



# Overview on selective breeding and genetic improvement in bivalve shellfish

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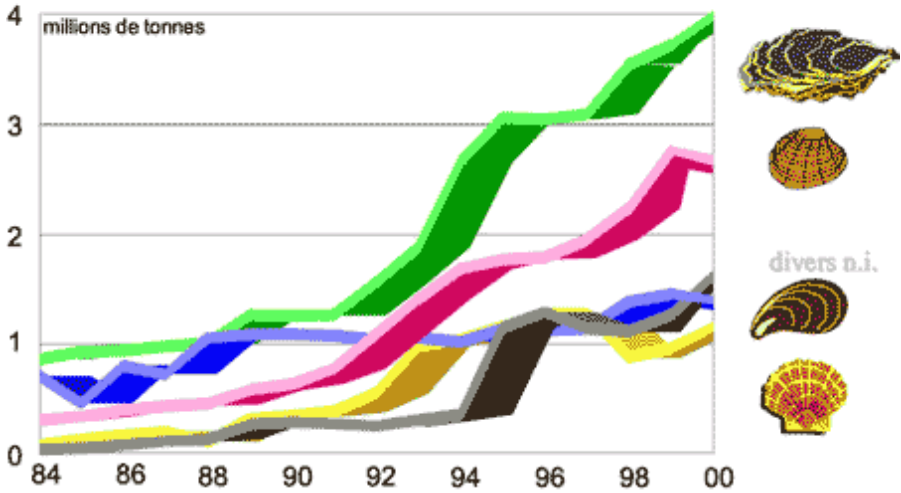
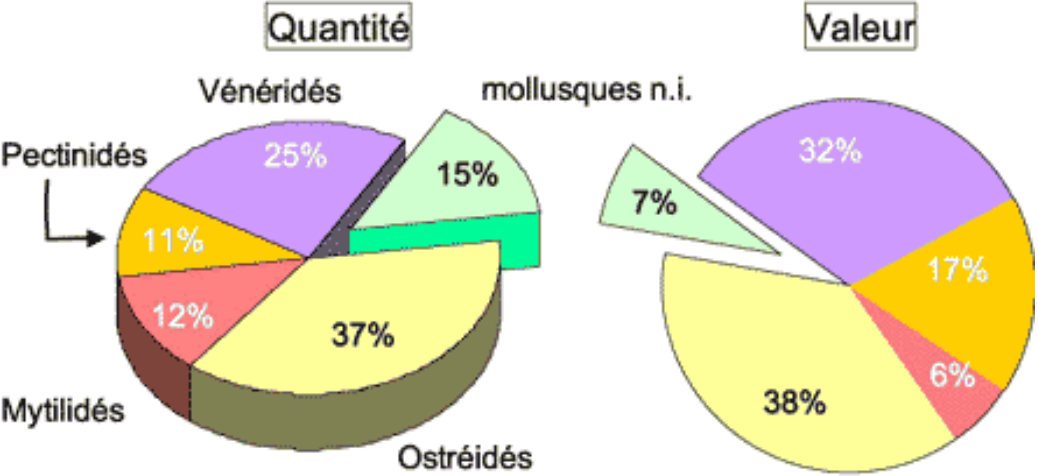
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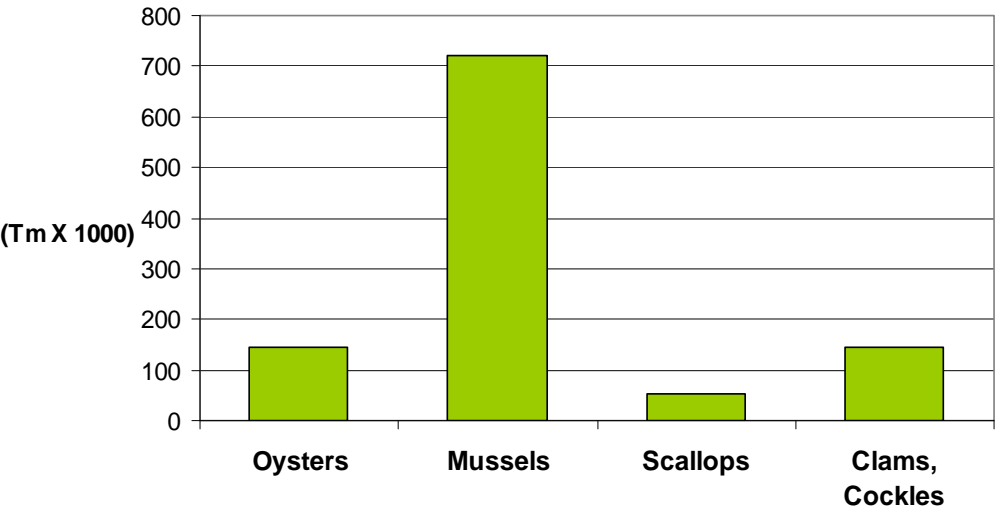


# Aquaculture of bivalves

➤ World production :



➤ European production :

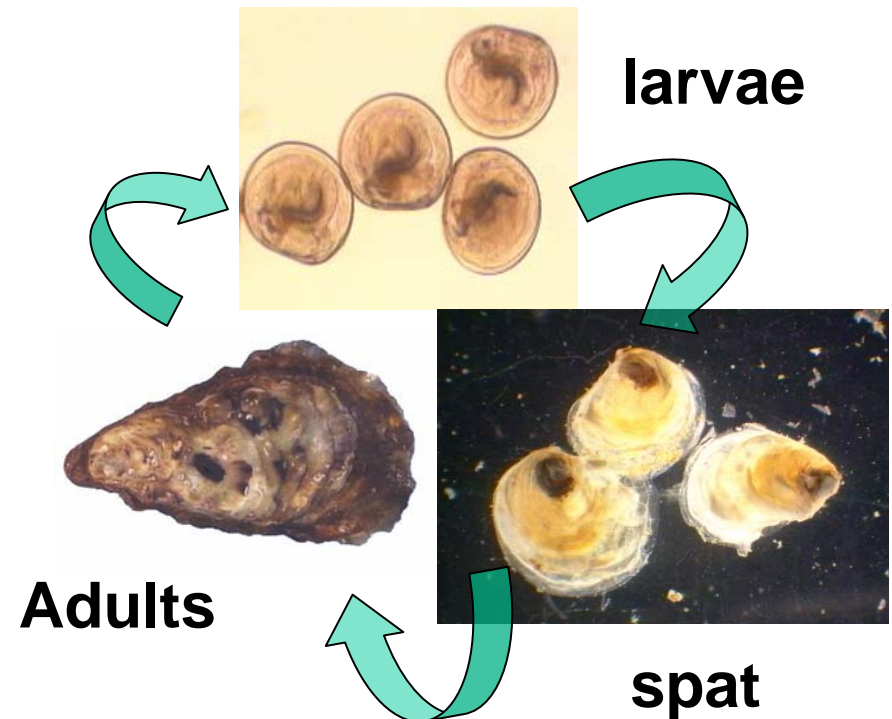
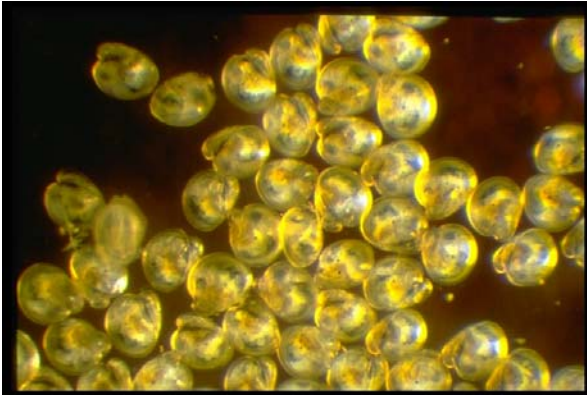


# Two possible sources of seed

## (1) natural settlement (native or introduced species)



## (2) hatchery propagation

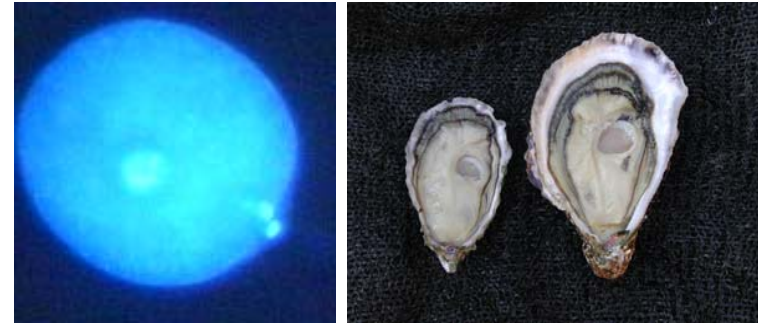


# Genetic improvement of bivalves ?

## Ploidy manipulations:

- triploids
- tetraploids

$$(4n \times 2n = 3n)$$



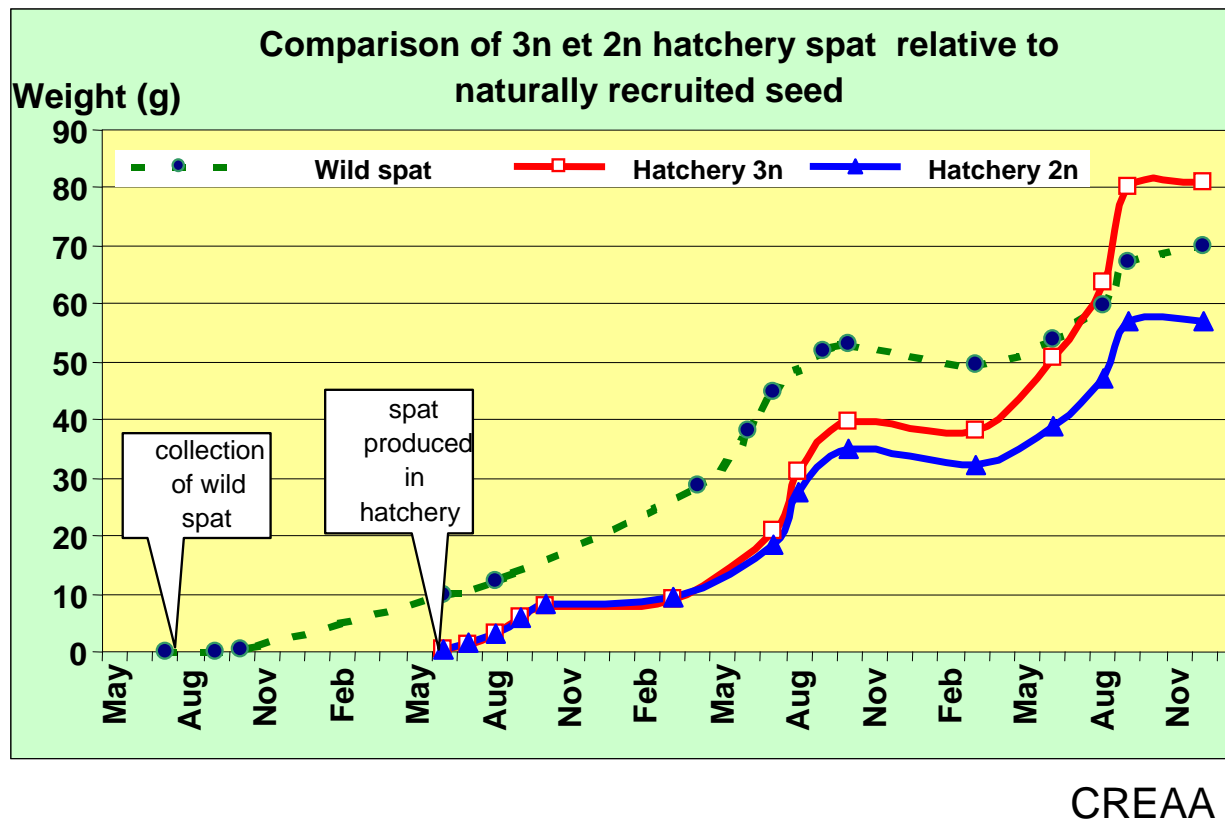
## Selective breeding:

- heritability estimates
- genetic correlations and trade-offs
- mass *versus* family-based selection

	1	2	3	4	5
1	■				
2	■				
3					
4		■			
5		■			
6					
7			■		
8			■		
9					
10				■	
11				■	
12					
13					
14					■
15					■

# Triploidy : a “single step” improvement

Re-allocation of energy from reproduction to maintenance and growth in triploid oysters

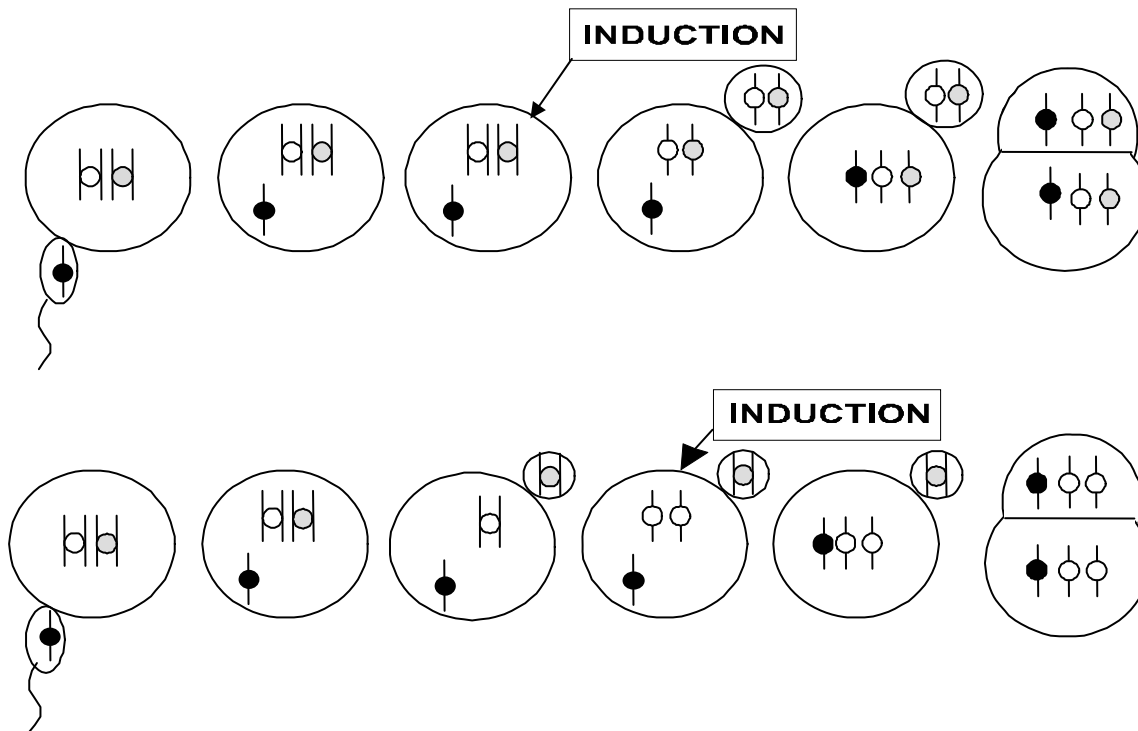


- Nell, J.A. (2002). Farming triploid oysters. *Aquaculture* 210: 69-88

# How to produce triploid bivalves ?



## 1) Chemical treatment of fertilized eggs using Cytochalasine B or 6-DMAP



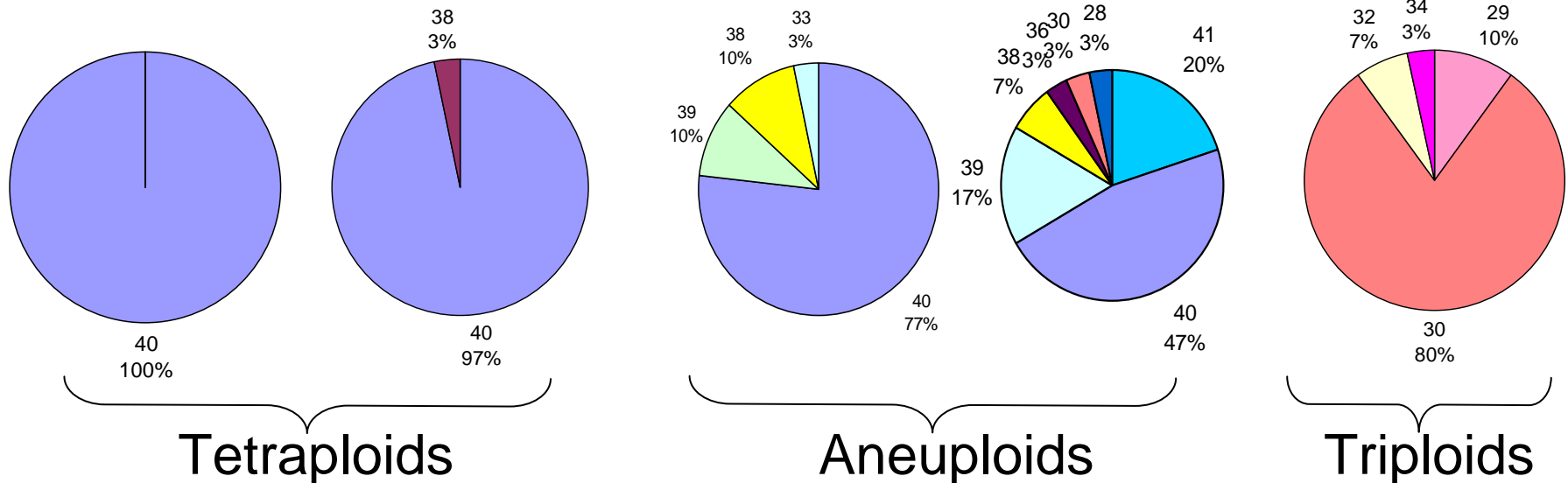
*successfully applied on oysters, pearl oysters, mussels...*

# How to produce triploid bivalves ?

## 2) Tetraploid x diploid = 100 % triploid

- Tetraploid oysters first obtained in 1994
- Production and maintenance of tetraploids is rather difficult : confinement, chromosome set instability

Chromosome number variation in  $4n \times 4n$  progenies :



# Selective breeding of oysters

## ➤ U.S.A. : yield

- WRAC: « Crossbreeding » and heterosis
- MBP (<http://www.hmsc.orst.edu/projects/mbp>)

## disease resistance

- VIMS
- Rutgers University

## ➤ Australia: Growth

- CSIRO

## ➤ New Zealand: Growth

- Cawthron Institute

## ➤ France : Stress and disease resistance

- Ifremer



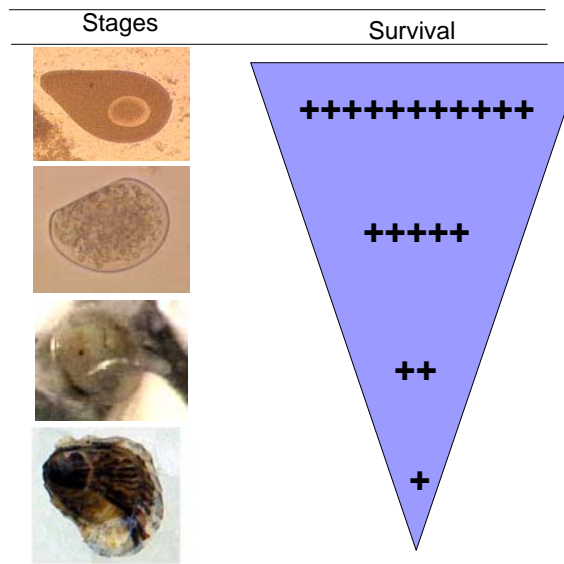
# Mass (individual) selection

➤ Targeted traits : growth, disease resistance

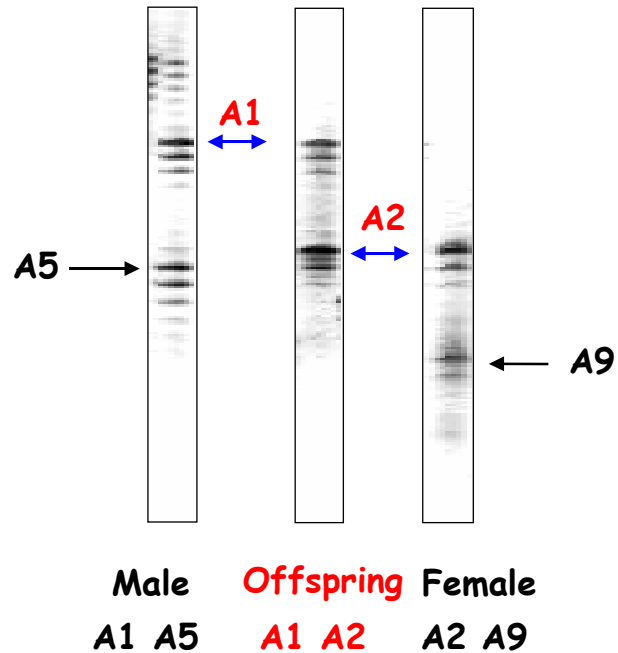
- Bonamiosis resistance in *O. edulis* (Naciri Gaven *et al.*, 1998; Culloty *et al.*, 2001)
- Growth in *S. commercialis* (Nell *et al.*, 2000)

➤ Main constrain : rapid loss of genetic variability

- low number of effective parents (e.g. Launey *et al.*, 2001)
- high variance in reproductive success (Boudry *et al.*, 2002)



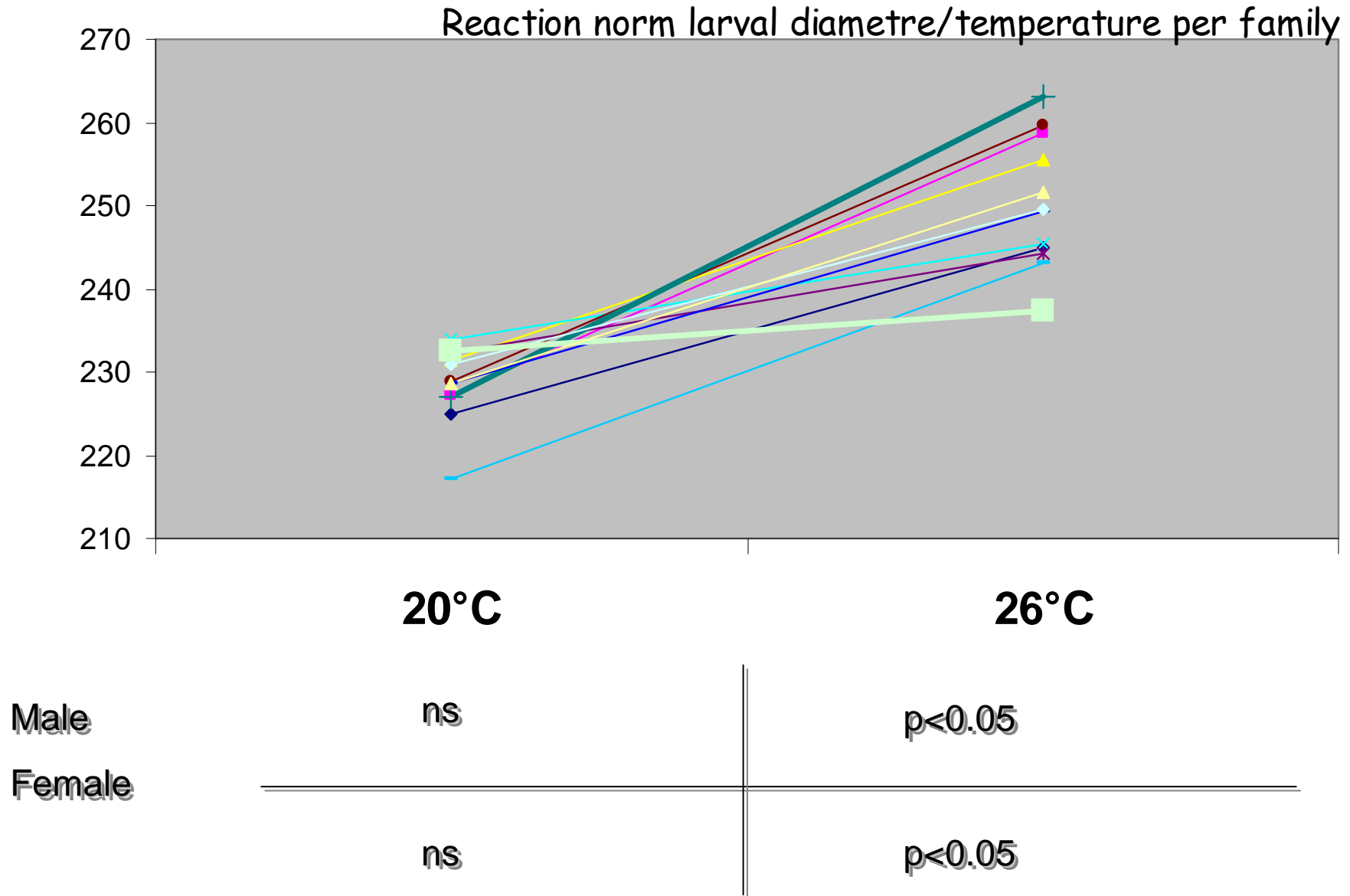
# Microsatellite-based parentage analysis



5 females x 5 male cross :

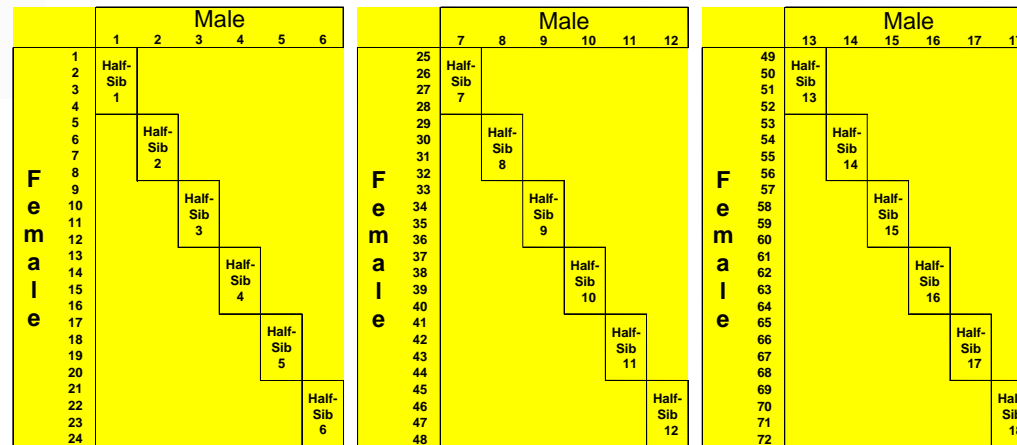
Females	Males					
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	
F1	0.6	1.5	1.5	2.1	0.0	5.7
F2	0.0	0.9	3.9	1.5	0.9	7.2
F3	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.9	1.8
F4	3.0	11.4	21.4	21.1	8.7	65.7
F5	1.8	2.7	7.8	5.7	1.5	19.6
	5.4	16.9	35.2	30.4	12.0	100.0

# Microsatellite-based genetics of larval traits



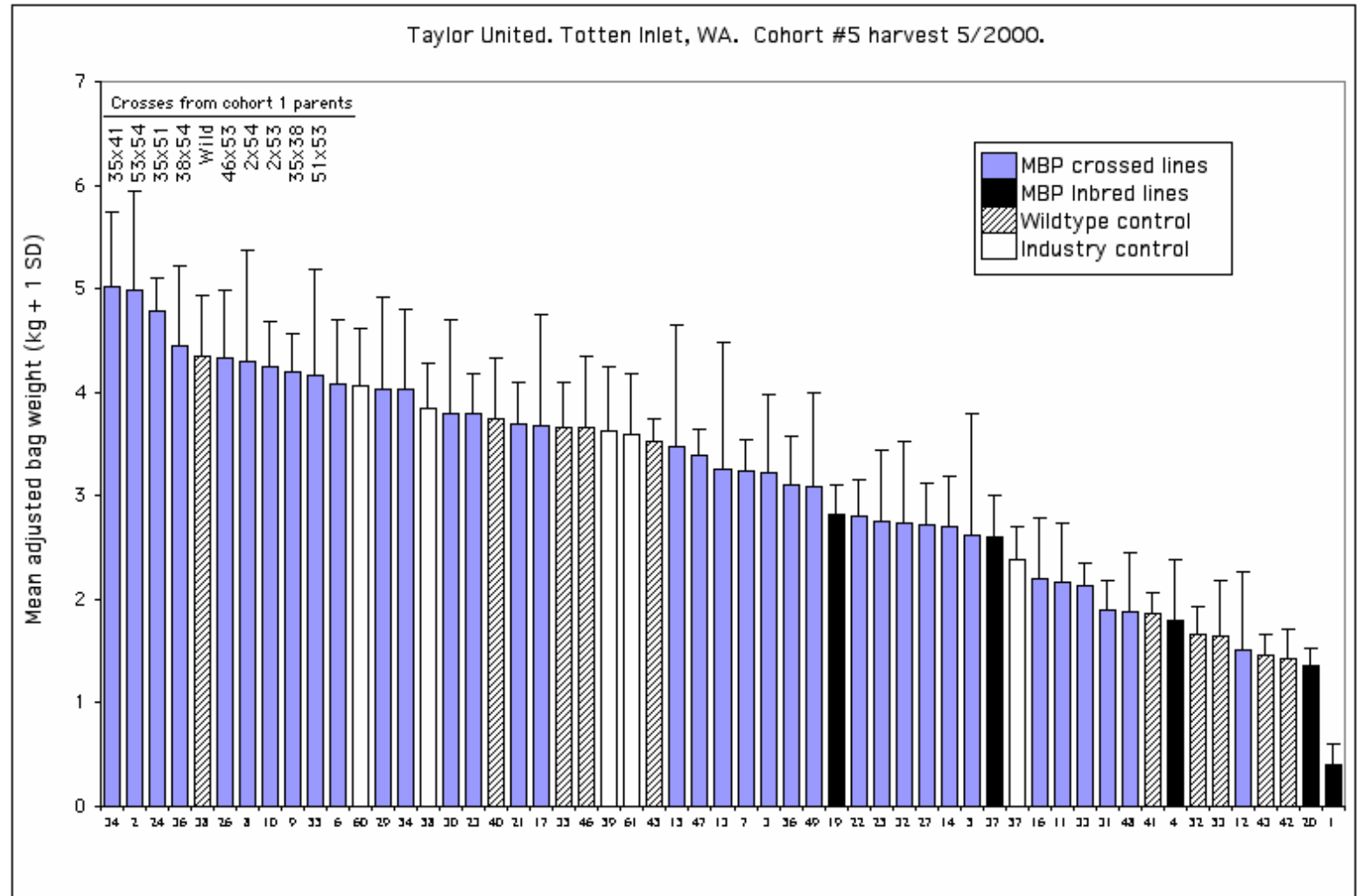
# Family-based genetics and selective breeding

Relative performance of (many) families reared under common conditions to estimate their genetic value



# Family-based selective breeding programs

- ◆ Molluscan Broodstock Program (MBP): selection for yield



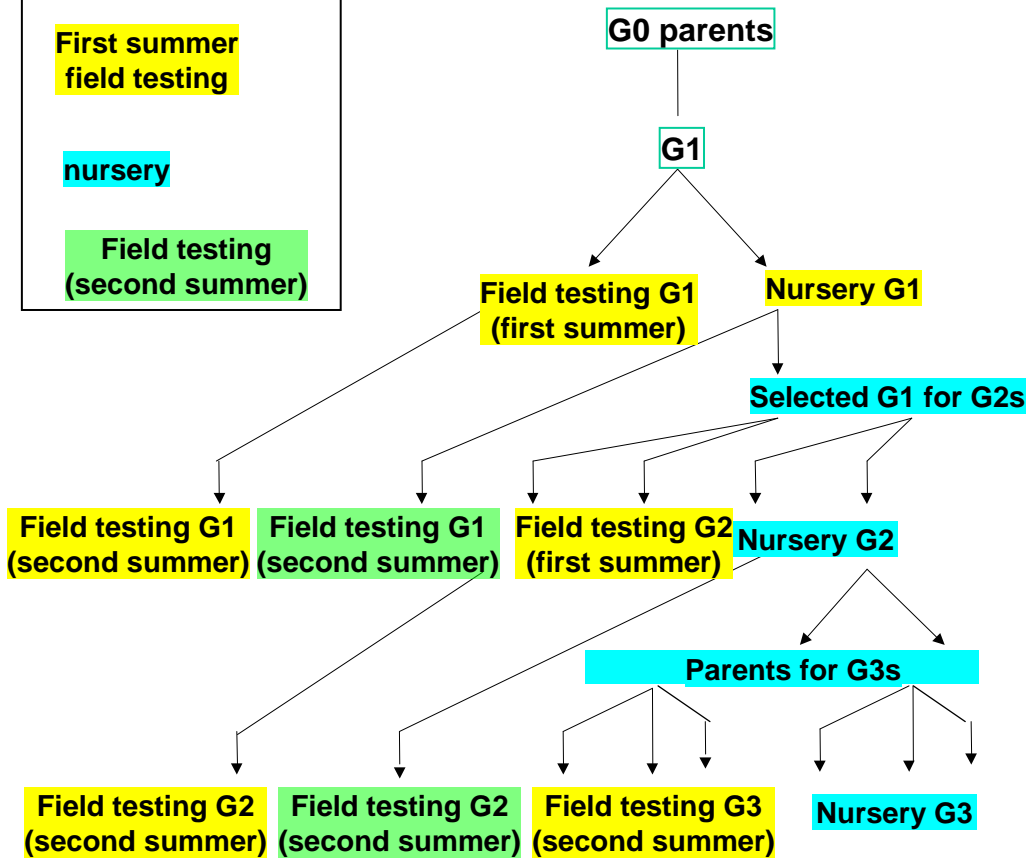
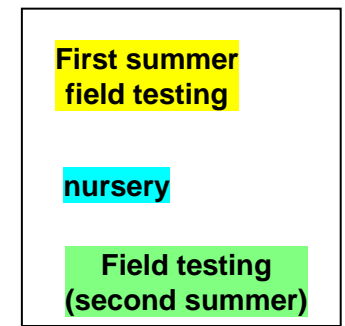
# Family-based selective breeding programs

- ◆ “WRAC” : development of inbred lines and crossbreeding



<http://hmsc.oregonstate.edu/projects/wrac/>

# Selective breeding experiment on spat survival



Autumn 2000

Spring 2001

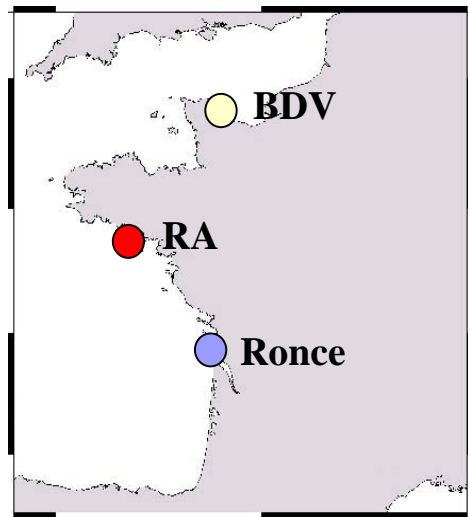
Summer 2001

Autumn 2001

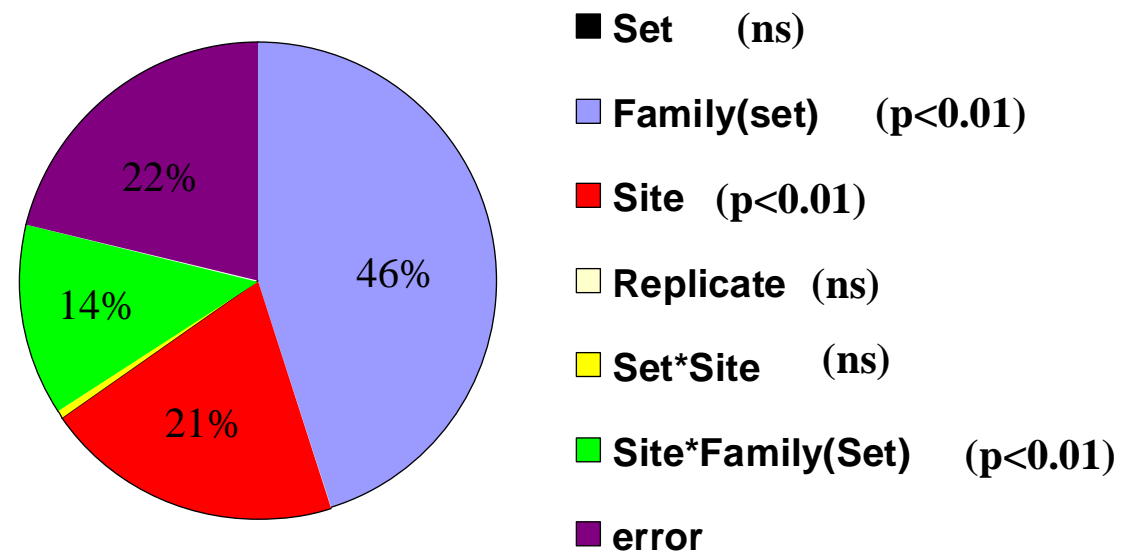
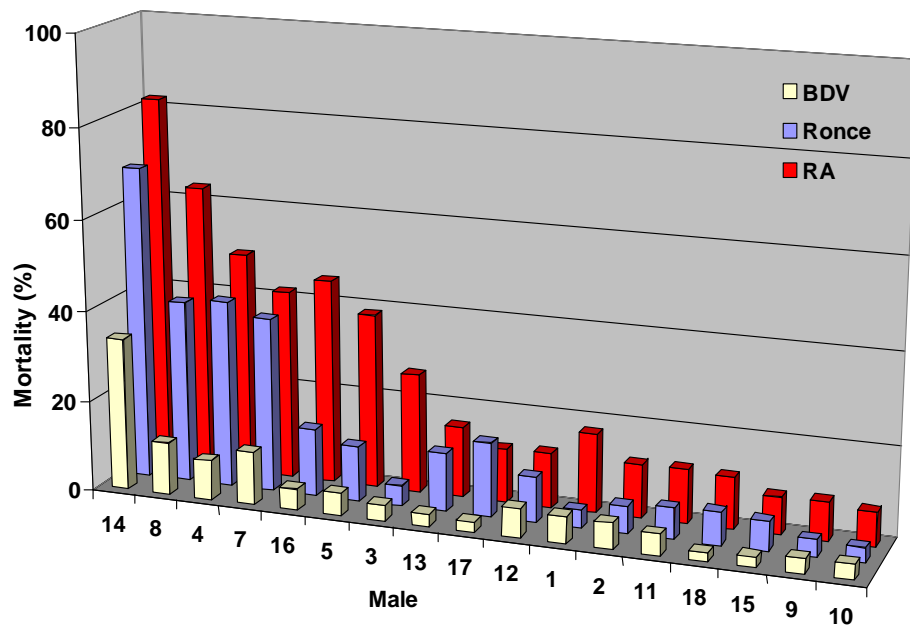
Summer 2002

Autumn 2002

Summer 2003



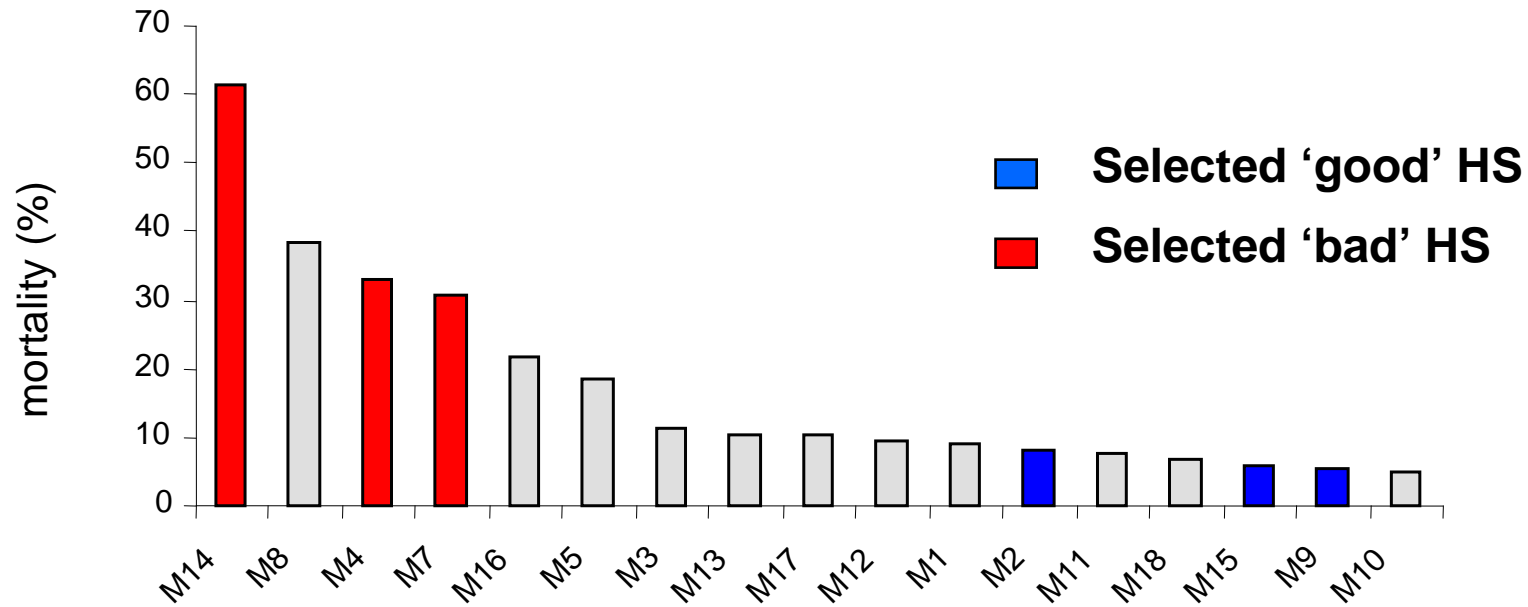
# G1 half-sib families: mortality in the field



$$h^2 = 0.81 \pm 0.29$$



# Second generation (G2SD): divergent selection



**Low selected group 'S'**

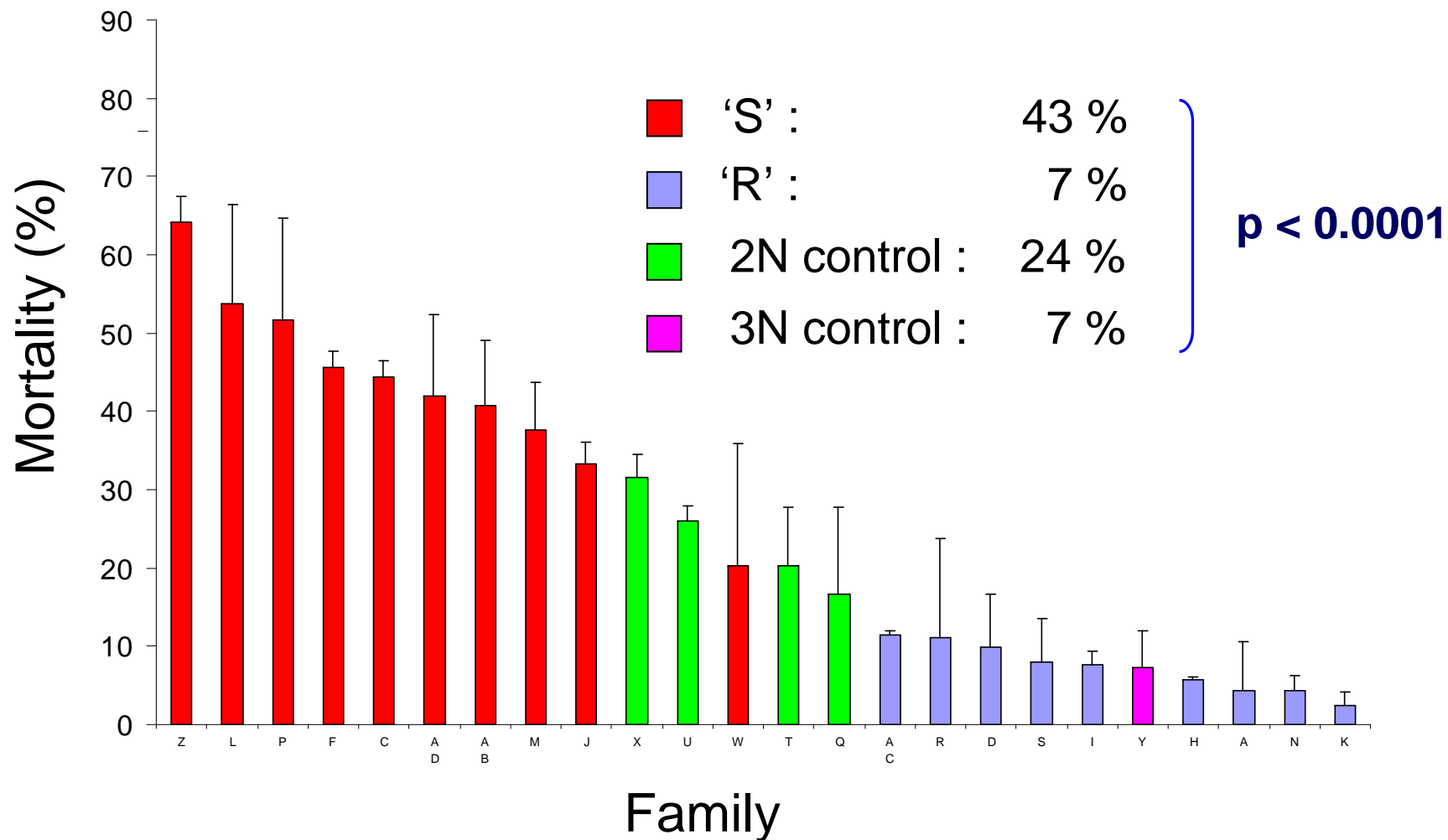
Male	4	7	14			
Family	F4-15	F4-16	F7-25	F7-26	F14-54	F14-55
4	F4-15		13	14	17	18
	F4-16		15	16	19	20
7	F7-25				21	22
	F7-26				23	24
14	F14-54					
	F14-55					

**High selected group 'R'**

Male	2	9	15			
Family	F2-5	F2-8	F9-35	F9-36	F15-57	F15-58
2	F2-5		1	2	5	6
	F2-8		3	4	7	8
9	F9-35				9	10
	F9-36				11	12
15	F15-57					
	F15-58					

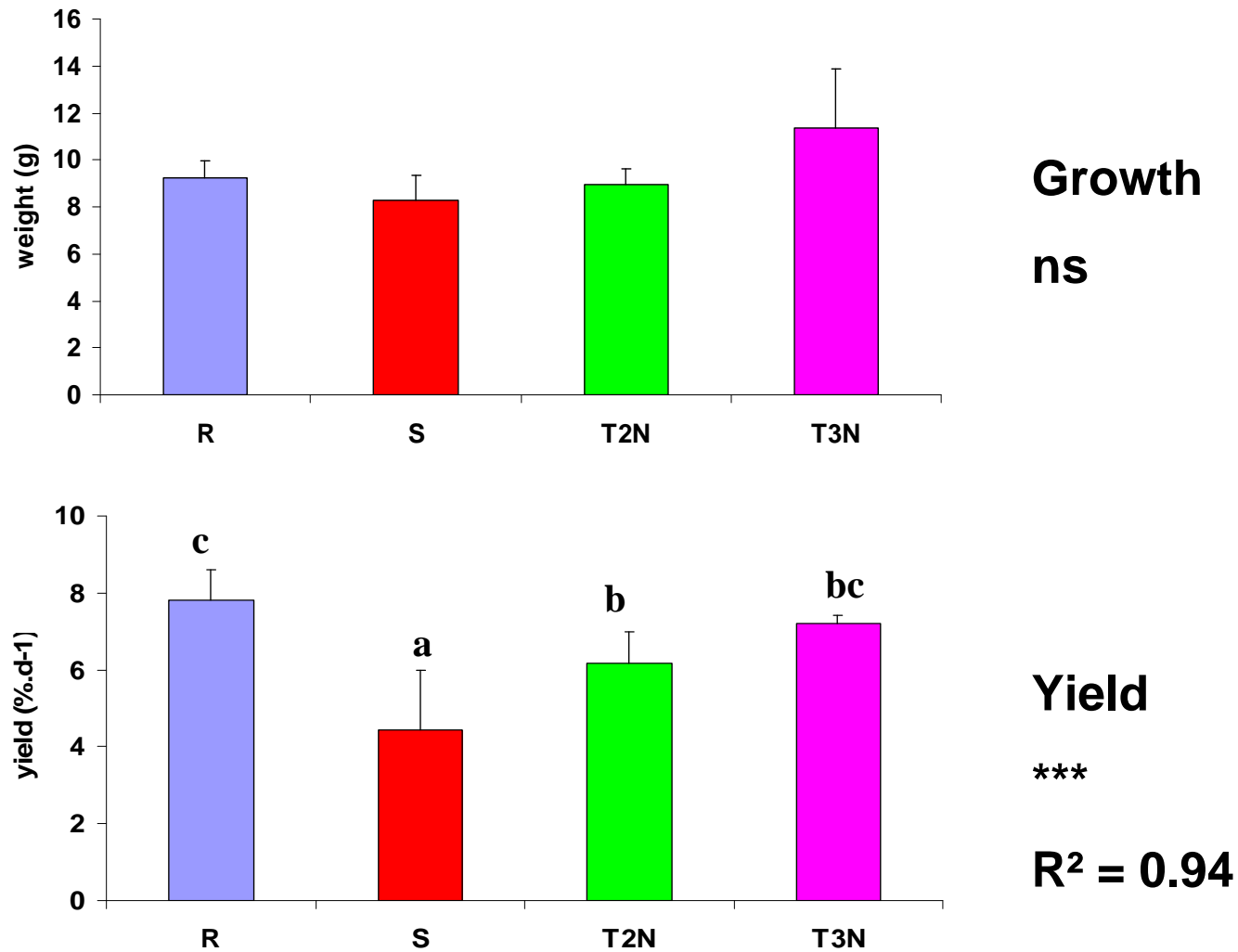
**+ Controls : 2N and 3N**

# G2SD: Summer mortality in Brittany (RA)

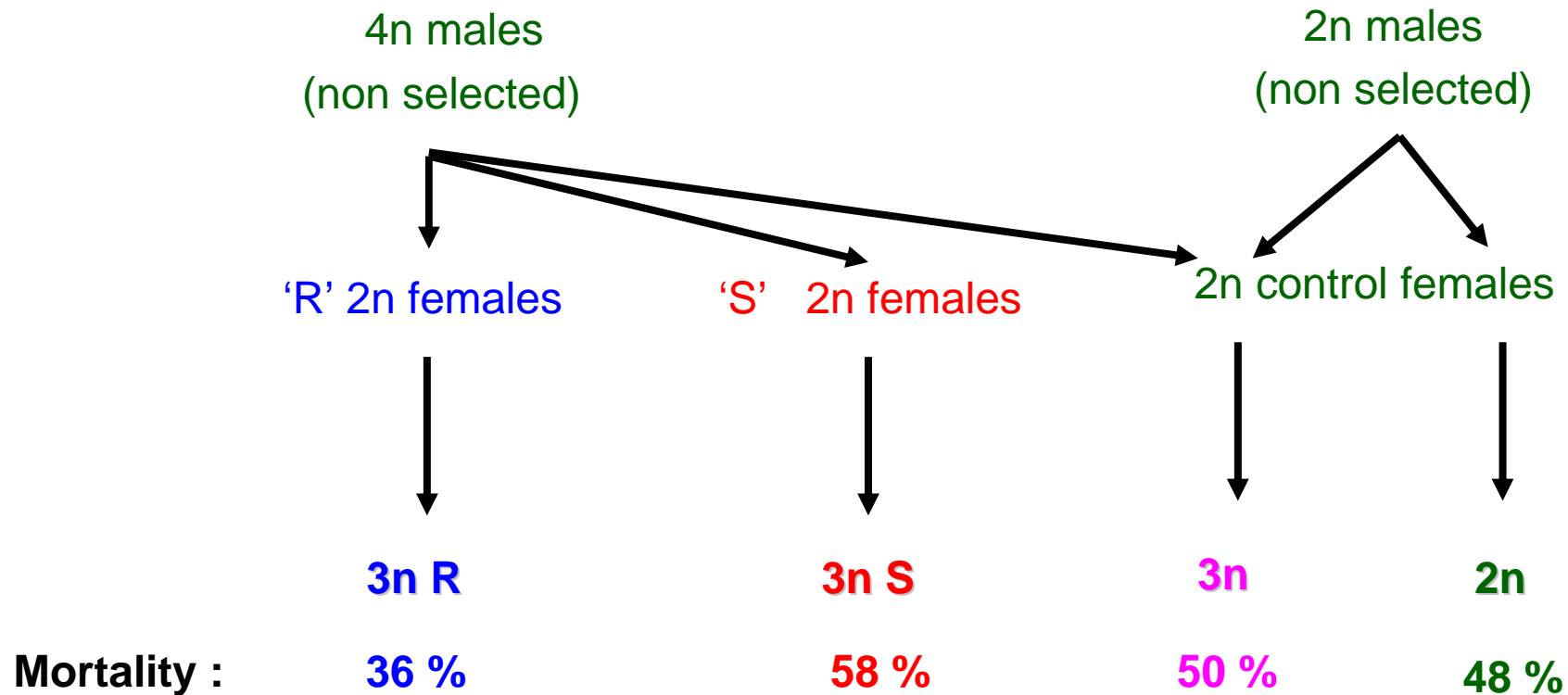


**S > T2n > T3n = R**

# G2SD: Response to selection for survival on growth and yield



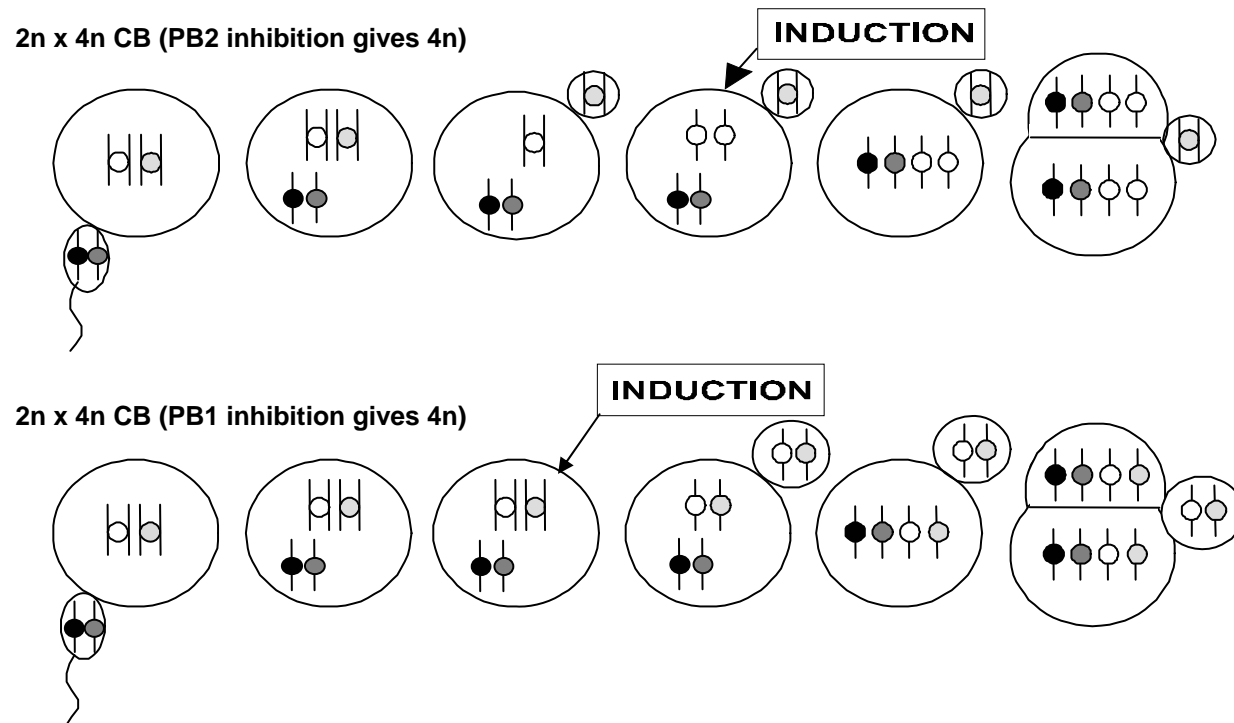
# How to breed selected polyploids ?



$$3n R < 2n = 3n = 3n S$$

# How to genetically improve tetraploids ?

- Production of new 4n stock from genetically improved 2n
- Direct selection of 4n
- Combined selection of 4n and 2n on their 3n progeny
- Introgression of selected traits from diploids to tetraploids :



# Conclusions:

Until now, relatively limited impact on production

Concerns about the interaction with the environment

Genetically improved bivalves can be developed, assuming hatchery production is feasible and profitable, so that money can be invested in selective breeding programs

Combined selective breeding and polyploidy is complex but promising

