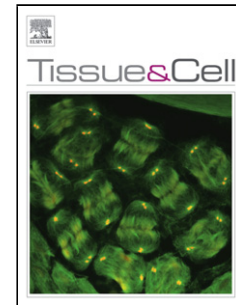


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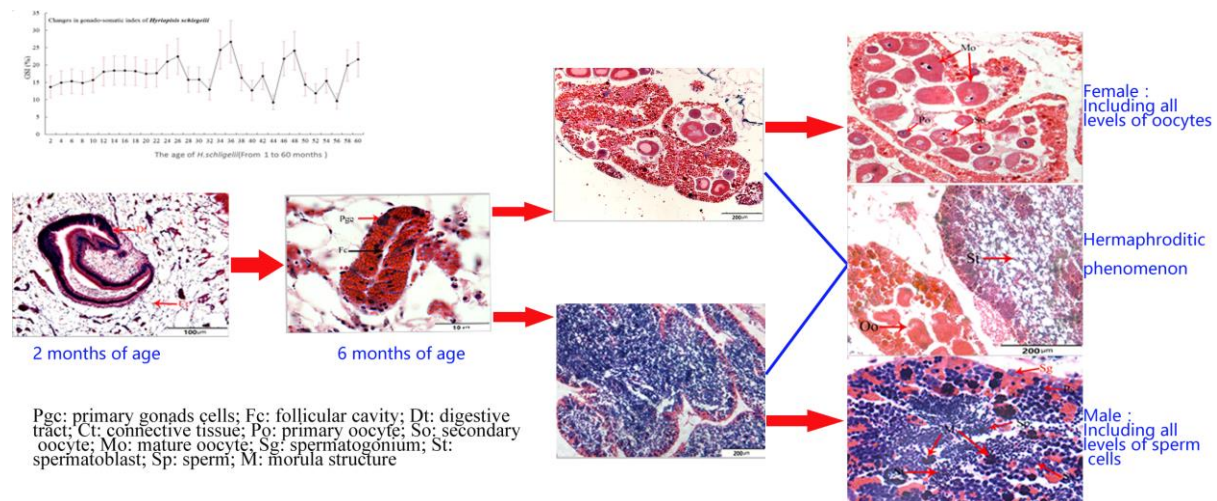
Structural Characteristics of Gonadal Development and Hermaphroditic Phenomenon in Freshwater Pearl Mussel, *Sinohyriopsis schlegelii* (*Hyriopsis schlegelii*)

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Graphical abstract



Highlights

- The development of the gonads was carefully followed for five years in *Hyriopsis schlegelii*.
- Three major stages of gonadal development were observed.
- We determined the ripening time and described the reproductive cycle.
- Hermaphroditism was reported for the first time in *Hyriopsis schlegelii*.

Abstract:

The period of gonads development was first studied from one to five years in the freshwater pearl mussel *Hyriopsis schlegelii*. It lasted for 36 months and was divided into three main stages: initiation of gonad formation, a stable growth phase, and a reproductive

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