

LIST OF FIGURES

CHAPTER 1

CHAPTER 2

- FIGURE 2.1. Scientific illustration of an adult specimen of *Dicentrarchus labrax*, and the accepted taxonomic hierarchy. 5
- FIGURE 2.2. Adult specimen of an European sea bass. 6
- FIGURE 2.3. *D.labrax* larvae, 2 days after hatching at 21°C. 9
- FIGURE 2.4. European sea bass geographical distribution and respective occurrence probability. 9
- FIGURE 2.5. Global Aquaculture production for *D.labrax*. 10

CHAPTER 3

- FIGURE 3.1. Schematic diagram with the different chemical disinfection treatments, to which *D.labrax* eggs and larvae were subjected. 30
- FIGURE 3.2. Sampling schedule for microbiological analysis in respect to the first and second experimental sets. 31
- FIGURE 3.3. Morphometric measurements and the 3 segments defined throughout the histomorphological analysis – Drawing from a *D.labrax* larva specimen at 15 DAH. 34
- FIGURE 3.4. Schematic diagram from the different treatment holding regimes to which *D.labrax* eggs and larvae were submitted. 36

CHAPTER 4

- FIGURE 4.1. Survival rate (%) of *D.labrax* larvae from batch B, during the eleven-day incubation period in multi-well test plates. 41
- FIGURE 4.2. Longitudinal SEM micrographs, showing *D.labrax* newly hatched larvae from batch B replicates, following egg exposure to different surface disinfection approaches. 45
- FIGURE 4.3. SEM micrographs of *D.labrax* larvae, showing in detail the anterior rostral region of the sampled specimen. 46
- FIGURE 4.4. TO 4.8. SEM micrographs of *D.labrax* larvae, following egg exposure to different surface disinfection procedures. 47
- FIGURE 4.9. Hatching percentage rate (%) of *D.labrax* eggs from batch B, incubating for 4 days in 500 ml glass bottles, at 15°C ± 1°C. 48
- FIGURE 4.10. Hatching percentage rate (%) of *D.labrax* eggs from batch D, incubating for 3 days in multi-well plates, at 15°C ± 1°C. 48
- FIGURE 4.11. Evaluation, along the thirteen-day period, of the outcome effect in the survival rate (%) of sea bass larvae, incubated in two different rotation devices, when compared with the results obtained in the motionless experimental setup. 49
- FIGURE 4.12. Evaluation of different treatment holding regimes, concerning the effect that different individual strains have on the survival rate (%) of grown gnotobiotically incubated *D.labrax* larvae. 51