

Selected Water Quality Topics Related to Larval Shrimp Culture

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Chlorination Chemicals

Chlorine gas	Cl_2
Sodium hypochlorite (bleach)	NaOCl
Calcium hypochlorite (HTH)	Ca(OCl)_2
Chlorine dioxide	ClO_2

Chlorine dioxide usually generated on site from sodium chlorite and hypochlorous acid:



Chlorine Species in Chlorination

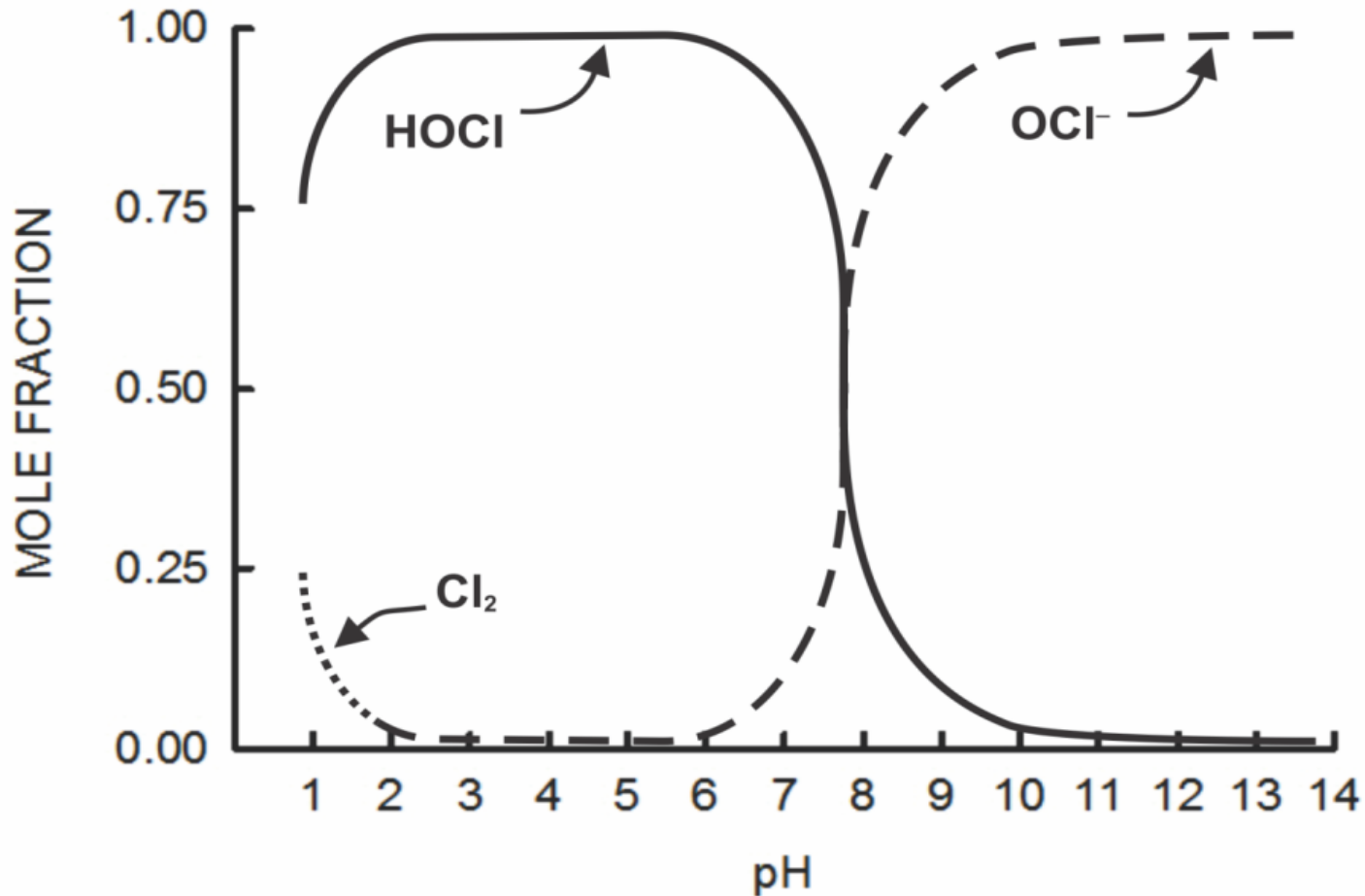


Cl_2 = gaseous chlorine (highly toxic)

HOCl = hypochlorous acid (highly toxic)

OCl^- = hypochlorite ion (less toxic)

Cl^- = chloride (not toxic)



Effect of pH on the concentration of free chloride residuals in water.

Chlorine Demand and Free Chlorine Residual

- Oxidizes reduced inorganic ions (Fe^{2+} , Mn^{2+} , NO_2^- , H_2S , etc.) and organic matter. In these reactions Cl_2 , HOCl , and OCl^- are reduced to Cl^- .
- Forms chloramines, e.g., $\text{NH}_3 + \text{HOCl} = \text{NH}_2\text{Cl} + \text{H}_2\text{O}$.
- Forms organochlorine compounds with phenol, humic acid, and organic nitrogen compounds.
- Cl_2 , HOCl , and OCl^- remaining after reactions is the free chlorine residual.

Effective Chlorine Dose

- Chlorine residual = chlorine dose – chlorine demand.
- Chlorine dose = desired chlorine residual + chlorine demand.
- For drinking water treatment, the goal usually is to obtain a free chlorine residual of 0.2 to 0.5 mg/L.
- But, in shrimp hatcheries, a concentration of 1-2 mg/L would likely be better.

Kill Time

Disinfection (kill) is proportional to disinfectant concentration × exposure time

$$\text{Kill time (min)} = \frac{K}{\text{Free chlorine residual (mg/L)}}$$

K for free chlorine residuals (>10°C):

<u>pH</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>pH</u>	<u>K</u>
6.5	4	8.0	16
7.0	8	8.5	20
7.5	12	9.0	24

Example: Kill time for 1.1 mg/L residual chlorine at pH 8.0 at which K = 16:

$$\text{Kill time} = \frac{16}{1.1} = 14 \text{ min.}$$

Deactivation of Chlorine Residuals

- Sunlight



- Sodium thiosulfate:



7 mg/L sodium thiosulfate will remove 1 mg/L Cl_2 .

Alternative Methods of Water Disinfection

- **Ozonation – ozone (O_3), no residues.**
- **Chloramination – Chloramine (NH_2Cl); longer residual time than chlorination**
- **Bromination and Iodinization – less toxic to pathogens than chlorination.**
- **Filtration – requires very fine filter.**
- **UV Radiation – UV is toxic and it also generates ozone.**

Ionic Imbalance

- **Salinity results almost totally from major ions, but even with acceptable salinity, ionic imbalances may occur.**
- **Ionic imbalance can result in molting problems, stress, poor growth, and mortality of shrimp.**
- **The most important concern is the molar ratio of Na^+/K^+ , but the molar ratio $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Ca}^{2+}$ also is important.**

Contractions of major ions in normal seawater.

Anions	mg/L	Cations	mg/L
Cl ⁻ (chloride)	19,000	Na ⁺ (sodium)	10,500
SO ₄ ²⁻ (sulfate)	2,700	Mg ²⁺ (magnesium)	1,350
HCO ₃ ⁻ (bicarbonate)	142	Ca ²⁺ (calcium)	400
Br ⁻ (bromide)	65	K ⁺ (potassium)	380

Molar ratios:

$$\text{Na}^+/\text{K}^+ = \frac{10,500 \text{ mg/L} \div 23,000 \text{ mg Na}^+/\text{mole}}{380 \text{ mg/L} \div 39,100 \text{ mg K}^+/\text{mole}} = \frac{0.457}{0.00971} = 47.1.$$

$$\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Ca}^{2+} = \frac{1,350 \text{ mg/L} \div 24,310 \text{ mg Mg}^+/\text{mole}}{400 \text{ mg/L} \div 40,080 \text{ mg Ca}^{2+}/\text{mole}} = \frac{0.0555}{0.00998} = 5.56.$$

Potassium and Magnesium Sources

- Muriate of potash fertilizer (KCl); 50% K⁺: 1 mg KCl/L gives 0.5 mg K⁺/L.
- K-Mag[®] (potassium magnesium sulfate); 17.8% K⁺ and 10.5% Mg²⁺: 1 mg/L K-Mag gives 0.178 mg K⁺/L and 0.105 mg Mg²⁺/L.
- Epsom salt (MgSO₄·7H₂O); 9.86% Mg²⁺: 1 mg/L Epsom salt gives 0.099 mg Mg²⁺/L.
- Magnesium chloride (MgCl₂·6H₂O); 12.0% Mg²⁺: 1 mg/L magnesium chloride gives 0.12 mg Mg²⁺/L.

Potassium Rate to Balance Na⁺/K⁺ Ratio

- Suppose water has 19,000 mg Na⁺/L
9 g Na⁺/L ÷ 23 g/mole = 0.391 M) and
0.2 g K⁺/L (0.2 g /L ÷ 39.1 = 0.0051 M)
- Na⁺/K⁺ = 0.391/0.0051 = 76.7.
- Na⁺/K⁺ seawater = 47.1.
- 0.391/K⁺ = 47.1; K⁺ = 0.0083 M.
- Increase K⁺ by 0.0083 – 0.0051 M or by 0.0032 M.
- 0.0032 mole/L × 39.1 g K⁺/mole = 0.125 g/L = 125 mg K/L.

Ion concentrations in evaporating seawater at different salinities.

Ion (mg/L)	Salinity (mg/L)					
	28,550	56,390	99,410	206,330	302,050	360,150
Cl	15,820	31,240	55,030	116,700	172,600	188,400
SO ₄	2,206	4,367	7,732	13,210	17,290	50,890
Na	8,750	17,310	30,550	64,920	96,070	71,480
Mg	1,056	2,080	3,649	7,744	11,500	36,450
Ca	342	667	1,159	1,017	547	175
K	317	625	1,102	2,337	3,455	10,890
Ratios						
Na/K	46.9	47	47.1	47.2	47.3	11.2
Mg/Ca	5.1	5.1	5.2	12.5	34.5	343.0

Composition (mg/L) for major ions in two commercial ocean water salt mixes as compared to seawater composition.

Ion	Crystal Reef	Instant Ocean	seawater
Cl⁻	19,778	19,290	19,000
Na	10,114	10,780	10,500
SO₄	3,324	2,660	2,700
Mg	1,209	1,320	1,350
Ca	380	400	400
K	359	420	380
Br	9	56	65

Quantities of salts diluted to exactly 1.000 L for preparation three selected artificial seawater formulae.

Salt	Salt quantity (g/L)		
	McClendon et al. (1917)	Subow (1931)	Lyman and Fleming (1940)
NaCl	26.726	26.518	23.476
MgCl ₂	2.260	2.447	4.981
MgSO ₄	3.248	3.305	3.917
CaCl ₂	1.153	1.141	1.102
KCl	0.721	0.725	0.664
NaHCO ₃	0.198	0.202	0.192
NaBr	0.058	0.083	0.096
H ₃ BO ₃	0.058	---	0.026
Total	34.441	34.421	34.481

Calcium Carbonate Saturation Index

- $\text{HCO}_3^- \leftrightarrow \text{H}^+ + \text{CO}_3^{2-}$.
- $\text{CO}_3^{2-}:\text{HCO}_3^-$ ratio increases with greater pH.
- When CO_3^{2-} and Ca^{2+} concentrations exceed the solubility of CaCO_3 , CaCO_3 precipitates.
- Online CaCO_3 saturation calculators (best one is Langelier Saturation Index) calculate CaCO_3 saturation pH. Need: total alkalinity; calcium; total dissolved solids (salinity); water temperature; pH.

Calcium Carbonate Encrustation

- Calcium carbonate (CaCO_3) can precipitate from water in hatcheries.
- A deposit of CaCO_3 can develop on shrimp and cause mortality.
- Production in pH by adding acid can avoid this problem.

Carbohydrate Addition in Biofloc Systems

- Ammonia-N is removed from water by bacteria and converted to protein.
- $O-C + \text{Ammonia-N} \rightarrow \text{Bacterial-C} + \text{CO}_2$.
- Bacteria have a carbon assimilation efficiency of 5-10%.
- This means that 1 g O-C yields 0.05-0.1 g C in bacteria and 0.90-0.95 g C in CO_2 .

Amount of Ammonia-Nitrogen Required in Bacteria Growth

- Bacteria are about 50% O-C and 10% N (dry matter basis).
- Microbial oxidation of 1 g O-C results in 0.1-0.2 g bacterial biomass (e.g., 0.05 g bacterial-C ÷ 0.5 g C/g bacteria = 0.1 g bacteria).
- It follows that 0.1-0.2 g bacteria contain 0.01 to 0.02 g N (e.g., 0.1 g bacteria × 0.1 g N/g bacteria = 0.01 N/g).

Removal of Ammonia-N by Bacteria

- When a pure carbohydrate (CH_2O) is the source of O-C, ammonia-N is removed from the water for utilization by bacteria oxidizing the CH_2O . From 0.01 to 0.02 g N will be removed for the oxidation of 1 g O-C.
- Utilization of 1 mg/L CH_2O -C by bacteria will result in the release of 0.90-0.95 mg/L CO_2 -C, production of 0.1-0.2 mg/L bacteria, and removal of 0.01-0.02 mg/L ammonia-N.

Ammonia-N Removal by Microbial Utilization of Sugar

- **Table sugar or sucrose ($C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$) contains 42% C.**
- **To remove 1 mg/L ammonia-N (at 10% carbon assimilation efficiency):**
 - **1 mg/L ammonia-N \div 0.02 mg N removed/g O-C utilized = 50 mg O-C/L.**
 - **50 mg O-C/L \div (42% C in sugar/100) = 119 mg sugar/L.**

Ammonia-N Removal by Black Strap Molasses (BSM)

- BSM is 21% C.
- $50 \text{ mg O-C/L} \div 0.21\% \text{ C in BSM} = 238 \text{ mg BSM/L}$

Potential O-C Equivalent of Feed

- **Feed = 35% crude protein (5.60% N); shrimp = 2.75% N; FCR = 1.5.**
- **1.5 kg feed = 1.0 kg shrimp**
0.084 kg N in feed = 0.0275 kg N in shrimp
Ammonia N = (0.084 kg N – 0.0275 kg N) = 0.0565 kg
- **1 kg ammonia-N = 119 kg sugar**
119 kg O-C/kg N × 0.0565 kg N = 6.7 kg sugar/kg feed.
- **For BSM = 238 kg O-C/kg N × 0.0565 kg N = 13.4 kg BSM/kg feed.**

Recommendation on Carbohydrate Addition in Biofloc Systems

- Feed has C/N ratio of 7-8.
- Increasing C/N ratio to 12 to 15 will favor bacterial activity.
- Apply 0.5-1 kg CH₂O (sugar) per kilogram of feed added.

Reason that Lower Carbohydrate Rate is Used

- **Nitrification – 25 to 50% of ammonia-N is oxidized to nitrate-N by nitrifying bacteria.**
- **There are some phytoplankton in most floc systems that remove ammonia-N for growth.**
- **Some ammonia diffuses into the air.**
- **Some of the organic N in feces and uneaten feed is not oxidized to ammonia-N.**

Nitrification

- $\text{NH}_4\text{-N} + 2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow \text{NO}_3^- + 2\text{H}^+ + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$.
- The reaction requires oxygen and produces acidity (decreases alkalinity and pH).
- For each milligram per liter of ammonia-N oxidized, 4.57 mg/L dissolved oxygen is removed and 7.14 mg/L of alkalinity is neutralized.
- The potential acidity is equivalent to about 0.4 kg CaCO_3 /kg feed or about 0.67 kg sodium bicarbonate/kg feed.

Aeration Requirements

- In culture tanks, the oxygen requirement is about 1.1-1.2 kg O₂/kg feed.
- In biofloc systems, O₂ is used to oxidize feed waste as well as added organic matter.
- 1 kg CH₂O (40% C), requires about 1.07 kg O₂/kg CH₂O – roughly the same as feed.