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Spawn in two deep-sea volute gastropods (Neogastropoda: Volutidae) from southwestern Atlantic waters.

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Abstract

The gastropods *Odontocymbiola pescalia* and *Provocator corderoi* and their egg capsules were collected by the R/V Puerto Deseado from the Mar del Plata Submarine Canyon (~37°53′ S, at depths of 291-1404 m) and from Burdwood Bank (~54°27′ S, 128-785 m). *Odontocymbiola pescalia* egg capsules measured 15.67 ± 3.38 mm in diameter. They were subspherical in shape with an external calcareous layer. Each egg capsule contained 3-5 embryos and white material as extra embryonic food. Embryos grew to a size of up to 9.3 ± 1.1 mm in mean shell length before hatching as crawling juveniles. The spawn of *P. corderoi* consisted of a single dome shaped egg capsule of 14.17 ± 1.5 mm in diameter, attached to hard substrata by a basal membrane with a rounded outline. A curved semilunar furrow (seam) on one side of the capsules was always present. The number of embryos per capsule was 2-6. Embryos hatched as crawling juveniles with a shell length of 5.9 ± 0.6 mm.

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