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Effects of oxygen deficit on post-smolt salmon. Trial II

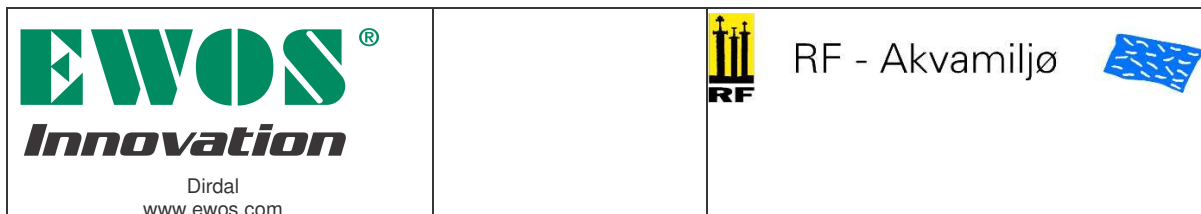
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Preface

The study at EWOS Innovation in Dirdal was conducted as collaboration between EWOS Innovation and Rogaland Research. Tests of the effects of dissolved oxygen (DO) deficit on salmon post-smolt are a vital part of the on-going R&D project involving EWOS Innovation – OxSeaVision (OSV) – RF. The reported study was carried out at high summer temperature (mainly ca. 15 °C) – unlike the formerly reported study conducted at 8 – 9 °C.

In the present project, Leif Pedersen, Marianne Gjesdal and Kristian Rage at Dirdal have played an important role in collecting data, inspecting measuring equipment, etc. throughout the sampling period. Per Arne Oftedal conducted the set-up of technical facilities prior to sampling. Besides, Dr. Viv Crampton, research manager at EWOS Innovation, is an important decision maker, especially in the planning process.

Generally, the authors have been involved in all project stages. Anne Brit Fjermedal, has been the local day-to-day head of the project.

The project was financially supported by EWOS and Nor. Res. Board (SkatteFUNN – based project). Per Hølland was project manager of the SkatteFUNN project (No. 24123).

Åge Molversmyr, senior research scientist at RF, has quality ensured the report.

Stavanger, 05 April 2005



Asbjørn Bergheim, project leader
(RF)

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1 Summary

Performance of post-smolt Atlantic salmon was studied in tanks at four different levels of dissolved oxygen (DO) at 15 – 16 °C: 60 %, 75 %, 90 % and diurnally fluctuating between 60 and 90 % of saturation. Due to some technical problems, the fish stock in tanks representing the lowest DO group (pre-set: 60 %) experienced an overall average DO level of 66 - 67 % of saturation. After the 56-day test period, the fish was subject to a 2-month recovery phase without any oxygen deficit and lower temperature (10 - 12 °C). The trial was a follow-up of the DO deficit project performed at EWOS Innovation Dirdal in 2002 at lower temperature.

Salmon of 2.5 – 3 kg was stocked in 3 m³ tanks in July 2004 at a density of 35 – 40 kg per m³. Commercial extruded feed was fed to satiation and lost feed was collected in the individual tank.

A decreased growth rate and feed utilisation was observed with reduced DO level but the falling trend was not statistically proved. The obvious reason for the lacking significance was a highly varying performance among tanks within the different DO groups. This seemed to be partly due to varying sexual maturation, from 3 to 22 % in the individual tank, reducing the feed utilisation in several tanks irrespective of DO levels. In some tanks, there were also episodic problems to control the DO concentration. In the control group (90% of DO saturation) representing “optimum” rearing conditions, the fish performance was quite poorer than expected.

In the low DO group, the growth rate (SGR) was 40 – 50% lower and the feed conversion ration (FCR) ca. 30% higher compared with in the other groups. The feed quantity consumed in this group (low DO) was correspondingly reduced. During the succeeding recovery phase, the fish performance in the Low DO group was still poorer than at higher DO levels. The mortality rate was below 0.5% in all four groups.

Gill ventilation frequency, indicating respiratory stress, was found to increase significantly at low and fluctuating DO levels compared with at stable DO levels above 75% of saturation. A slight increase was also observed when reducing DO saturation from 90% to 75%, from ca. 60 to 65 – 70 opercular movements per minute (60% DO and fluctuating DO: 78 – 87 movements per min).

This trial will be repeated studying effects on younger post-smolt salmon (1 – 2 kg) of decreased DO concentrations in the range 95 to 65% of saturation at the same temperature level.

2 Introduction

Water temperature, dissolved oxygen concentration (DO) and photoperiod are potentially influencing on feed intake, metabolic rate and energy expenditure, and thus, on growth in fish (e.g. Brett, 1979). In salmonids, the link between DO and growth rate/feed consumption is well documented for juvenile rainbow trout (Pedersen, 1987) and young Pacific salmon (Brett and Blackburn, 1981), while there is limited available information of 'critical' DO levels for Atlantic salmon. Buentello *et al.* (2000) has estimated the optimal temperature – DO combinations for feed consumption, feed conversion efficiency and growth of channel catfish.

The basic connection between ambient DO and growth rate is described by Jobling (1993), Figure 1. When the level of DO is low, feed intake may be suppressed probably due to the fact that reduced oxygen availability would be unable to support the high energy demands of well-fed fish. At low DO, the reduced feed intake would obviously have consequences for growth. Therefore, it is highly important to determine the critical level of DO at which feed intake and growth become affected in farmed fish species.

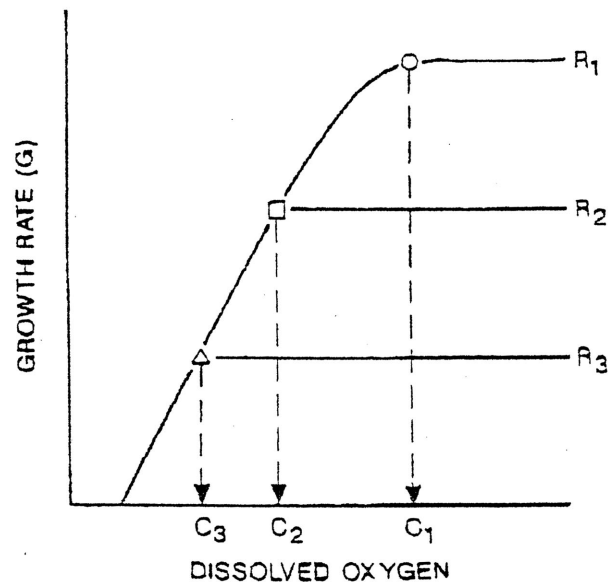


Figure 1. Influence of level of dissolved oxygen (DO) upon growth rate of fish fed three different feed levels (R_1 : high, R_2 : intermediate, R_3 : low feeding rate), Jobling (1993). C_1 , C_2 , C_3 : critical levels of DO required for the maintenance of maximum growth at high, intermediate and low feeding rates, respectively

In an elucidative experiment, metabolic rate, feed utilisation and growth rate in rainbow trout of 100 g were studied within the DO range 4 - 12 mg/L at 15 °C (Pedersen, 1985

& 1987, Figure 2). The critical level of DO for feed intake (appetite) was about 6 mg/L (ca. 60 % of saturation), while the critical level for growth rate and feed utilisation was about 7 mg/L (ca. 70 % of saturation) for fish fed maximum ration. Regarding assimilation of energy and excretion rate of ammonia ($\text{NH}_4 + \text{NH}_3$) no relation to DO was found.

At 50 % of DO saturation (5 mg/L), the growth rate (SGR) of rainbow trout is only half of the rate at DO above 70 % (7 mg/L), while the feed utilisation is 44 % lower (FCR: 1.56 and 1.08 kg/kg, respectively, Figure 2). In other words, this study indicates that DO in tanks stocked with rainbow trout should be kept above 70 – 80 % of saturation at optimal temperature in order to utilise the growth potential.

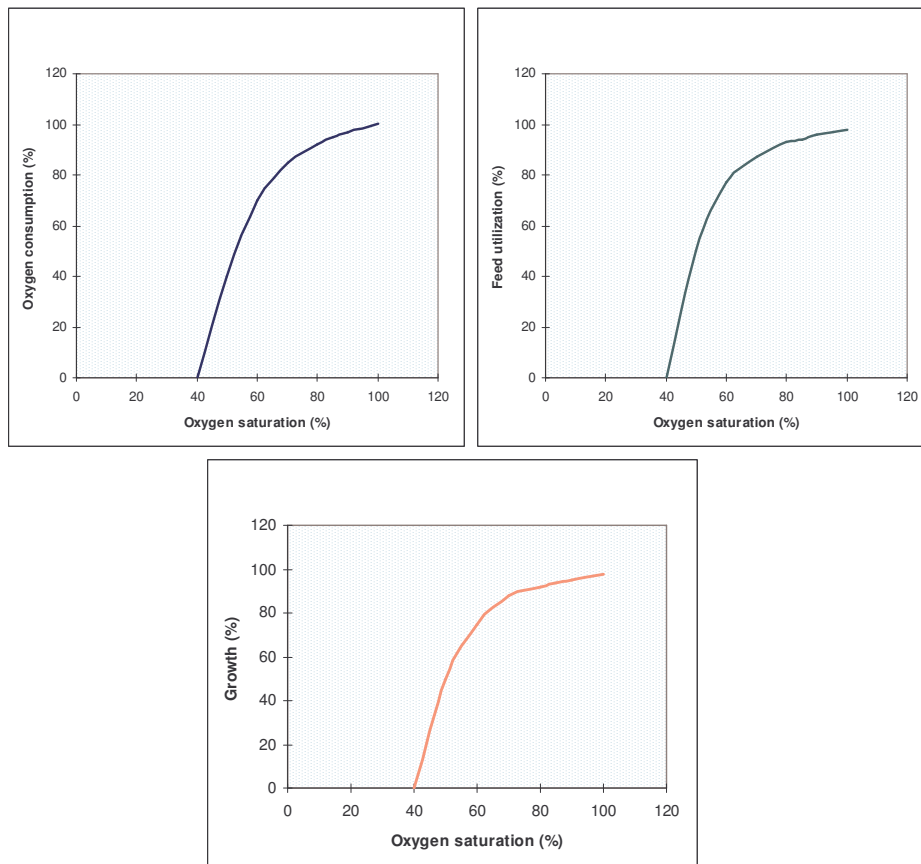


Figure 2. Oxygen consumption (a), feed utilisation (b) and growth rate (c) at maximum feed ration in rainbow trout (fish size: 100 g, temperature: 15 °C) in the following DO range: 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.5, 10 and 12 mg/L (40 – 120 % of saturation). Source: Pedersen (1985, 1987)

A few studies have been carried out to assess the effects of reduced DO on post-smolt Atlantic salmon. The lower limit for optimal growth of adult salmon in tanks has been reported to be 6 mg/L at temperature below 10 °C (Berg & Danielsberg (1993). Seymour *et al.* (1992) demonstrated 20 % reduced growth in tanks stocked with salmon (0.5 – 1.5 kg) when the frequency of low DO concentrations in the range 4 – 6 mg/L turned 10 % (8 – 10 °C, sampling time: 6 months).

Seland & Berg (1993) reported unaffected growth rate and feed conversion ratio (FCR) in salmon of 170 – 850 g exposed to short-term DO drops from 7 – 8 mg/L (ca. 75 % of saturation at 8 – 9 °C) down to 2 – 3 mg/L (< 25%). The DO drops were repeated 2 – 3 times during one week, each drop lasting for 6 – 8 hrs (< 5 mg/L for 3 – 6 hrs).

In another study, no negative effects were reported on growth, mortality, FCR or oxygen consumption in salmon at DO fluctuations of 4 – 13 mg/L during a 126 day period. Throughout the period, DO concentrations below 6 mg/L were rare (Forsberg & Bergheim, 1996).

The presented project is a follow-up of a trial studying the effects of reduced DO concentrations (50 – 100 % of saturation) on adult Atlantic salmon at relatively low temperature (8 – 9 °C), Bergheim *et al.* 2002. The first study (Trial I) clearly indicated reduced growth and feed utilisation even at moderate DO deficit (Figure 3).

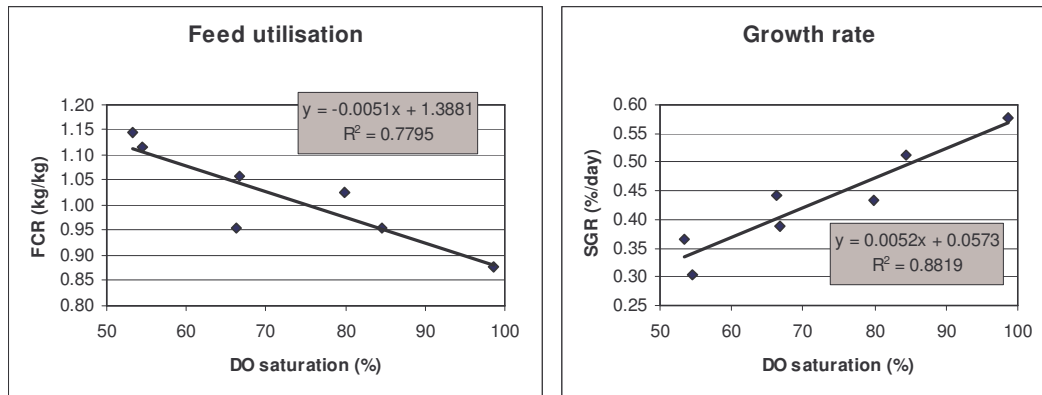


Figure 3. Feed utilisation (FCR) and growth (g) in post-smolt Atlantic salmon exposed to four levels of DO concentrations at low temperature (8 – 9 °C). Test period: 24 April – 17 June 2002. EWOS Innovation Dirdal

Justification

The objectives of the described study were the following:

- To obtain basic knowledge of the relation between DO level and feed utilisation and growth in post-smolt Atlantic salmon at *summer temperature*

- To contribute to improved insight of stress reactions at decreased DO concentrations
- To estimate critical DO concentrations of salmon where oxygen addition is recommendable

3 Material and methods

3.1 Experimental set-up

The fish test was performed in the new Research Hall at EWOS Innovation in Dirdal during two phases:

Test phase: 24/25 August – 19/20 October 2004 (56 days), different DO levels (15-16 °C)

Recovery phase: 19/20 October – 20/21 December 2004 (62 days), 90 – 100 % DO saturation, (10 – 12 °C)

Fish tanks

The facilities of the new Research Hall are described by Hølland and Bergheim (2005). Introduction of the energy system allows a temperature range from 8 to 16 °C in the tanks.

Eighteen circular tanks of 2.0 m diameter and 1.15 m water depth (water volume: 3,000 L) were used. The tanks were supplied seawater (27 – 30 ppt salinity, ca. 8.5 °C temperature) pumped from 90 m depth. A flow of 40 L/min per tank was kept throughout the period which corresponded to a specific flow above 0.3 L/kg · min. The DO level of inlet water to the tanks was ca. 100 % of saturation and oxygen was supplied by diffusers placed on the tank bottom (system: GasX II from OxSeaVision). Initially, the flow rate was adjusted to the DO consumption in the tanks based on a PLC control system. Four DO concentrations were kept: 66-67 %, 75 %, 90 % and diurnally fluctuating DO between 90 and 60 % of saturation. The tank arrangement was the following:

High DO group	(90 % of saturation):	Tank No. 1, 5, 11 (3 replicates)
Medium DO group	(75 % of saturation):	Tank No. 3, 10, 13, 17 (4 replicates)
Low DO group	(66 % of saturation):	Tank No. 6, 8, 16 (3 replicates)
Fluctuating DO group	(90 – 60 % of saturation):	Tank No. 2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 18 (8 replicates)

From stocking in late July, temperature was gradually increased to 14 – 15 °C at the time of project start, kept around 16°C throughout the test phase and then reduced to 10 – 12 °C in the recovery phase.

The tanks are equipped with a system which separates lost feed and faeces, and collects the lost feed pellets (system: Hølland Teknologi).

Fish stock

About 700 adult salmon of the AquaGen strain were stocked in the tanks in July 2004 (Week 29). The eggs were delivered from Erfjord Stamfisk in January 2002 and became smolt in spring 2003. All fish were individually marked at time of stocking (pit tag). Until individual weighing and length measuring on 24 August, the temperature was gradually increased by about one degree per week and the DO concentration was kept stable at about 90% of saturation. The stocking density at start was 37 – 40 individuals with a mean weight of 2.5 – 2.8 kg (94 – 113 kg, i.e. 31 – 38 kg per m³) and at the end of the trial in December: a mean weight of 3.0 – 3.8 kg, a biomass per tank of 115 – 149 kg corresponding to a density of 38 – 50 kg per m³.

The feed applied was EWOS pyramid ytelse (37/40 prt/oil, GE 26.8 MJ/kg) and EWOS pyramid kvalitet (40/30 prt/oil, GE 24.4 MJ/kg). These are commercial products from EWOS Norway. EWOS pyramid kvalitet was fed to all tanks apart from four tanks at diurnally varying DO level.

Feed consumed per tank was calculated as follows:

Feed consumed (kg) = Supplied feed – Lost feed, where

supplied feed was calculated as feed quantity (kg) put in the automat less the residual feed after 14 days, while lost feed was the totally collected feed loss (kg) during 14 days (daily collected). In practice, the daily number of lost pellets is counted per tank and feed loss is then calculated based on the weight of 20 dry pellets.

3.2 Measuring program

The protocol is briefly described in Table 1.

Oxygen, temperature and salinity

DO and temperature in each tank were monitored continually (system: Visual Control Centre), readings were logged twice a minute (30 sec intervals). DO sensors (type: SensorX) were calibrated once a month (calibration in air). In the inlet water, salinity was measured daily (system: Aanderaa Instruments, Display Unit 3017/Sensor Unit 3210).

Flow

The flow rate of each tank was adjusted to 40 L/min twice (reading the flow meter), on 24-25 August and on 19-20 October. The rate was stable throughout the period (constant water pressure).

Fish stock, feeding routine etc

Individual fish weight (1 g) and length (fork length, 0.5 cm) was measured at start (24 Aug), at the end of the trial stage (19/20 Oct) and at the end of the recovery phase (20/21 Dec). Fish were anaesthetised using Aqui-S (clove oil) at start and in the intermediary sampling. At the final sampling, fish were killed and individual weight of bled fish was measured (UBW: body weight of bled, ungutted fish). Then, gonads were weighed (g) and sex determined.

Table 1. Sampling program of the oxygen deficit project (Part II) at EWOS Innovation Dirdal 24/25 August – 20/21 December 2004). Trial phase: 24/25 Aug – 19/20 Oct, Recovery phase: 19/20 Oct – 20/21 Dec.

Parameter	Sampling point	Frequency
Water quality:		
Temperature (°C)	Inlet water	Daily
DO (mg/L)	In each tank	Continuous
Salinity (ppt)	Inlet water	Daily
Water flow (L/min)	Inlet each tank	Adjusted 24-25 August & 19-20 October
Fish stock:		
Individual size, weight (g) & length (cm)	Each tank	24-25 August, 19-20 October & 20-21 December
Mortality		Daily
Feed rate, g/day	Each tank	Fortnightly
Feed loss	Outlet each tank	Daily

Respiration frequency

Respiration frequency of three individuals per tank was measured three times, on 10 September, 24 September and on 6 October. The readings were carried out through the inspection window based on a method described by Fivelstad *et al.* (2003): the time consumed of 25 respiratory cycles (mouth or operculum movements) measured by a stop watch. The results are expressed as respiratory cycles per minute.

Sexual maturation

The occurrence of sexually matured fish was examined at slaughtering on 20-21 December. In matured fish, the gonads were weighed (GW) and the gonadosomatic index (GSI) was calculated:

$GSI = (GW/UBW) * 100$, where UBW is body weight of bled, ungutted fish

Statistical testing

Student's t-Test (TTEST, Microsoft Excel) was applied for probability testing of differences between fish performance (SGR, FCR, maturation) and ventilation frequency of the four DO groups.

4 Results

4.1 Temperature and dissolved oxygen

Temperature turned 15 °C on 4 September, gradually increased to 16 °C towards the end of the month and then stayed stable (± 0.2 °C) till 15 October (Figure 1).

Daily means and standard deviations of DO are presented for some tanks (Figure 2 – 5), while overall means, standard deviations and max – means are presented for all tanks in Table 2. The period with controlled DO levels was defined from 1 September till 15 October. Due to technical faults, such as power failure, temporary deviations were observed outside the acceptable range, i.e. in Tank 1 and 11. In most tanks, however, the pre-set DO level stayed relatively stable throughout the period. Due to technical problems, the mean DO concentrations in the Low DO tanks, pre-set 60 % of saturation, were 66 – 67 % of saturation. For the other DO groups, included the DO fluctuating group, the overall means did not deviate more than 2 % of saturation from pre-set level. Daily means and max – min are also presented in Appendix.

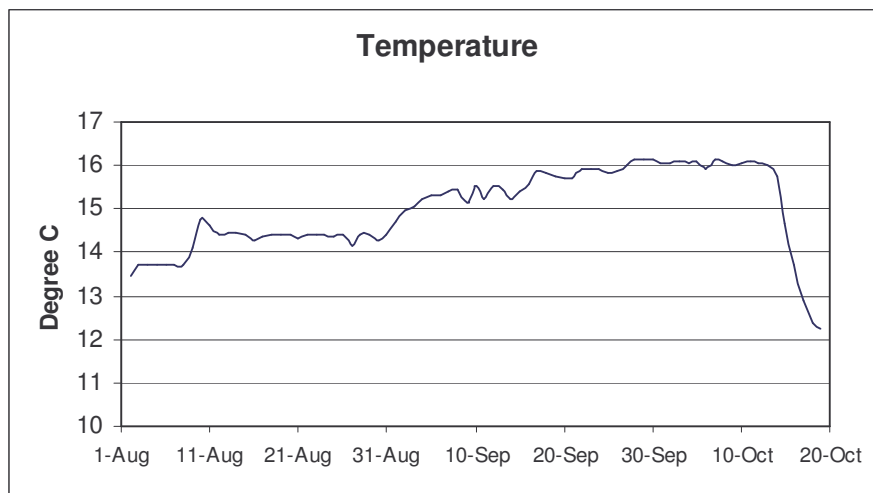


Figure 1. Daily average temperature (°C), Research Hall, EWOS Innovation Dirdal, August – October 2004

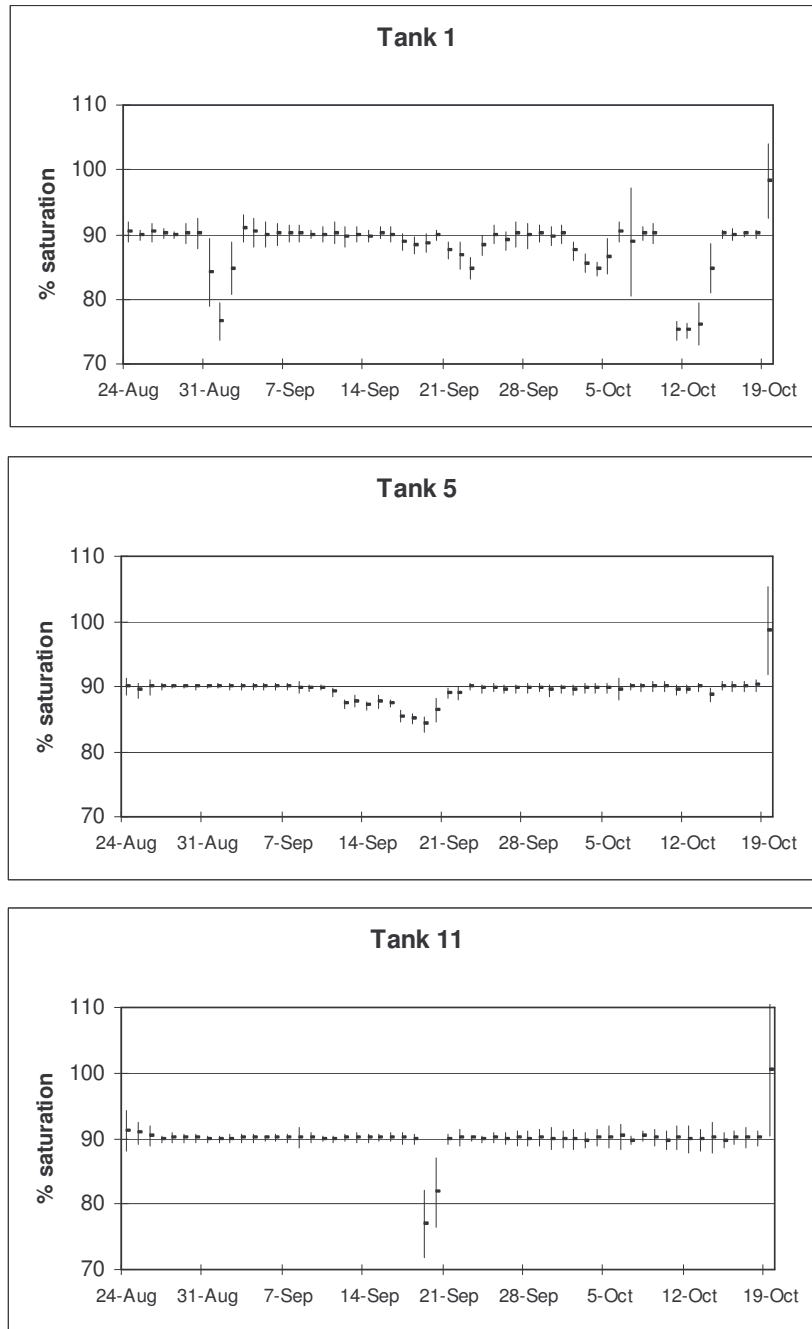


Figure 2. Daily DO means and standard deviations (S.D.) in tanks representing High DO level (90 % of saturation). EWOS Innovation Dirdal, 24 Aug. – 19 Oct. 2004 (DO was adjusted step-wise 24 – 31 Aug. and 15 – 17 Oct.)

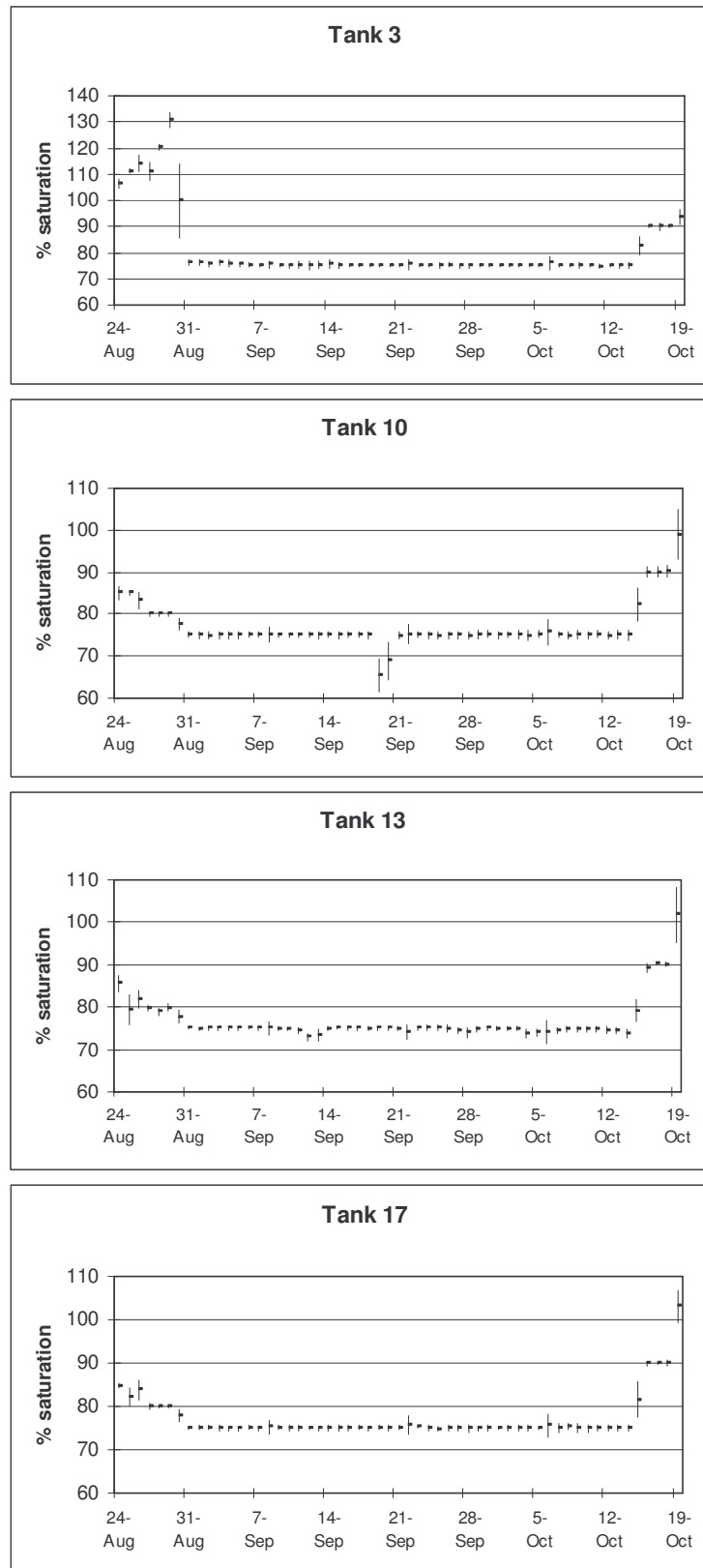


Figure 3. Daily DO means and standard deviations (SD) in tanks representing Medium DO level (75 % of saturation). EWOS Innovation Dirdal, 24 Aug. – 19 Oct. 2004

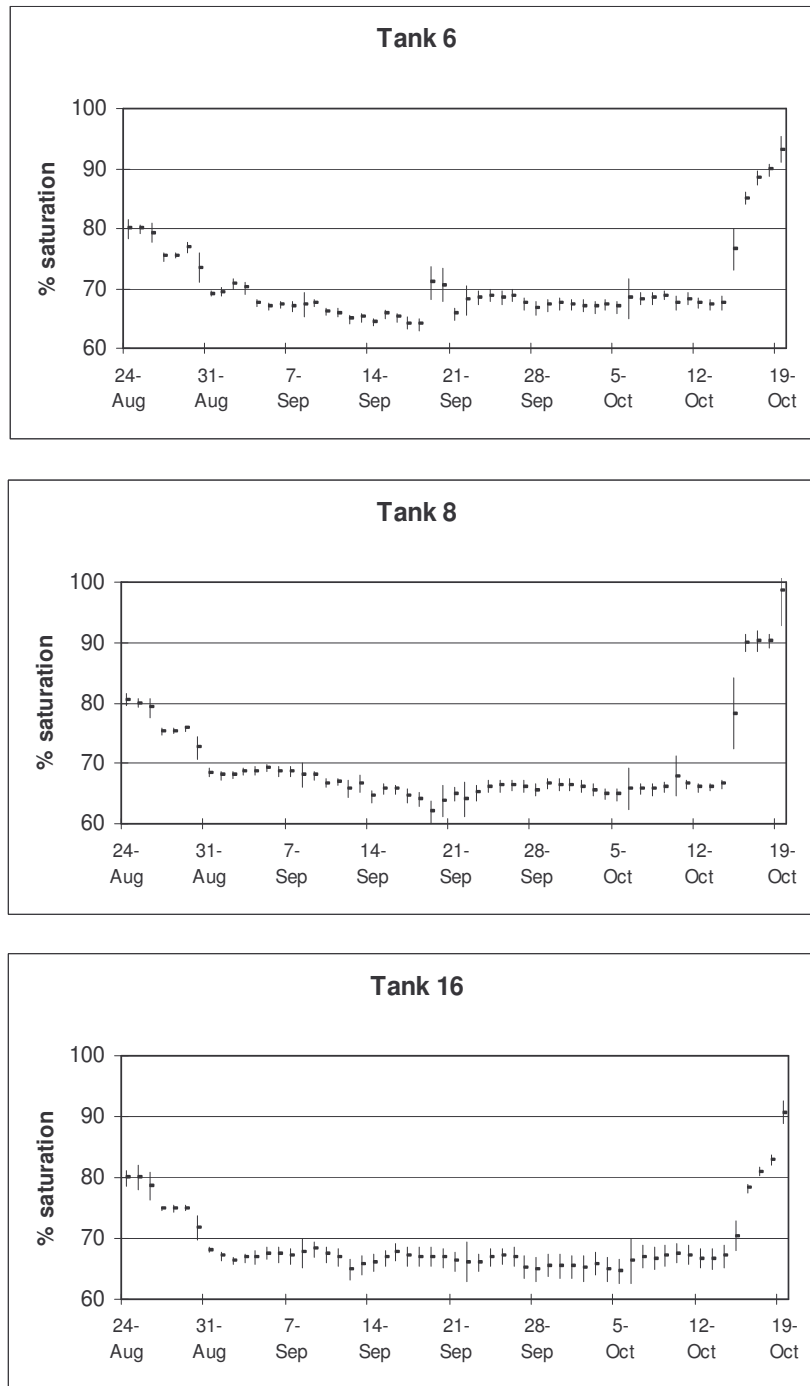


Figure 4. Daily DO means and standard deviations (S.D.) in tanks representing Low DO level (60 % of saturation). EWOS Innovation Dirdal, 24 Aug. – 19 Oct. 2004 (DO was adjusted step-wise 24 – 31 Aug. and 15 – 17 Oct.)

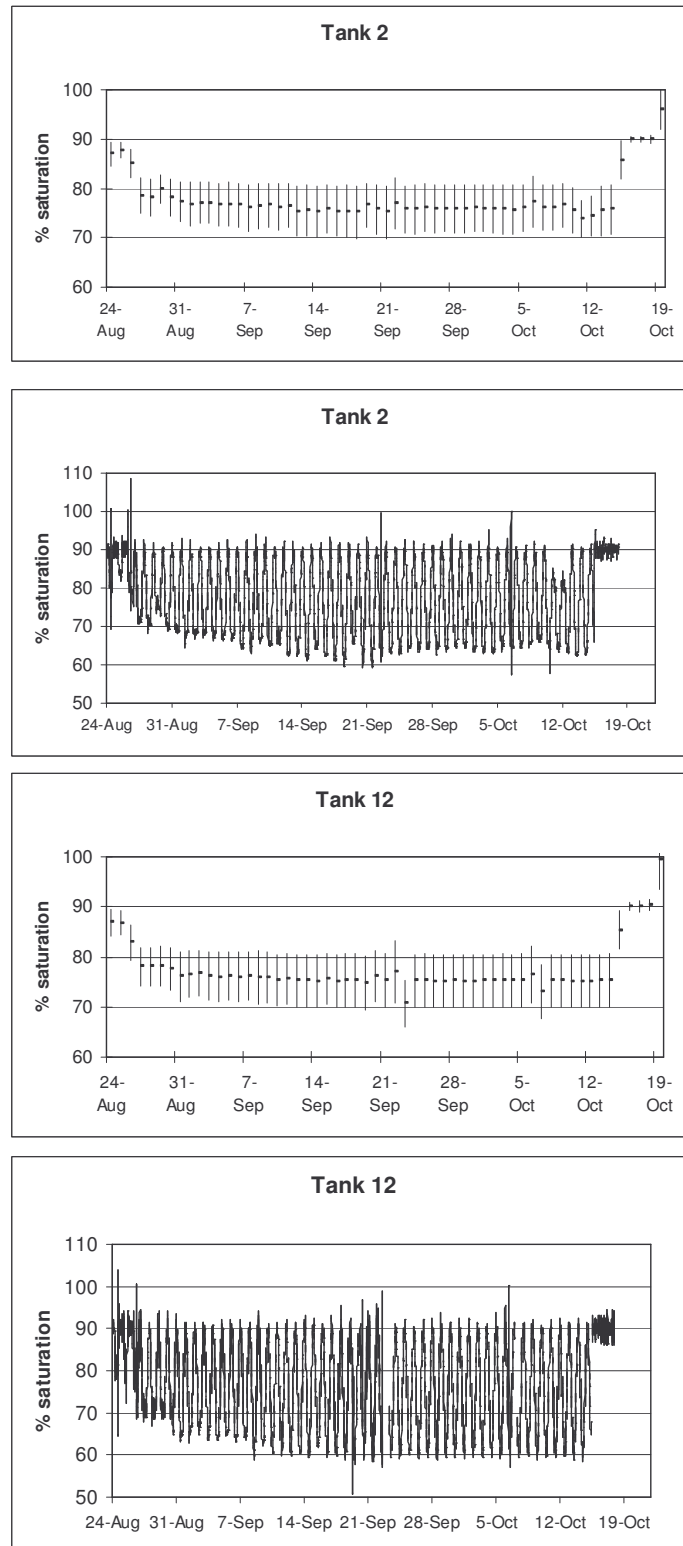


Figure 5. Daily DO means, S.D. and diurnal variations in two tanks with Fluctuating levels (90 - 60% of saturation). EWOS Innovation Dirdal, Aug – Oct. 2004 (DO was adjusted step-wise 24 – 31 Aug. and 15 – 17 Oct.)

Table 2. DO means, S.D. and max – min in 18 tanks with four pre-set DO levels, EWOS Innovation Dirdal, 1 September – 15 October 2004. Unit: % of DO saturation

DO Group	Tank No.	Mean, %	S.D., %	Max – min, %
High (pre-set: 90 %)	1	87.9	5.3	112 - 60
	5	89.0	2.1	100 - 77
	11	89.5	4.0	122 - 55
Medium (pre-set: 75 %)	3	75.2	2.1	100 - 66
	10	74.7	3.2	102 - 49
	13	74.7	1.8	101 - 67
	17	75.0	1.6	100 - 63
Low (pre-set: 60 %)	6	67.3	2.9	102 - 58
	8	66.2	3.0	118 - 49
	16	66.5	3.5	99 - 56
Fluctuating (pre-set: 90 – 60 %)	2	75.9	9.5	100 - 58
	4	76.6	8.9	100 - 58
	7	76.1	9.3	100 - 43
	9	75.3	10.3	103 - 42
	12	75.3	10.4	100 - 51
	14	76.2	9.6	100 - 58
	15	74.7	10.3	101 - 49
	18	75.0	11.0	110 - 51

4.2 Fish growth and feed utilisation

Within the different DO groups there were considerable fluctuations between tanks (Figure 6 - 9, Appendix).

The mean SGR and FCR were the following:

Group	SGR, %/day	FCR, kg/kg
90 % DO saturation	0.27 (0.19)	1.41 (1.50)
75 % DO saturation:	0.24 (0.20)	1.39 (1.48)
66 % DO saturation:	0.13 (0.13)	1.94 (1.80)
Fluctuating DO saturation:	0.25 (0.21)	1.29 (1.45)

(): 2nd period (October – December)

The Low DO group demonstrated a noticeably lower growth rate and feed utilisation compared to the three other groups. However, no significant differences were found ($p > 0.05$) between any group during the two periods, August – October and October – December, due to the high variation between tanks within groups. This in-group variation is also demonstrated in Figure 9 (DO fluctuating group not included). The growth rate was similar in the High, Medium and Fluctuating DO groups (0.24 – 0.27, 0.19 – 0.21 %/day).

Only three individuals died throughout the test phase (one in Tank 4, 14 and 16), no mortality was observed in the recovery phase.

An overall high feed conversion ratio was calculated. In the High, Medium and Fluctuating DO groups, the FCR was 1.3 – 1.4 in the first period (Aug – Oct) which increased by 0.09 – 0.15 in the succeeding recovery phase. In the Low DO group, the FCR found was 40 – 50% higher compared with the other groups and remained 20 – 25 % higher during the recovery phase. The fluctuating FCR was in accordance with the feed quantity consumed (Figure 7 – 8). No significant differences were however observed ($p > 0.05$).

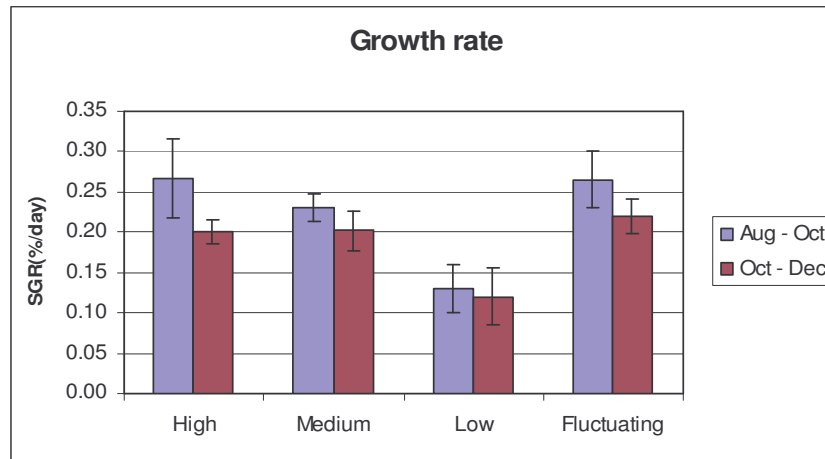


Figure 6. Growth rate (mean, S.D.) of adult Atlantic salmon at four different DO concentrations August – October (55 days) succeeded by a recovery phase October – December (61 days), EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004

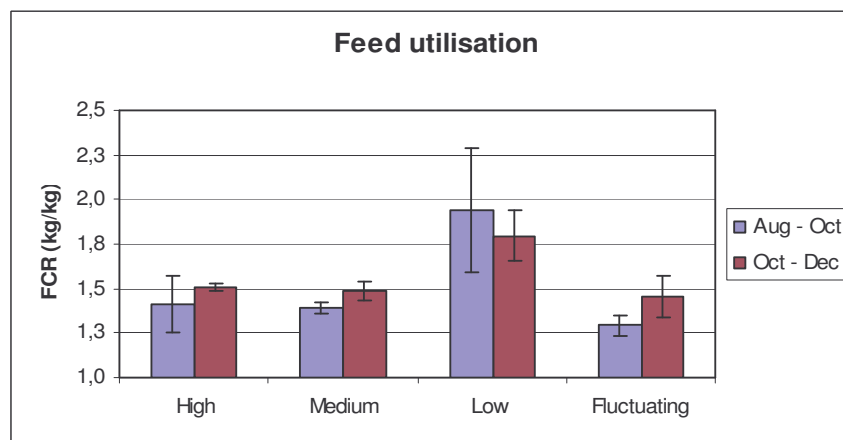


Figure 7. Feed conversion ratio (mean, S.D.) of adult Atlantic salmon at four different DO concentrations August – October (55 days) succeeded by a recovery phase October – December (61 days), EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004

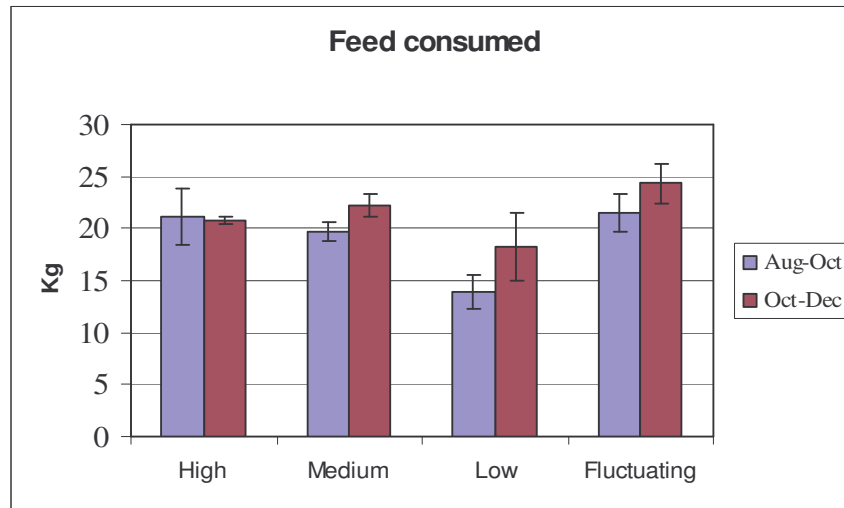


Figure 8. Feed consumed (mean, S.D.) by adult Atlantic salmon at four different DO concentrations August – October (55 days) succeeded by a recovery phase October – December (61 days), EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004

4.3 Sexual maturation

The occurrence of sexually matured fish varied highly from one tank to another, e.g. 1 – 8 matured fish per tank within the Fluctuating DO group. 89% of all matured fish were males (GSI: 2.5 – 8.3), 11% were females (GSI: 11.0 – 21.2). 7.2 – 13.3% of the fish stock within the four DO groups was sexually matured (Figure 10) but no statistical differences were indicated ($p > 0.05$).

4.4 Ventilation frequency

The gill ventilation frequency indicated clear effects of reduced DO concentration (Figure 11):

High DO group:	59 – 62 movements/min	
Medium DO group:	66 – 74	“
Low DO group:	81 – 87	“
Fluctuating DO group:	78 – 82	“

The fish stock of the High DO group had significantly lower V_f compared to the three other groups (High vs. Medium: $p < 0.05$, High vs. Low/Fluctuating: $p < 0.01$). The V_f of the Medium DO group was significantly lower compared to the Low/Fluctuating groups ($p < 0.01$).

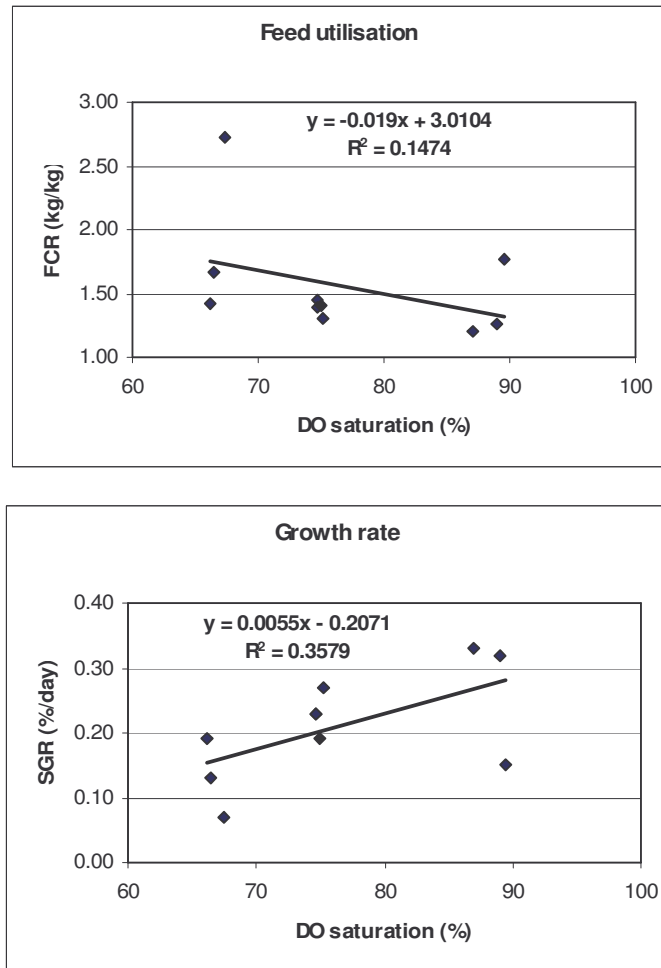


Figure 9. Feed utilisation and growth rate of adult Atlantic salmon of 2.5 – 3.5 kg exposed to three levels of DO concentrations at high temperature (14 – 16 °C).

Test period: FCR/SGR 24 Aug – 19/20 Oct ; DO conc. 1 Sep. – 15 Oct.

EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004

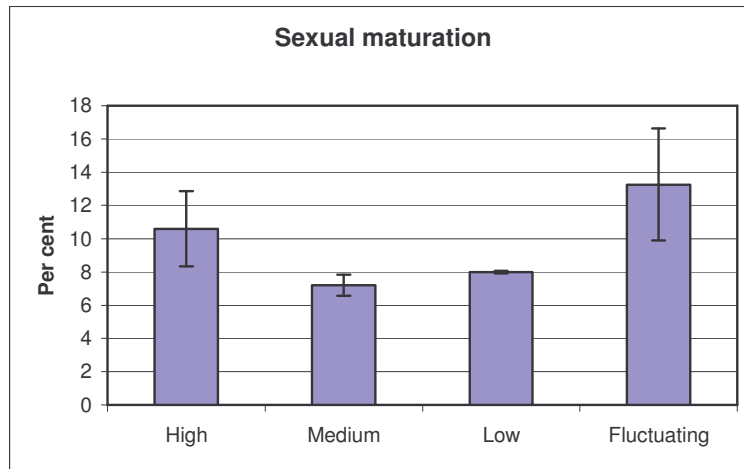


Figure 10. Frequency of sexual maturation (mean, S.D.) of adult Atlantic salmon of 2.5 – 3.5 kg exposed to four levels of DO concentrations at high temperature (14 – 16 °C). EWOS Innovation Dirdal, 20-21 December 2004

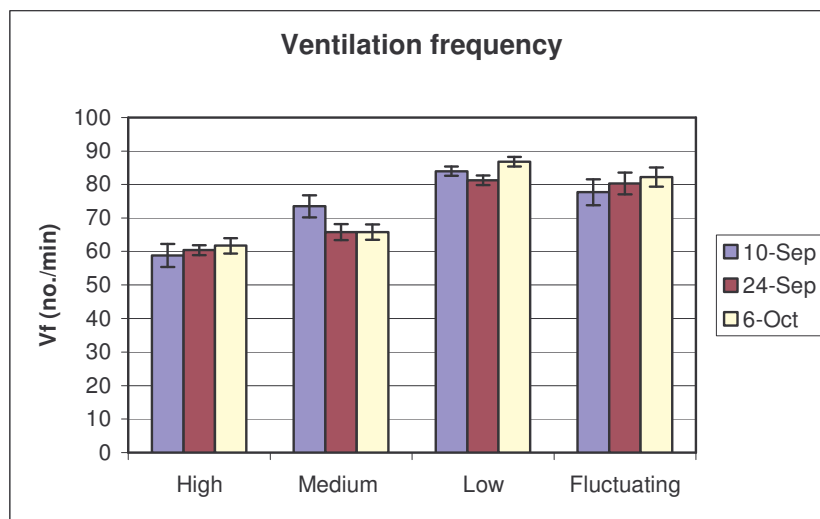


Figure 11. Gill ventilation frequency (V_f) of adult Atlantic salmon at four DO concentration levels, EWOS Innovation Dirdal, September – October 2004

5 Discussion

Fish performance in all DO groups was generally poor. At 14°C, a mean daily growth rate of about 0.75 %/day is expected for adult salmon of 3 kg (Forsberg, 1996). However, a considerable seasonal variation is found in land-based farms: in autumn (August – October) the relative growth rate (“growth index”) from several Norwegian farms was reported to be 70 – 100% of expected mean growth throughout the year (Forsberg, op. cit). Anyway, the growth rate in the present study was expected to be at least 0.5 %/day at “optimal” rearing conditions (SGR High DO group: 0.27 %/day). At moderate DO deficit (75% of saturation) and diurnally fluctuating DO (90 – 60% of saturation), the growth rate was at the same level (0.24 – 0.25%/day). One reason for the low growth rate is probably the high temperature (15 – 16 °C), outside the valid temperature range of the growth model (4 - 14 °C). According to this model, the observed growth in the recovery phase (SGR: 0.13 – 0.21%/day, 10 – 12 °C) was still far below the expected growth rate for October – December.

There was no observed growth suppression in the Fluctuating DO group compared to the High DO group. Similar results are observed at low temperature (8±0.5 °C, Forsberg and Bergheim, 1996) for adult salmon but are a somewhat surprising finding at this temperature level. The growth rate was almost reduced by 50% in the Low DO group compared to other groups and remained lower (ca. 35% less) during the recovery phase.

According to Jobling (1993), the reduced oxygen availability in the Low DO group (66 – 67% of saturation) was probably insufficient to support the high energy demand of well-fed fish and thus reduced the appetite. Levels of DO limiting feed intake in fish are usually between 50 and 70% of saturation, with values for salmonids being towards the top end of the range (Jobling, 1995). In this study, the “critical” DO limit allowing for maximum growth rate seems to be in the range 67 – 75% of saturation (5.5 – 6.3 mg/L). The “critical” DO limit in the former study (Bergheim *et al.* 2002) indicated a somewhat higher concentration even at lower temperature. This confusing result might partly be due to the large variation among tanks within the same DO group, especially in the High and Low DO groups (no significant differences indicated). Both physiological adaptation to low DO levels (Foss *et al.* 2002) and increased hypoxia tolerance in larger fish (Shepard, 1955) might be influencing factors.

Based on EWOS experience with this kind of test set-up at fully oxygen saturated water, salmon at this body weight should obtain lower FCR. According to an internal energy consumption model, the dietary energy level should allow for a FCR of 1.09 when fed EWOS pyramid kvalitet and 0.93 when fed EWOS pyramid ytelse, throughout the trial. Obviously, the fluctuating and partly high sexual maturation frequency (3 – 22 % in individual tanks) both increased the overall FCR and reduced the conformity vs. DO level. The strongly reduced feed intake in the Low DO group clearly indicated that the reduced oxygen availability suppressed the appetite of the fish (Jobling, 1993).

Generally, fish will try to compensate for limiting DO concentration by increasing the respiratory volume (gill ventilation frequency and opercular amplitude, e.g. Jones, 1964). “Moderate” short-term hypoxia conditions (ca. 41% DO saturation) provoked an increase in the ventilation frequency in rainbow trout followed by respiratory alkalosis

(Thomas and Hughes, 1982). In Atlantic salmon, ventilation frequency has been applied to study response of increased carbon dioxide (hypercapnia) and ammonia concentrations (Fivelstad *et al.* 2003, Knoph, 1996). In the present study, carbon dioxide and ammonia were not measured but based on calculations of expected excretion and tank flow the concentrations were below harmful levels.

The ventilation frequency (V_f) increased gradually from High DO to Medium and Low/Fluctuating DO levels. From an expected “normal” level of ca. 60 movements/min of adult salmon at high temperature (90 % DO saturation, i.e. normoxia/mild hypoxia), V_f increased to 78 – 87 movements/min at more severe hypoxia (66 % DO saturation) and at diurnally fluctuating norm- and hypoxia (90 – 60 % DO saturation). The monitoring of V_f took place before midday (9 – 11 am) when the DO concentration in the Fluctuating DO tanks was low, between 60 – 70 % of saturation. There were no signs of reduced V_f in this group throughout the period indicating lack of physiological adaptation to the fluctuated diurnal DO concentrations. In this group, additional V_f monitoring in the afternoon should have been carried out to clarify the diurnal V_f range.

Despite little available literature, the obtained results generally match other findings describing growth of adult Atlantic salmon at different DO concentrations. Berg & Danielsberg (1990) reported a 30 % decrease in growth rate in Atlantic salmon of 1 – 2 kg at temperature above 10 - 12 °C when DO of the tank outlet water was permanently reduced from 8 – 9 mg/L (> 90 % of saturation) to 5 – 6 mg/L (50 – 60 % of saturation) over 6 months. In the first reported study, a correspondingly reduced SGR was found (from ca. 0.5 to 0.35 %/day) over the same DO range (Bergheim *et al.* 2002).

6 Conclusion

- At high summer temperature, reduced and diurnally fluctuating DO concentrations in the range 90 to 60% of saturation caused reduced growth and feed utilisation in adult Atlantic salmon
- The decreased fish performance was not significant due to high variation among replicate tanks, e.g. because of occurrence of sexual maturation
- Gill respiration frequency increased significantly with reduced DO concentration indicating stressing conditions at moderately hypoxia and high temperature
- Another high temperature – reduced DO concentration trial will be conducted with smaller post-smolt salmon

7 References

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8 Appendix

Daily DO concentrations in Tanks, EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004.

Group: High DO Level (preset level: 90% of saturation 2 Sep – 14 Oct). Unit: % of saturation

Date	Tank 1			Tank 5			Tank 11		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
24-Aug	90	111	84	90	100	81	91	108	82
25-Aug	90	93	87	89	95	80	91	103	83
26-Aug	90	108	84	90	96	79	90	102	81
27-Aug	90	94	87	90	93	87	90	92	88
28-Aug	90	93	88	90	92	87	90	94	88
29-Aug	90	99	83	90	92	87	90	94	87
30-Aug	90	102	81	90	92	88	90	93	87
31-Aug	84	106	69	90	91	88	90	93	88
1-Sep	76	88	67	90	92	87	90	94	87
2-Sep	85	110	74	90	92	87	90	93	86
3-Sep	91	101	83	90	93	88	90	93	87
4-Sep	90	100	80	90	92	88	90	94	86
5-Sep	90	98	80	90	92	87	90	93	87
6-Sep	90	97	80	90	93	87	90	93	89
7-Sep	90	96	82	90	93	87	90	93	87
8-Sep	90	100	81	90	94	85	90	97	82
9-Sep	90	93	85	90	92	86	90	95	87
10-Sep	90	94	82	90	91	88	90	92	89
11-Sep	90	100	82	89	94	86	90	93	87
12-Sep	90	96	83	87	90	85	90	93	88
13-Sep	90	97	83	88	92	84	90	95	87
14-Sep	90	94	83	87	90	85	90	94	87
15-Sep	90	94	85	88	91	83	90	95	87
16-Sep	90	96	83	87	90	85	90	94	87
17-Sep	89	94	81	85	88	80	90	95	87
18-Sep	88	95	83	85	88	83	90	93	87
19-Sep	89	95	82	84	90	77	77	94	55
20-Sep	90	94	86	86	92	80	82	114	67
21-Sep	87	93	82	89	91	84	90	94	87
22-Sep	87	100	77	89	99	84	90	98	84
23-Sep	85	90	78	90	92	87	90	94	89
24-Sep	88	100	83	90	92	87	90	92	88
25-Sep	90	98	84	90	92	86	90	93	86
26-Sep	89	97	82	90	93	86	90	94	85
27-Sep	90	98	81	90	92	86	90	97	85
28-Sep	90	105	80	90	93	86	90	97	86
29-Sep	90	97	83	90	92	84	90	96	84
30-Sep	90	97	84	89	94	86	90	102	84
1-Oct	90	98	84	90	93	86	90	97	84
2-Oct	87	96	82	89	93	84	90	98	82
3-Oct	86	92	79	90	93	85	90	97	84
4-Oct	85	90	81	90	93	86	90	96	82
5-Oct	87	108	77	90	93	86	90	102	84
6-Oct	90	100	76	90	100	77	90	101	75
7-Oct	91	112	84	90	92	87	90	93	86
8-Oct	90	96	85	90	92	87	90	95	86

Group: High DO Level *cont.*

Date	Tank 1			Tank 5			Tank 11		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
9-Oct	90	100	84	90	94	87	90	102	85
10-Oct	86	101	68	90	94	86	90	98	84
11-Oct	75	81	71	90	92	85	90	102	81
12-Oct	75	82	71	90	92	85	90	102	82
13-Oct	76	110	60	90	92	85	90	103	83
14-Oct	85	97	72	89	93	84	90	122	81
15-Oct	90	94	86	90	93	86	90	97	85
16-Oct	90	95	83	90	93	86	90	95	86
17-Oct	90	93	86	90	93	86	90	100	84
18-Oct	90	94	86	90	96	83	90	97	85
19-Oct	98	135	88	99	148	88	100	212	88

Daily DO concentrations in Tanks, EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004.

Group: Medium DO Level (preset level: 75% of saturation 2 Sep – 14 Oct). Unit: % of saturation

Date	Tank 3			Tank 10			Tank 13			Tank 17		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
24-Aug	106	117	97	85	93	65	86	93	77	85	88	81
25-Aug	111	117	107	85	87	82	79	93	51	82	88	64
26-Aug	114	135	98	83	98	76	82	100	72	84	107	77
27-Aug	111	123	95	80	83	78	80	82	73	80	83	76
28-Aug	121	126	117	80	83	78	79	84	74	80	82	77
29-Aug	131	145	117	80	83	77	80	84	74	80	82	77
30-Aug	99	148	72	78	82	73	78	84	72	78	82	73
31-Aug	76	83	72	75	80	72	75	78	72	75	77	74
1-Sep	76	83	70	75	79	71	75	78	73	75	78	72
2-Sep	75	85	71	75	78	71	75	79	73	75	78	73
3-Sep	76	85	72	75	79	71	75	80	73	75	78	73
4-Sep	76	86	70	75	79	71	75	78	72	75	78	72
5-Sep	76	81	72	75	81	71	75	77	72	75	77	73
6-Sep	75	81	73	75	79	71	75	77	73	75	78	73
7-Sep	75	80	71	75	79	72	75	77	72	75	78	73
8-Sep	75	80	69	75	81	66	75	77	70	75	79	71
9-Sep	75	80	71	75	77	73	75	76	72	75	78	73
10-Sep	75	80	71	77	92	67	75	77	72	75	79	70
11-Sep	75	85	69	77	91	67	74	78	72	75	80	71
12-Sep	75	85	70	76	92	65	73	76	68	75	78	73
13-Sep	75	84	69	76	92	65	73	81	68	75	78	72
14-Sep	75	84	68	76	92	64	75	78	72	75	78	72
15-Sep	75	81	70	77	92	66	75	77	72	75	78	72
16-Sep	75	79	72	76	91	65	75	78	72	75	80	72
17-Sep	75	77	72	76	93	62	75	77	72	75	78	72
18-Sep	75	78	72	76	96	62	75	78	71	75	78	71
19-Sep	75	77	72	69	97	43	75	77	73	75	78	73
20-Sep	75	77	73	67	99	57	75	77	71	75	80	72
21-Sep	75	79	72	76	91	62	75	77	71	75	79	72
22-Sep	75	100	70	77	100	62	74	97	69	76	97	67
23-Sep	75	78	71	72	89	64	75	77	72	75	76	74
24-Sep	75	79	71	75	78	71	75	79	71	75	78	72
25-Sep	75	83	71	75	80	70	75	79	70	75	77	72
26-Sep	75	80	72	75	80	71	75	80	70	75	79	72
27-Sep	75	80	71	75	80	69	74	78	70	75	81	72
28-Sep	75	78	71	75	80	69	74	78	69	75	79	71
29-Sep	75	78	71	75	81	69	75	79	71	75	79	72
30-Sep	75	79	73	75	80	68	75	78	72	75	79	72
1-Oct	75	78	72	75	80	71	75	77	71	75	77	72
2-Oct	75	79	72	75	78	71	75	77	72	75	80	72
3-Oct	75	78	72	75	80	69	75	77	72	75	79	71
4-Oct	75	79	73	75	81	68	74	77	70	75	77	71
5-Oct	75	79	71	75	80	70	74	77	70	75	77	71
6-Oct	76	100	66	76	101	57	74	101	67	76	100	63
7-Oct	75	78	71	75	79	71	74	77	71	75	81	68
8-Oct	75	81	71	75	81	71	75	78	71	75	79	73

Group: Medium DO Level *cont.*

Date	Tank 3			Tank 10			Tank 13			Tank 17		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
9-Oct	75	81	70	75	82	71	75	79	71	75	82	71
10-Oct	75	82	72	75	81	70	75	78	71	75	79	71
11-Oct	75	80	71	75	81	70	75	77	71	75	78	71
12-Oct	75	79	71	75	79	68	75	78	70	75	79	71
13-Oct	75	79	69	75	81	69	74	78	71	75	79	72
14-Oct	75	80	69	75	81	70	74	79	70	75	79	71
15-Oct	83	93	72	83	93	71	80	88	72	82	98	74
16-Oct	90	94	85	90	96	84	89	94	83	90	92	87
17-Oct	90	99	85	90	95	85	90	92	88	90	91	88
18-Oct	90	95	86	90	100	81	90	94	88	90	93	87
19-Oct	94	113	89	99	140	87	102	178	88	103	113	87

Daily DO concentrations in Tanks, EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004.

Group: Low DO Level (preset level: 60% of saturation 2 Sep – 14 Oct). Unit: % of saturation

Date	Tank 6			Tank 8			Tank 16		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
24-Aug	80	99	67	80	92	75	80	89	75
25-Aug	80	83	75	80	84	78	80	92	67
26-Aug	79	94	66	79	93	74	79	100	71
27-Aug	75	80	72	75	78	73	75	76	74
28-Aug	75	78	74	75	77	73	75	80	72
29-Aug	77	80	74	76	78	73	75	80	72
30-Aug	73	80	67	72	81	67	72	82	66
31-Aug	69	72	67	68	75	67	68	71	66
1-Sep	69	71	65	68	73	64	67	71	63
2-Sep	71	74	68	68	71	67	66	69	63
3-Sep	70	74	66	69	71	66	67	70	63
4-Sep	68	71	65	69	71	66	67	71	63
5-Sep	67	69	64	69	72	67	68	71	64
6-Sep	67	69	64	69	71	65	67	72	63
7-Sep	67	70	63	69	72	66	67	72	63
8-Sep	67	70	61	68	71	62	67	73	60
9-Sep	68	69	64	68	70	64	68	73	63
10-Sep	66	69	62	67	69	62	67	72	63
11-Sep	66	68	61	67	69	63	67	73	62
12-Sep	65	67	62	66	72	60	65	71	60
13-Sep	65	68	61	67	71	63	66	72	60
14-Sep	64	67	62	64	68	60	66	71	62
15-Sep	66	69	62	66	69	61	67	71	62
16-Sep	65	68	63	66	69	62	68	72	64
17-Sep	64	67	60	65	68	59	67	72	63
18-Sep	64	67	61	64	67	59	67	72	63
19-Sep	71	80	61	62	76	49	67	72	63
20-Sep	71	80	63	64	92	57	67	73	62
21-Sep	66	70	62	65	69	61	66	73	62
22-Sep	68	97	58	64	98	59	66	98	56
23-Sep	68	73	64	65	69	59	66	71	62
24-Sep	69	72	64	66	69	62	67	73	62
25-Sep	68	72	64	66	70	62	67	73	62
26-Sep	69	73	65	66	70	63	67	74	63
27-Sep	67	72	64	66	69	61	65	73	60
28-Sep	67	70	60	66	69	61	65	72	59
29-Sep	67	70	64	67	70	62	66	73	60
30-Sep	67	70	63	66	69	61	65	72	59
1-Oct	67	70	64	66	70	62	65	72	59
2-Oct	67	70	62	66	70	61	65	73	57
3-Oct	67	70	63	66	69	61	66	73	61
4-Oct	67	70	64	65	68	61	65	72	59
5-Oct	67	70	62	65	67	59	65	72	58
6-Oct	68	102	58	66	101	56	66	99	56
7-Oct	68	73	63	66	70	60	67	73	60
8-Oct	68	72	64	66	69	61	67	74	60

Group: Low DO Level *cont.*

Date	Tank 6			Tank 8			Tank 16		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
9-Oct	69	72	65	66	69	63	67	77	62
10-Oct	68	72	62	68	118	60	68	74	63
11-Oct	68	71	64	67	69	64	67	74	62
12-Oct	68	71	63	66	68	63	67	74	62
13-Oct	67	70	64	66	68	63	67	75	62
14-Oct	68	71	62	67	70	63	67	74	61
15-Oct	77	86	67	79	95	65	71	78	66
16-Oct	85	88	82	90	97	84	78	80	75
17-Oct	88	92	85	90	103	86	81	83	77
18-Oct	90	94	83	90	96	87	83	86	79
19-Oct	93	109	87	99	136	88	91	101	84

Daily DO concentrations in Tanks, EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004.

Group: Fluctuating DO Level (preset level: 90 – 60 % of saturation 2 Sep – 14 Oct).

Unit: % of saturation

Date	Tank 2			Tank 4			Tank 7			Tank 9		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
24-Aug	106	117	97	87	96	64	87	92	72	87	95	67
25-Aug	111	117	107	87	93	77	87	92	77	87	92	77
26-Aug	114	135	98	84	98	79	85	94	77	84	93	75
27-Aug	111	123	95	80	92	74	81	92	74	78	90	71
28-Aug	121	126	117	83	87	80	84	92	80	80	90	74
29-Aug	131	145	117	85	87	80	85	92	80	81	92	74
30-Aug	99	148	72	79	92	72	81	92	73	78	93	69
31-Aug	76	83	72	76	88	70	78	93	70	77	91	67
1-Sep	76	83	70	78	93	69	78	92	67	77	93	66
2-Sep	75	85	71	78	92	69	78	94	67	77	95	67
3-Sep	76	85	72	78	92	69	78	93	70	77	92	68
4-Sep	76	86	70	78	93	69	78	94	69	77	91	68
5-Sep	76	81	72	77	94	69	78	92	69	77	94	67
6-Sep	75	81	73	77	92	69	77	91	68	77	93	66
7-Sep	75	80	71	77	93	67	77	96	68	77	93	66
8-Sep	75	80	69	77	91	65	77	91	66	76	94	63
9-Sep	75	80	71	77	92	67	78	92	69	77	91	67
10-Sep	75	80	71	76	91	67	77	92	67	76	90	64
11-Sep	75	85	69	77	93	65	77	91	67	76	92	64
12-Sep	75	85	70	76	92	64	76	92	65	75	94	62
13-Sep	75	84	69	76	92	64	76	92	65	76	95	62
14-Sep	75	84	68	76	95	64	76	92	64	75	94	61
15-Sep	75	81	70	77	92	66	77	92	66	76	91	64
16-Sep	75	79	72	76	92	64	76	91	65	75	91	62
17-Sep	75	77	72	76	93	63	76	93	62	74	89	60
18-Sep	75	78	72	75	93	63	76	96	62	74	88	60
19-Sep	75	77	72	80	93	70	69	97	43	71	91	42
20-Sep	75	77	73	76	91	62	67	99	57	75	95	59
21-Sep	75	79	72	76	92	64	76	91	62	75	94	59
22-Sep	75	100	70	77	98	62	77	100	62	76	97	59
23-Sep	75	78	71	76	91	66	72	89	64	71	89	59
24-Sep	75	79	71	76	91	66	76	93	64	75	93	59
25-Sep	75	83	71	77	93	66	76	91	64	75	100	59
26-Sep	75	80	72	77	99	65	76	93	64	75	103	59
27-Sep	75	80	71	76	94	66	76	91	65	75	95	60
28-Sep	75	78	71	76	99	65	76	92	64	75	98	60
29-Sep	75	78	71	76	95	67	76	91	66	75	93	59
30-Sep	75	79	73	78	95	68	76	92	65	75	93	60
1-Oct	75	78	72	77	91	66	77	93	66	75	92	60
2-Oct	75	79	72	76	92	65	76	94	65	75	93	59
3-Oct	75	78	72	76	91	65	76	92	65	75	94	59
4-Oct	75	79	73	76	93	65	76	93	65	75	92	59
5-Oct	75	79	71	77	93	66	76	92	64	75	94	59
6-Oct	76	100	66	78	100	60	77	100	58	76	101	55
7-Oct	75	78	71	77	90	67	75	92	66	73	93	60
8-Oct	75	81	71	77	91	66	77	91	65	75	94	59

Group: Fluctuating DO Level *cont.*

Date	Tank 2			Tank 4			Tank 7			Tank 9		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
9-Oct	77	92	66	77	91	68	77	92	66	75	94	60
10-Oct	76	91	58	76	94	58	76	92	59	75	96	60
11-Oct	74	85	64	76	93	65	76	92	66	75	95	59
12-Oct	74	90	63	76	96	66	76	94	64	75	97	59
13-Oct	75	92	62	76	92	65	76	93	64	75	92	59
14-Oct	76	91	63	76	92	64	76	93	62	75	96	59
15-Oct	86	95	66	86	94	68	86	93	66	85	93	65
16-Oct	90	94	87	90	95	86	90	94	87	90	95	86
17-Oct	90	93	87	90	93	86	90	94	86	90	93	87
18-Oct	90	95	86	90	96	84	90	96	85	90	93	87
19-Oct	96	118	87	97	176	89	99	118	88	99	178	88

Daily DO concentrations in Tanks, EWOS Innovation Dirdal 2004.

Group: Fluctuating DO Level (preset level: 90 – 60 % of saturation 2 Sep – 14 Oct).

Unit: % of saturation

Date	Tank 12			Tank 14			Tank 15			Tank 18		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
24-Aug	87	104	65	87	91	77	87	94	76	87	95	77
25-Aug	87	94	72	87	97	65	86	95	69	87	99	64
26-Aug	83	100	68	83	100	73	82	100	68	82	121	68
27-Aug	78	95	68	78	92	70	78	91	68	72	95	62
28-Aug	78	92	67	78	93	69	78	93	68	64	67	61
29-Aug	78	94	67	79	93	69	78	93	68	64	67	61
30-Aug	78	94	65	78	91	70	77	92	65	64	67	62
31-Aug	76	94	63	78	92	70	75	91	64	66	73	62
1-Sep	76	92	63	78	90	67	76	91	64	70	95	61
2-Sep	77	92	65	78	91	70	76	93	64	75	92	60
3-Sep	76	92	64	79	92	72	76	91	65	75	96	62
4-Sep	76	92	64	78	91	70	76	93	64	75	94	61
5-Sep	76	92	65	79	91	72	75	92	62	75	95	62
6-Sep	76	91	63	78	93	70	75	92	60	76	99	62
7-Sep	76	92	64	78	92	67	75	92	58	76	93	60
8-Sep	76	92	59	77	93	65	75	93	56	75	99	57
9-Sep	76	94	62	78	91	69	75	92	60	76	94	63
10-Sep	75	91	60	77	91	68	75	92	59	75	93	60
11-Sep	76	92	60	77	92	66	75	91	57	75	99	58
12-Sep	75	92	60	76	93	63	75	89	59	75	100	59
13-Sep	75	92	60	76	93	63	75	89	59	75	103	60
14-Sep	75	93	59	76	91	63	75	91	58	75	96	59
15-Sep	76	93	62	76	92	65	75	89	60	75	95	59
16-Sep	75	91	59	76	91	63	75	92	59	75	96	59
17-Sep	75	93	60	76	93	63	75	91	60	75	96	59
18-Sep	75	95	59	76	92	63	75	89	60	75	95	59
19-Sep	75	93	51	76	91	63	75	91	60	75	96	59
20-Sep	76	96	59	75	91	59	74	89	58	75	95	57
21-Sep	76	94	58	75	93	60	74	87	59	75	95	59
22-Sep	76	99	57	76	97	59	74	98	55	76	97	55
23-Sep	71	90	60	72	89	63	70	88	58	70	89	60
24-Sep	75	91	59	76	92	62	74	90	59	75	99	60
25-Sep	75	92	60	76	91	62	75	89	58	75	95	59
26-Sep	75	91	59	76	91	63	74	89	59	74	105	58
27-Sep	75	92	60	76	92	62	74	90	59	75	103	59
28-Sep	75	93	59	75	94	59	74	91	57	75	99	57
29-Sep	75	94	60	75	93	60	75	93	58	75	100	58
30-Sep	75	92	60	75	92	59	75	95	57	74	97	58
1-Oct	75	93	59	75	92	62	75	93	58	75	92	59
2-Oct	75	93	60	75	95	60	75	96	59	75	96	59
3-Oct	75	92	60	75	93	61	75	94	59	75	96	58
4-Oct	75	91	60	75	92	59	75	91	57	75	95	60
5-Oct	75	94	59	75	92	62	75	94	58	75	94	58
6-Oct	76	100	57	77	100	58	76	101	49	76	100	51
7-Oct	73	92	59	77	93	64	74	90	59	76	94	60
8-Oct	75	92	60	75	93	62	74	89	58	75	104	58

Group: Fluctuating DO Level *cont.*

Date	Tank 12			Tank 14			Tank 15			Tank 18		
	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min	Mean	Max	Min
9-Oct	75	92	59	76	94	63	74	90	57	75	106	57
10-Oct	75	91	59	76	93	61	74	91	59	75	97	59
11-Oct	75	92	59	76	92	63	74	89	59	75	97	58
12-Oct	75	93	60	76	92	62	74	87	58	75	110	59
13-Oct	75	92	59	76	92	63	75	91	58	75	102	58
14-Oct	75	93	58	76	91	63	75	92	57	75	93	57
15-Oct	85	93	65	81	101	69	78	100	64	79	98	65
16-Oct	90	93	86	90	93	88	90	97	87	90	100	82
17-Oct	90	95	86	90	93	88	90	93	86	90	102	84
18-Oct	90	98	85	90	92	88	90	92	88	90	97	88
19-Oct	100	138	87	104	120	88	103	162	81	104	118	89

Growth, feed utilisation and mortality of adult Atlantic salmon at four levels of DO concentrations, EWOS Innovation Dirdal 25 August – 19/20 October 2004. *: dead fish not included

Fish group		Start trial			End trial			Biomass	Feed	SGR,	FCR,	Mortality,
DO level	Tank No.	Date	No. fish	Mean weight, g	Date	No. fish	Mean weight, g	increase, kg	supplied, kg	%/day	kg/kg	No.
90% of saturation	1	25/08	37	2534	19/10	37	3099	20.919	25.181	0.37	1.20	0
	5	25/08	38	2614	19/10	38	3099	18.454	23.190	0.31	1.26	0
	11	25/08	38	2587	19/10	38	2810	8.471	14.991	0.15	1.77	0
75% of saturation	3	25/08	38	2733	19/10	38	3184	17.134	22.268	0.28	1.30	0
	10	25/08	40	2817	19/10	40	3192	14.980	21.780	0.23	1.45	0
	13	25/08	38	2687	19/10	38	3084	15.072	21.010	0.25	1.39	0
	17	25/08	38	2796	20/10	38	3136	12.927	18.185	0.21	1.41	0
60% of saturation	6	25/08	38	2776	19/10	38	2890	4.343	11.865	0.07	2.73	0
	8	25/08	38	2815	19/10	38	3142	12.406	17.563	0.20	1.42	0
	16	25/08	38	2756	20/10	37	2955	4.605*	12.398	0.12	1.66	1
Fluctuating concentration (diurnal: 60-90%)	2	25/08	37	2833	19/10	37	3430	22.082	25.128	0.35	1.14	?
	4	25/08	38	2730	19/10	37	3211	15.060*	22.458	0.29	1.21	1
	7	25/08	36	2686	19/10	36	3326	23.042	27.727	0.39	1.20	0
	9	25/08	38	2724	19/10	38	3130	15.404	20.449	0.25	1.33	0
	12	25/08	38	2778	19/10	38	3123	13.100	18.167	0.21	1.39	0
	14	25/08	38	2678	19/10	37	3005	9.424*	17.165	0.21	1.42	1
	15	25/08	39	2735	19/10	39	3229	19.243	23.277	0.30	1.21	0
	18	25/08	38	2790	20/10	38	3113	12.260	17.479	0.20	1.43	0

Growth, feed utilisation and mortality of adult Atlantic salmon at four levels of DO concentrations, EWOS Innovation Dirdal 19/20 October – 20/21 December 2004. *: dead fish not included

Fish group		Start trial			End trial			Biomass	Feed	SGR,	FCR,	Mortality,
DO level	Tank No.	Date	No. fish	Mean weight, g	Date	No. fish	Mean weight, g	increase, kg	supplied, kg	%/day	kg/kg	No.
90% of saturation	1	19/10	37	3099	20/12	37	3436	13.462	20.765	0.18	1.54	0
	5	19/10	38	3099	20/12	38	3486	14.700	21.485	0.19	1.46	0
	11	19/10	38	2810	21/12	38	3161	13.346	20.216	0.19	1.51	0
75% of saturation	3	19/10	38	3184	20/12	38	3632	17.033	24.832	0.21	1.46	0
	10	19/10	40	3192	21/12	40	3581	15.559	23.842	0.18	1.53	0
	13	19/10	38	3084	21/12	38	3590	19.262	25.923	0.24	1.35	0
	17	20/10	38	3136	21/12	38	3483	13.182	20.958	0.17	1.59	0
60% of saturation	6	19/10	38	2890	20/12	38	3037	5.556	11.095	0.08	2.00	0
	8	19/10	38	3142	20/12	38	-	-	-	-	-	0
	16	20/10	37	2955	21/12	37	3302	12.833	20.356	0.18	1.59	0
Fluctuating concentration (diurnal: 60-90%)	2	19/10	37	3430	20/12	37	3801	13.754	24.932	0.17	1.81	0
	4	19/10	37	3211	20/12	37	3773	20.790	25.270	0.26	1.22	0
	7	19/10	36	3326	20/12	36	-	-	-	-	-	0
	9	19/10	38	3130	20/12	38	3607	18.133	26.518	0.23	1.46	0
	12	19/10	38	3123	21/12	38	3524	15.258	19.635	0.19	1.29	0
	14	19/10	37	3005	21/12	37	3326	11.876	20.502	0.16	1.73	0
	15	19/10	39	3229	21/12	39	3813	22.790	29.776	0.26	1.31	0
	18	20/10	38	3113	21/12	38	3508	14.993	19.897	0.19	1.33	0