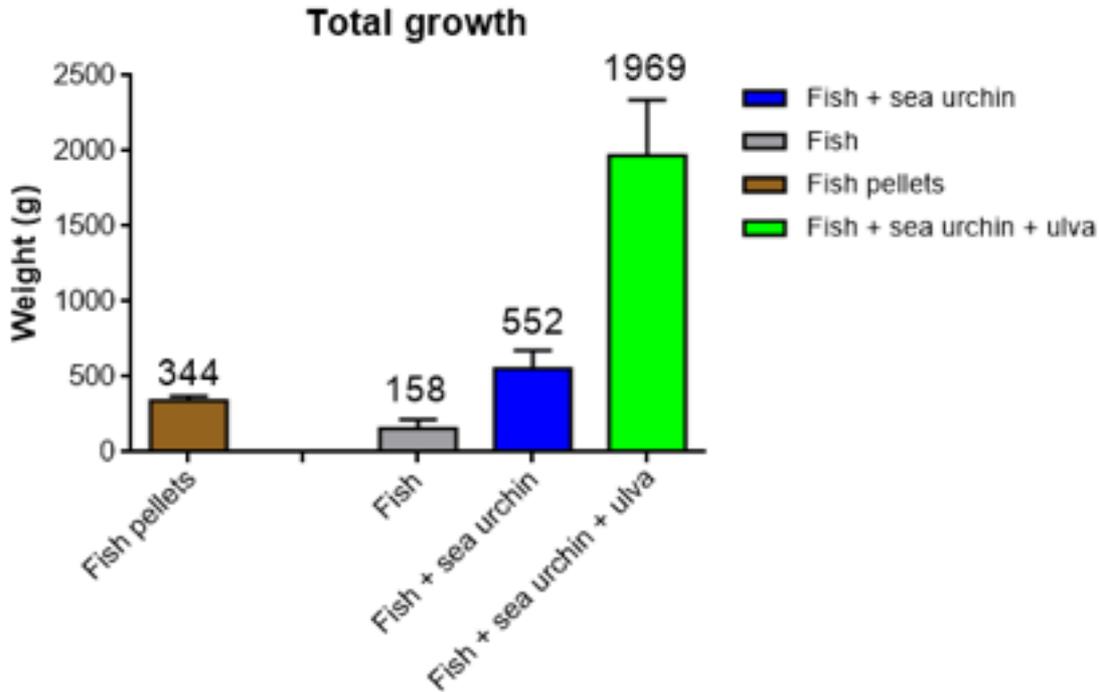
Escape from the tanks
Lot of juveniles



High mortality of *H. diversicolor*
Species switch

**Need to design tanks to limit gastropods escape
Change worms species**

Global production



344g intake
almost 2 kg produced

Conclusion

Difficulty to manage particulate compartment → Add a filter feeder species

Waste are reduced to the maximum → R-IMTA only with bioremediation works

Compare to classical fish aquaculture production is increased by 12

LTR-IMTA

Easy care => limited human action

Low electricity consumption

Conclusion

IMTA

Issues on 2 species can be resolved

Difficulty to manage particulate compartment → Add a filter feeder species

Possibility to breed at least 5 species in the same system

R-IMTA

A system designed only with bioremediation is functional

Compare to classical fish aquaculture production is increased by 12

LTR-IMTA

Easy care → limited human action

Low electricity consumption → Energy saving



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