

Optimal temperature conditions for robust smolts

HYPOTHESIS:

Temperature between 9-13°C gives optimal growth and feed conversion ratio together with reduced osmoregulatory disturbance and reduced frequency of early maturation in post-smolts.

DURATION: Literature review from 2020 to 2022, on flow through systems, RAS and semi-closed systems in sea

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Temperature affects growth, feeding, feed conversion ratio, maturation, osmoregulatory performance and stress response.
- For smolt and post-smolt, optimal growth and feed conversion ratio are observed in temperature between 12-14°C.
- Least osmoregulatory disturbance is observed at 9°C in smolts and post-smolts
- Maximal swim speed is observed at 10.5°C.
- High temperature (16°C) condition gives better growth, however, in continuous light condition, it triggers maturation in male during and after smoltification.
- Temperature higher than 15-16°C and lower than 6°C induces reduced feeding and growth, triggers stress response, and increases risk of osmoregulatory dysfunction and mortality.

RECOMMENDATION:

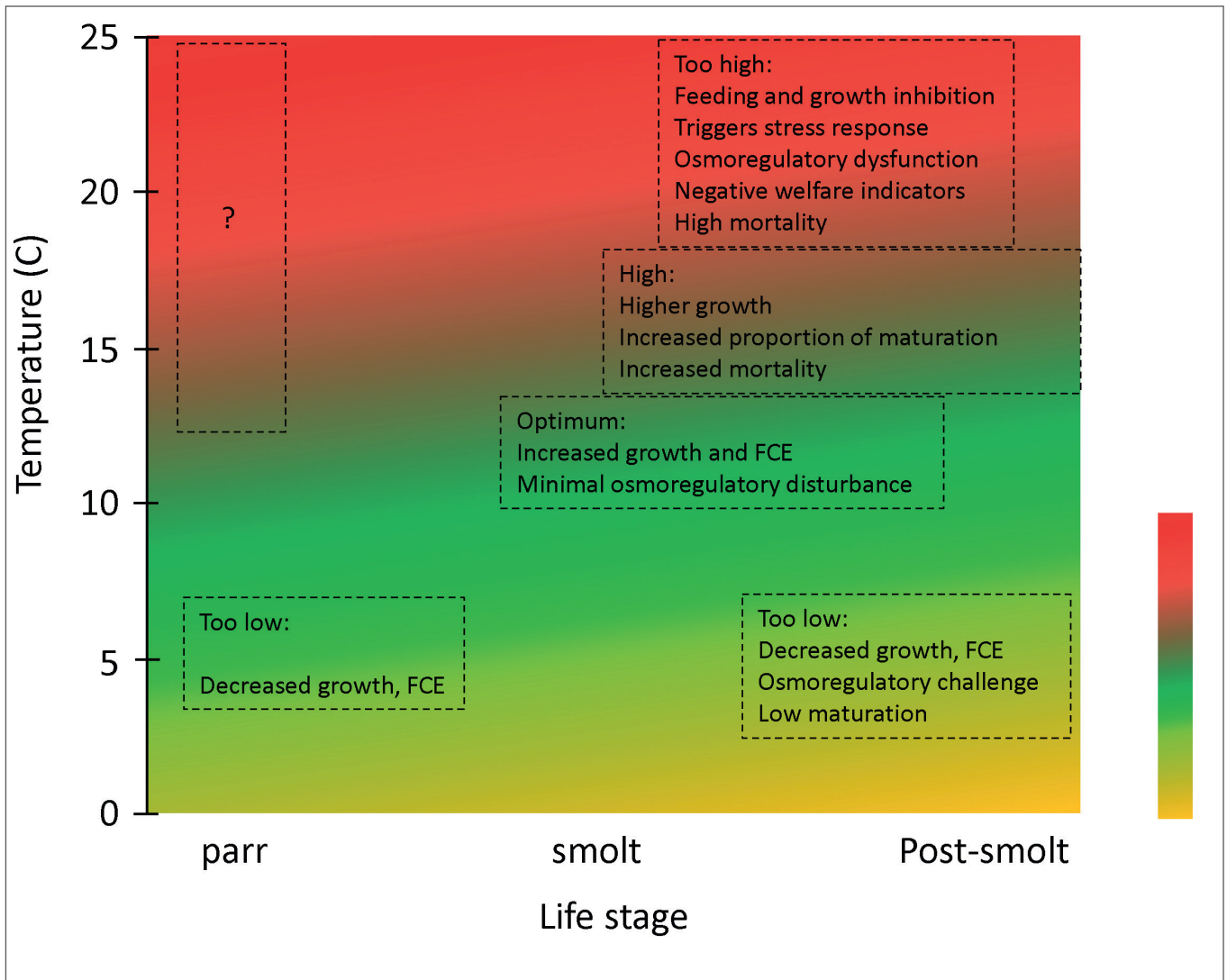
- For smolt and post-smolt, temperature between 11-13°C is recommended for optimal growth, feeding, swimming and osmoregulation. Dark period of 6 hours is needed to avoid early maturation at higher temperature (>15°C) in postsmolts above 150g .
- Lower temperature (9-11°C) can be used together with continuous light to avoid early maturation.

READ MORE:

Lal, P., Tang, P., Tronci, V., Gharbi, N., Nilsen, T.O. (2023) Impact of environmental conditions on growth and post-smolt performance of Atlantic salmon (In revision)



The factsheet is ready for implementation, but with the note that the testing has not been done for all industrial relevant conditions.



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