Projects IMEDMAR

Title of Project: Use of neuropeptides to induce gonadal maturation and spawning in *Pinna nobilis* and *Pinna rudis* under captive conditions

Research Team *(Principal Researcher):* Group of Marine Biology IMEDMAR-UCV, P.R. *José Rafael Garcia March, Jose Tena, Pablo Sanchis, Nikoleta Ntalamagka*

Problematic:
Assisted reproduction under captivity

Brief description/abstract:

The Institute for Research in Environment and Marine Science (IMEDMAR-UCV) of the Catholic University of Valencia (UCV) works on the NEUPINNA project funded by the Biodiversity Foundation F.S.P., on a competitive basis, for the conservation of marine biodiversity in Spain 2020 with an amount of 93.543,84 €. This new project opens new lines of work to try to achieve the reproduction in captivity of this mollusc and thus contribute to the salvation of this species. With this objective, NEUPINNA is based on the need for a better understanding of the reproductive mechanisms of this species. Thus, the use of next-generation sequencing techniques followed by transcriptome analysis of gonadal ganglia and tissues will allow the identification of specific neuropeptides, previously reported as key factors for gonadal maturation and reproduction in molluscs. Since *P.* nobilis is an endemic and protected species, in this project the *Pinna rudis* species will be used as a model species due to its abundance, local availability and close genealogical relationship *with P. nobilis*. The use of reproductive neuropeptides to induce gonadal maturation and laying of *P. nobilis* and *P. rudis* in captive conditions will be key to determining the future of this species and has shown very promising results in other mollusc species.

Main results, publications, or website: *Preliminary results of one of the first trials* IMEDMAR-UCV (@imedmar_ucv) • Fotos y videos de Instagram

Location: *Calpe*

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Picture/Photo: