



International Aquarium Congress 2012

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Early rearing of four scombrid fishes including Bluefin Tuna at Tokyo Sea Life Park

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Tokyo Sea Life Park (TSLP) has exhibited four scombrid fishes, Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*), Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*), Skipjack Tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) and Striped Bonito (*Sarda orientalis*), all of which have spawned in the displays. Learning to raise these species from eggs may enable TSLP to reduce collection of wild specimens. Exhibiting scombrid development in the aquarium may deepen visitors' understanding of these fish and contribute to their sustainable use.

This presentation reports on egg-rearing trials from 2007 to 2010. It describes the design and selection of tanks, and the food provided. Results of the trials are summarized below, and show the number of days eggs were raised after hatching, the total length (TL) of juveniles, and the age at which fish started feeding on hatched larvae:

Species	Days post hatching	TL(mm)	Feeding on larvae (days)
Bluefin Tuna	50	63	18
Kawakawa	72	108	10
Skipjack Tuna	42	46	-
Striped Bonito	155	353	4

Some apparently healthy Bluefin Tuna and Kawakawa died suddenly, and their parasphenoids showed abnormal deformities. Collisions with the tank wall were presumed to be the cause of these deaths, so a plastic sheet pen was placed inside the tank to prevent collisions