

Comparative susceptibility of veliger larvae of four bivalve mollusks to a *Vibrio alginolyticus* strain

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ABSTRACT: The susceptibility of 7 d old veliger larvae of the scallops *Argopecten ventricosus* and *Nodipecten subnodosus*, the penshell *Atrina maura*, and the Pacific oyster *Crassostrea gigas* to a pathogenic strain of *Vibrio alginolyticus* was investigated by challenging the larvae with different bacterial concentrations in a semi-static assay. The results indicate that the larvae of the two scallop species are more susceptible to the *V. alginolyticus* strain than those of the oyster and the penshell. Signs of the disease were similar to bacillary necrosis described in previous work. Interspecies differences in susceptibility to pathogens are discussed.