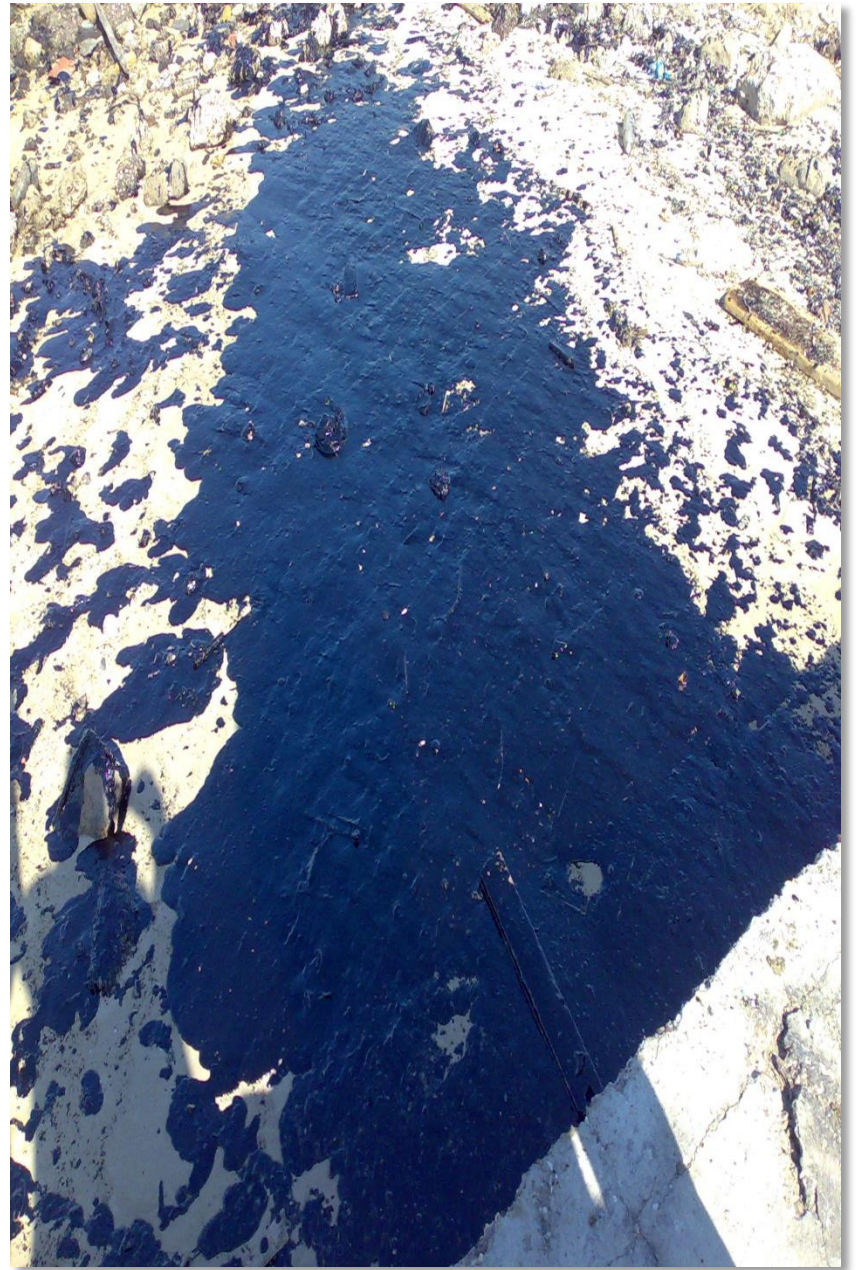




Effect of Water-Accommodated Fraction of  
Kuwait Crude Oil  
on  
Developmental Stages  
of  
Orange-Spotted Grouper Hamoor  
(*Epinephelus coicoides*)

Qusaie Karam, Ph.D



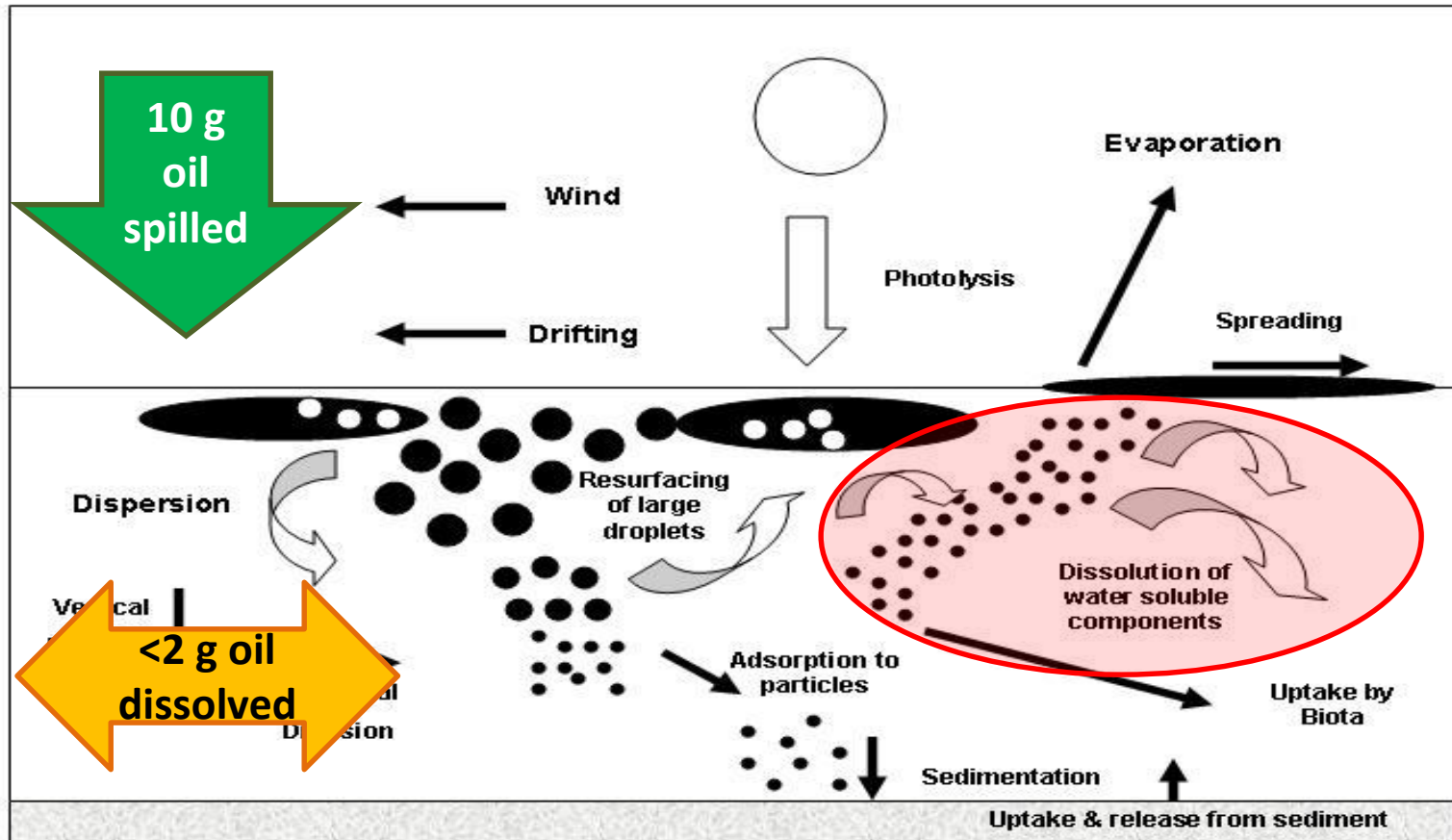
# Presentation Overview

1. Oil Spill Process.
2. WAF Preparation Methodology.
3. Chemical Characterization of KCO WAF.
4. Toxicity Testing of Kuwait Crude Oil.
5. Morphological Deformities of Fish Larvae.

# Objectives

- 1) To assess the effects of Kuwait crude oil water-accommodated fraction “**KCO WAF**” on embryonated egg hatching and larval survival of marine fish.
- 2) To gather a detailed visual evidence of the types of morphological deformities in eggs and larvae upon exposure to **KCO WAF**.

# Oil Spill Process



(from Daling et al., 1990)

## Preparation of Kuwait Crude Oil Water-Accommodated Fraction (KCO WAF ) for Toxicity Testing



**Oil to Water Ratio**

1:10 , with 1.0 g KCO/L seawater serially diluted.

**Mixing Duration**

24 h

**Mixing Energy**

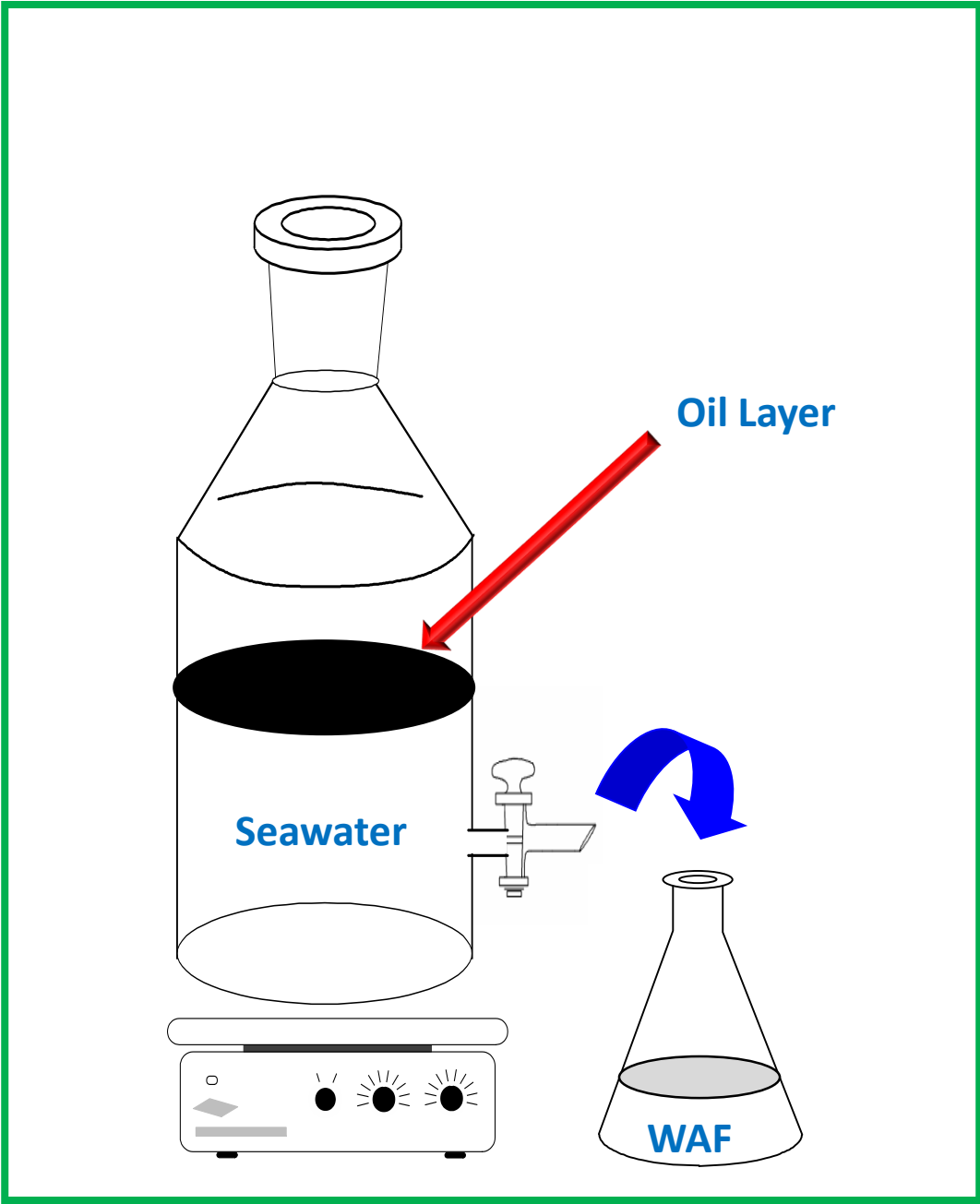
200 rpm

**Settling Period**

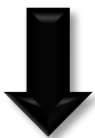
3h

**Method**

UNEP, 1989



# Chemical Characterization of KCO WAF (1.0 g KCO)



## **BTEX** -

Volatile Fraction

**Benzene:** 0.04 mg/L

**Toluene:** 0.10 mg/L

**Ethylbenzene:** 0.10 mg/L

**Xylene:** 0.06 mg/L



## **TPH** -

Total Petroleum  
Hydrocarbons

2.22 mg/L



## **PAH** -

Polycyclic Aromatic  
Hydrocarbons

22.0 ng/L



# Main Findings

- 1) The levels of **BTEX**, **TPH** and **PAHs** estimated in KCO WAF which are known to exert toxic effects on the early life stages of fish.
- 2) Fish can quickly absorb a part of the volatile fraction (**BTEX**) and **PAHs**, which can induce adverse consequences on fish growth.
- 3) **TPH** is a **better representative** of KCO WAF with respect to the selected oil loading (1.0 g KCO/L seawater).

**Toxicity Testing**

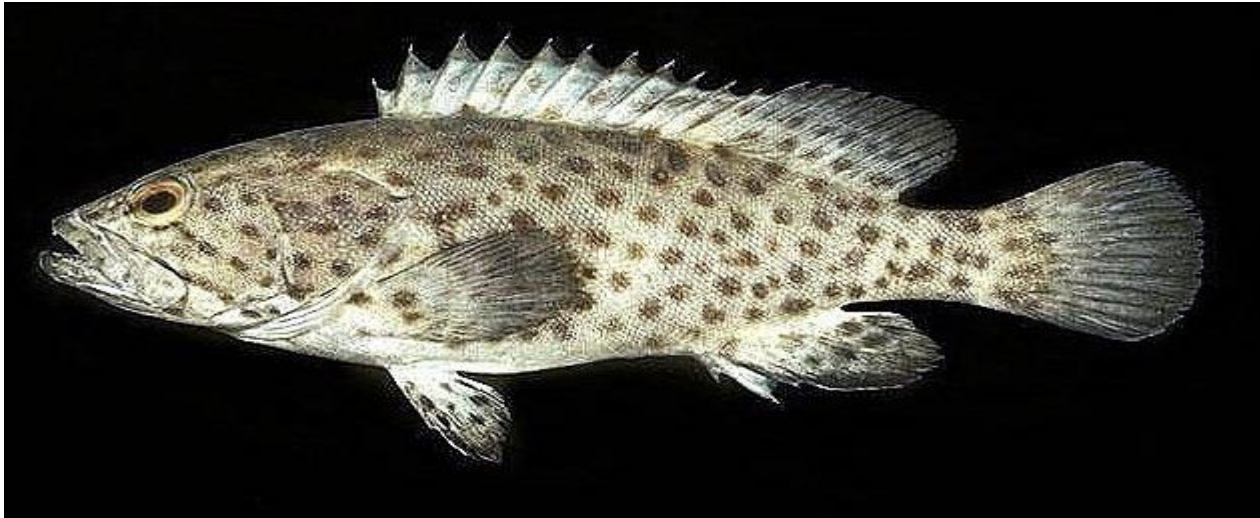
**of**

**KCO WAF**

**Against Orange-Spotted Grouper**

***(Epinephelus coicoides)***

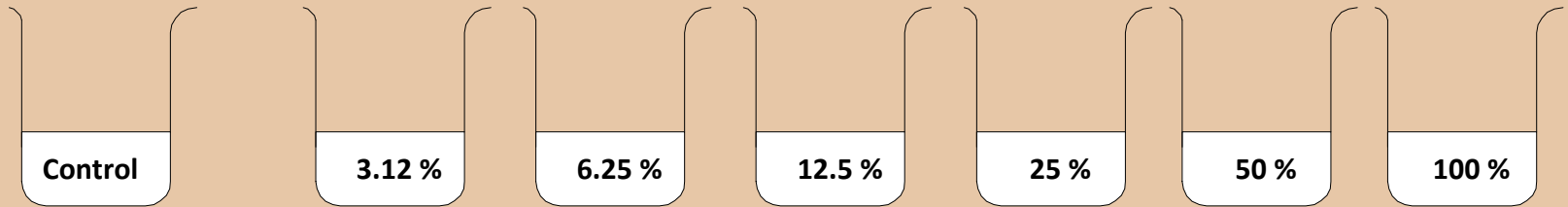
# Test Species



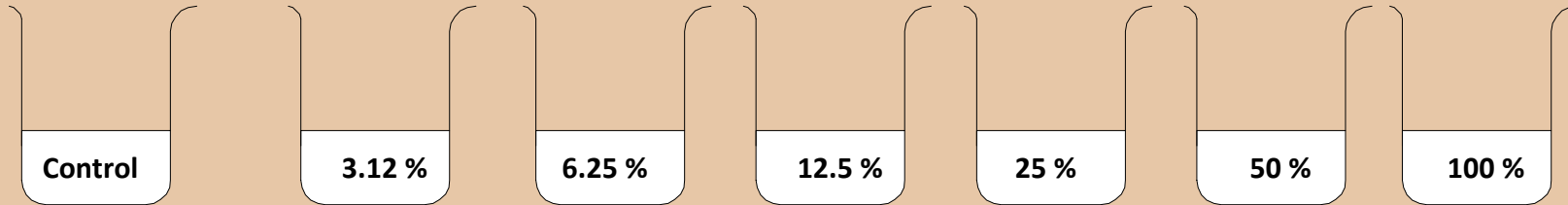
<b>Common Name</b>	Orange-Spotted Grouper
<b>Scientific Name</b>	<i>Epinephelus coicoides</i>
<b>Local Name</b>	Hamoor
<b>Age</b>	48 h embryonated eggs
<b>Method</b>	ASTM –E729-96 “Standard guide for conducting acute toxicity tests on test materials with fishes, microinvertebrates, and amphibians” 2002.

# Serial Dilutions & Controls

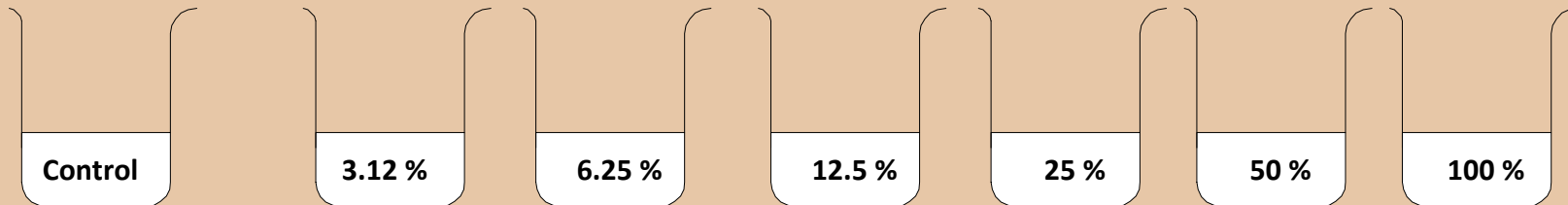
**1**



**2**



**3**



# Control Seawater

PERCENTAGES and AVERAGES OF SOBAITY 48-h LARVAL HATCHING and 96-h SURVIVAL SUCCESS for CONTROL SEAWATER.

Exposure Time (h)	No. of Controls														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
0 h	16	20	16	16	15	15	19	18	16	17	10	10	10	10	11
24 h	16	18	16	15	14	15	19	18	16	16	8	10	10	9	11
24-h Hatching Success(%)	100	90	100	94	93	100	100	100	100	94	80	100	100	90	100
48 h	16	20	16	16	15	15	19	18	16	17	10	10	10	10	11
48-h Hatching Success (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
72 h	16	20	16	16	15	14	19	18	16	17	10	10	10	10	11
72-h Survival Success (%)	100	100	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
96 h	16	20	16	16	15	14	19	18	16	17	10	9	9	9	10
96-h Survival Success (%)	100	100	100	100	100	93	100	100	100	100	100	90	90	90	91

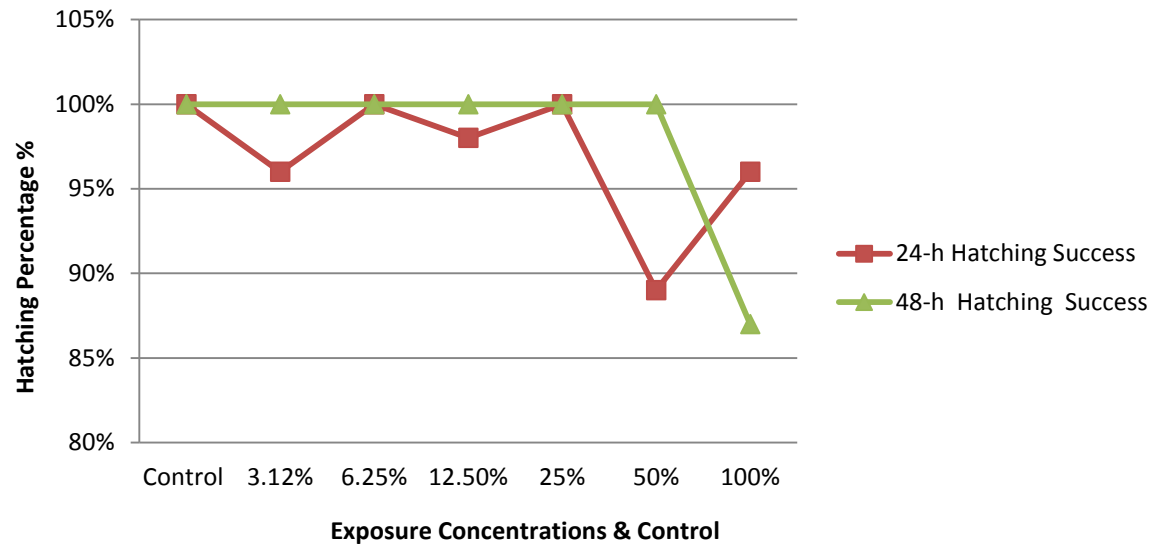


## KCO WAF Exposure

1.0 g KCO/l seawater

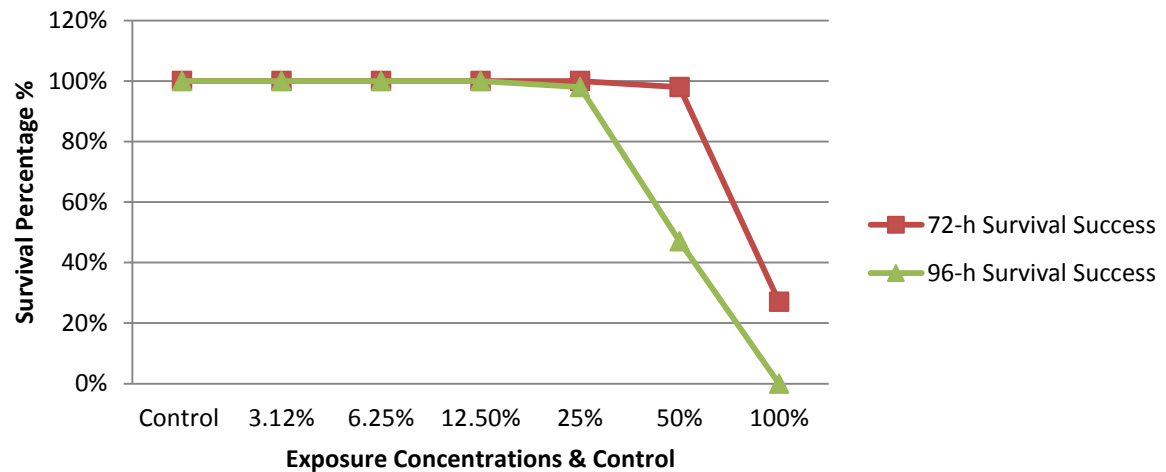
## Egg Hatching Success

48-h  $LC_{50}$  1.13 g KCO/l seawater  
(95% CI 0.23 to 5.51).



## Larval Survival Success

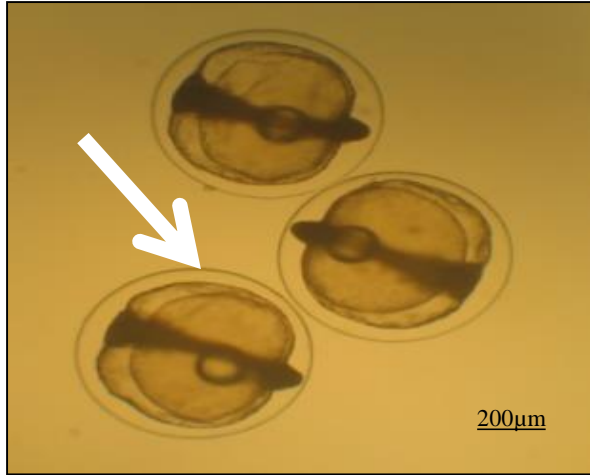
96-h  $LC_{50}$  was 0.48 g KCO/l seawater  
(95% CI 0.45 to 0.53)  
( $p < 0.05$ )



**Morphological  
Abnormalities  
in  
Fish Larvae**



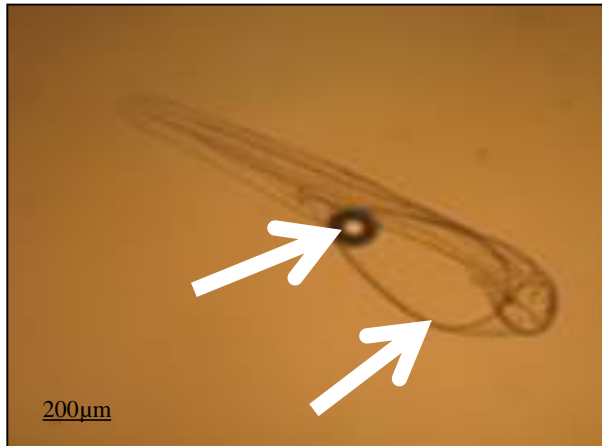
# Control Seawater



Healthy Hamoor Egg



Dead Hamoor Egg



Healthy Hamoor Larvae

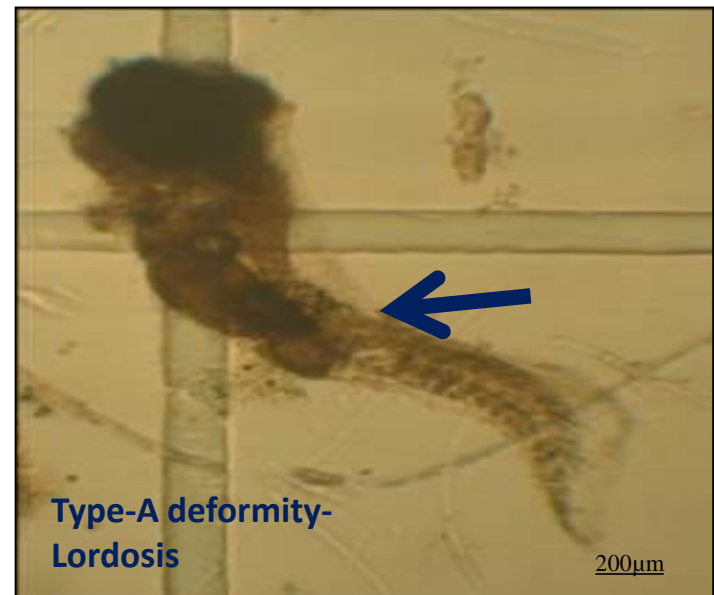
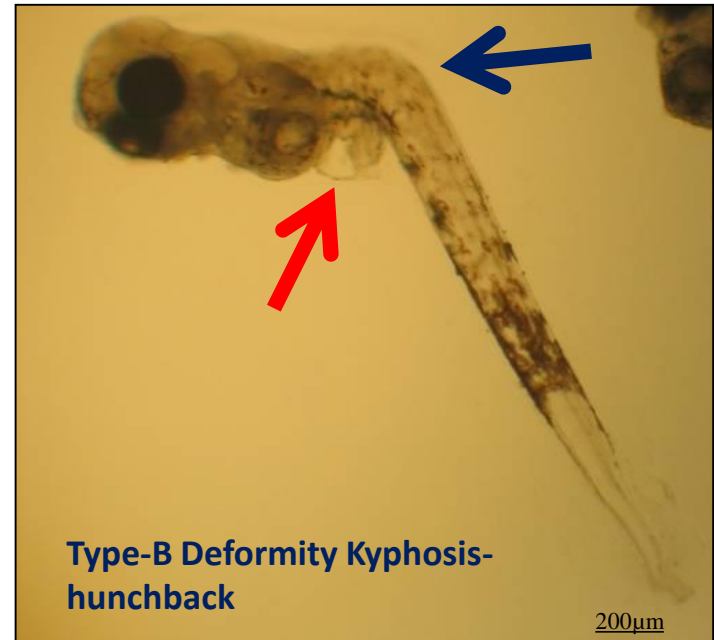
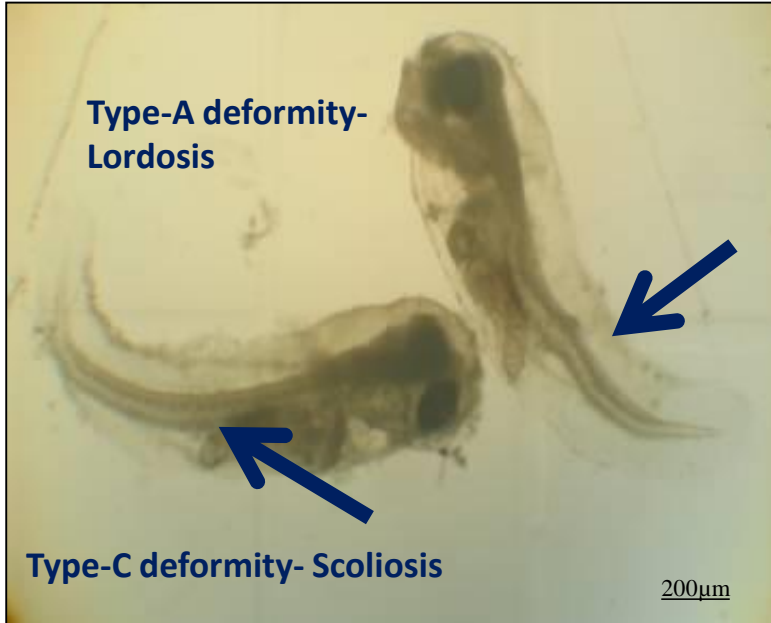


Dead Hamoor Larvae

## Hamoor Deformity Classification

- 1) Lordosis / Type-A** : Inward curvature of spine or V-Shaped.
- 2) Kyphosis / Type-B** : Hunchback.
- 3) Scoliosis / Type-C** : Lateral bending of spine.

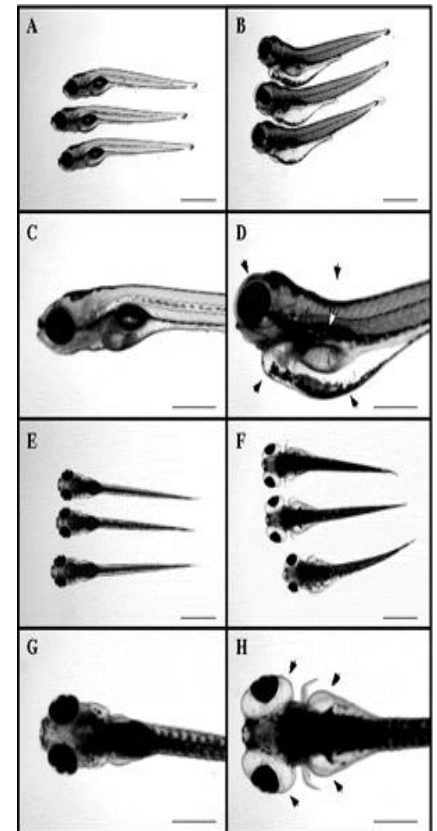
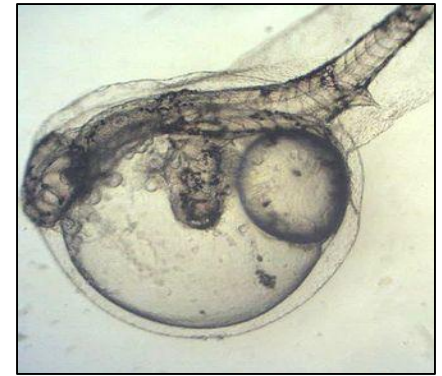
# Developmental Deformities Types



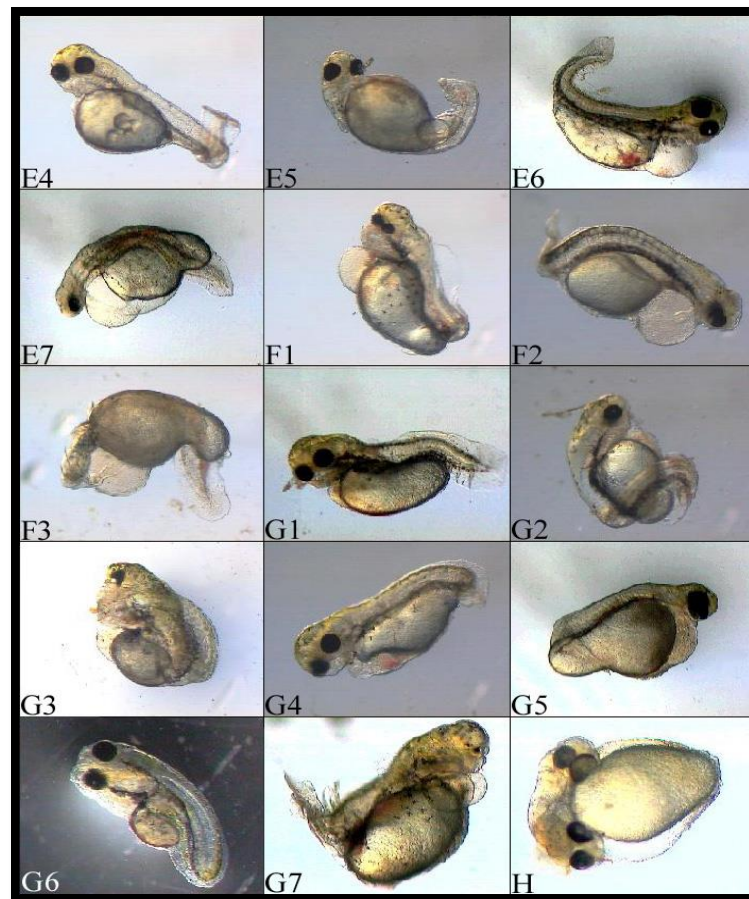
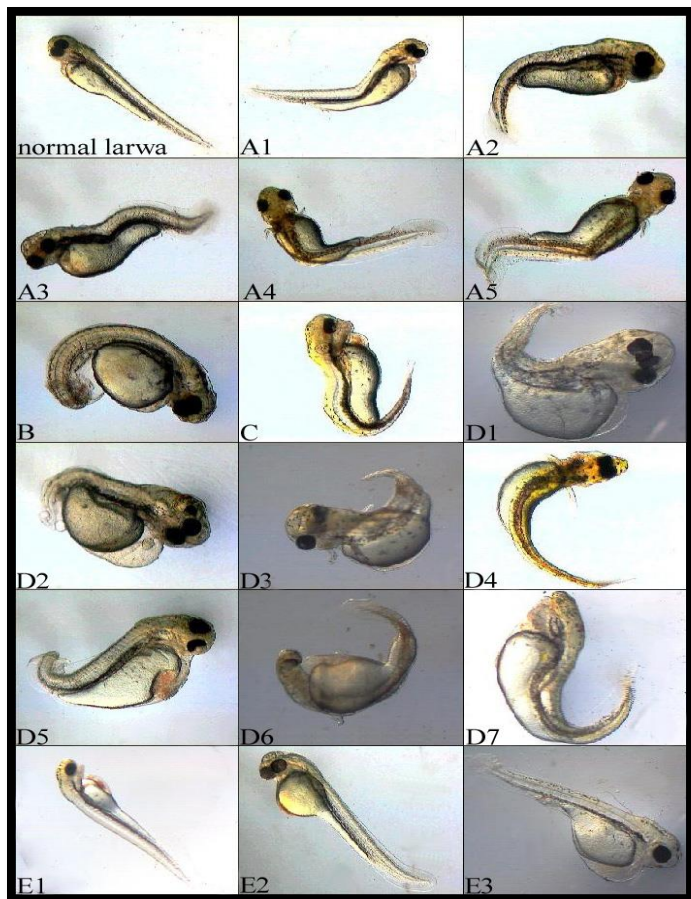
# Fish Morphological Abnormalities in literature

- Yolk sac edema
- Pericardium hemorrhaging (double-walled sac that contains the heart)
- Disruption of cardiac function
- Mutations
- Craniofacial and spinal deformities
- Impaired swimming
- Neuronal cell death
- Reduced growth

- White *et al.*, 1999; Barron *et al.*, 2003; Billiard *et al.*, 1999; 2002; Brinkworth *et al.*, 2003; Marty *et al.*, 1995; Incardona *et al.*, 2004.



# Fish Morphological Abnormalities in literature



Types of deformed larvae of common carp (Source: Jezierska et al., 2000).

# Deformity Type Percentages of Hamoor Larvae after Exposure 1.0g KCO WAF

Exposure Time (h)	WAF Concentration(%)					
	3.12	6.25	12.5	25	50	100
Exposure No. 1						
0	14 <sup>s</sup>	15 <sup>s</sup>	16 <sup>s</sup>	14 <sup>s</sup>	15 <sup>s</sup>	26 <sup>s</sup>
24	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd
48	nd	nd	nd	d.A-7%	d.A-27%	d.A-73%, d.C-4%
72	nd	nd	nd	d.A-7%	d.A-73%	All Dead
96	nd	nd	nd	13*	d.A-7%	All Dead
Exposure No. 2						
0	17 <sup>s</sup>	14 <sup>s</sup>	15 <sup>s</sup>	16 <sup>s</sup>	15 <sup>s</sup>	12 <sup>s</sup>
24	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd
48	nd	nd	nd	nd	d.A-53%	d.A-33%, d.B-8%, C-8%
72	nd	nd	nd	nd	d.A-33%	d.A-42%, d.C-8%
96	nd	nd	nd	nd	d.A-7%	All Dead
Exposure No. 3						
0	17 <sup>s</sup>	14 <sup>s</sup>	15 <sup>s</sup>	16 <sup>s</sup>	15 <sup>s</sup>	12 <sup>s</sup>
24	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd
48	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd	nd
72	nd	nd	nd	nd	d.A-29%	d.A-34%
96	nd	nd	nd	nd	d.A-29%	All Dead

nd: no deformity recorded and all of the larvae survived.

d. A% denotes % of Type-A deformity, d. B %: denotes % of Type-B deformity, and d. C %: denotes % of Type-C deformity.

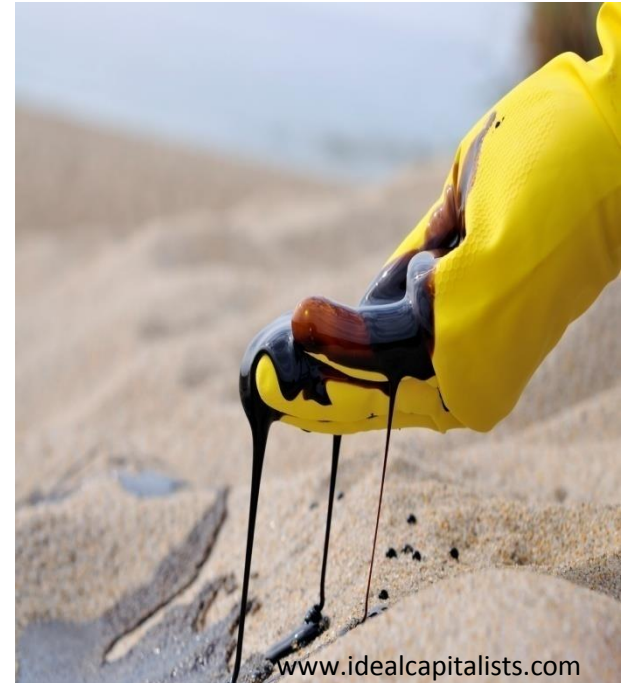
<sup>s</sup>: denotes number of larvae at start of exposure (0 h).

\*: denotes that 13 out of 14 larvae survived.

<sup>f</sup>: denotes WAF prepared by using 1.0g KCO/l seawater.

## Main Findings

- 1) Larvae hatched during exposure were vulnerable to KCO WAF toxicity.
- 2) As a result, larvae demonstrated specific deformity types which reflected the stress induced by the toxic effect of crude oil on the overall health status of each larva, compared to the healthy control larvae which did not exhibit any deformity.
- 3) In the exposed larvae, mainly:
  - Type-A (Lordosis-inward curvature of spine or V-shaped).
  - Type-B (Kyphosis-hunchback).
  - Type-C (Scoliosis-Lateral bending of spine) deformities were observed.

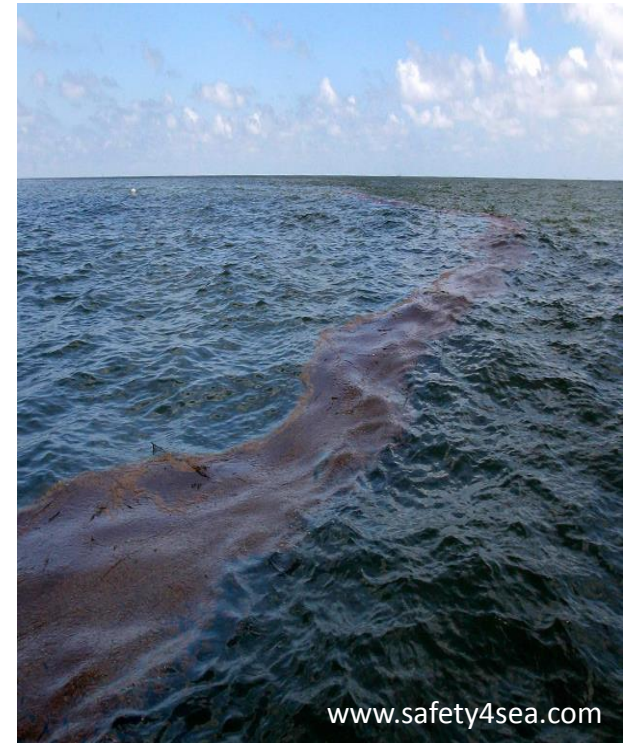


- 4) TPH of 2.22 mg/l caused fish larval deformity at  $\leq 1.0$ g KCO/l loading which was higher than what was observed in literature where hatchability was decreased at  $\geq 0.5$ -mg TPH.
- 5) WAF prepared at 1-g KCO/l showed a linear response in percentage abnormality of larvae exposed to dilution series.
- 6) Vertebral abnormalities which amounted to more than 90% of skeletal defects recorded in various KCO treatments.
- 7) PAHs detected in WAF of KCO may possibly be the causative agents as PAHs are known to exert distinct type of abnormalities as observed in the present exposure experiments.

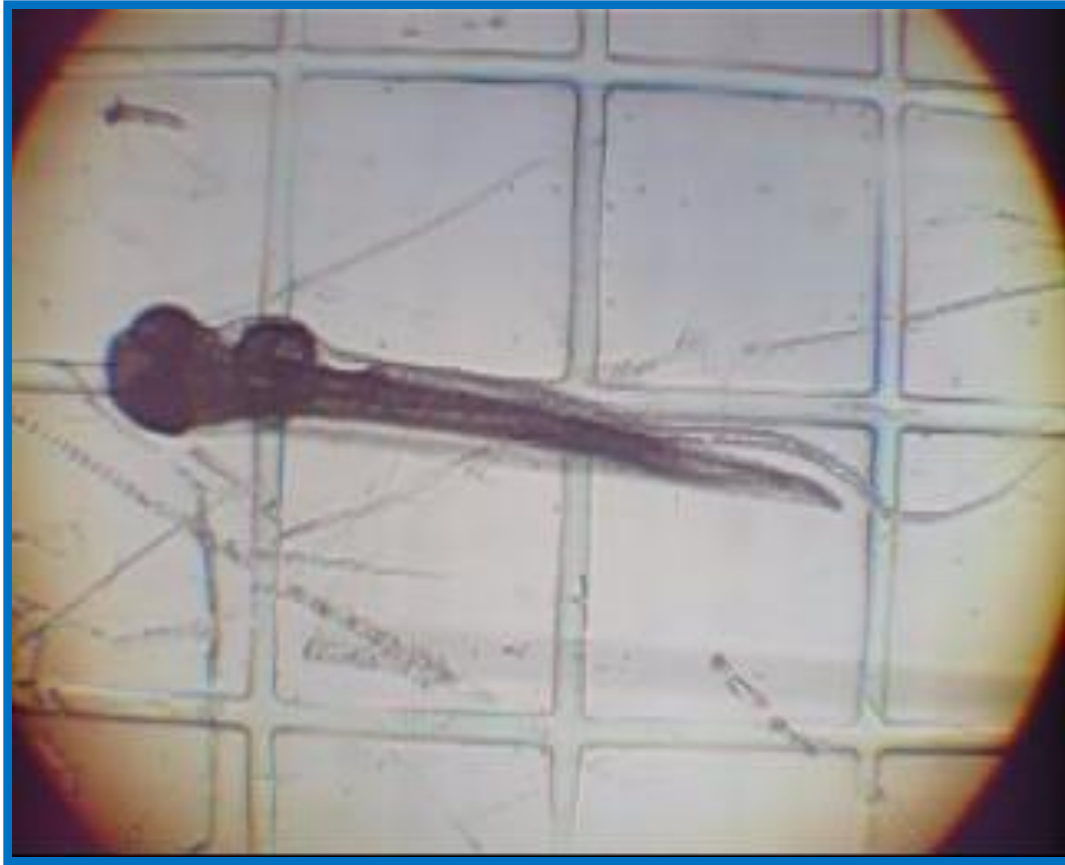




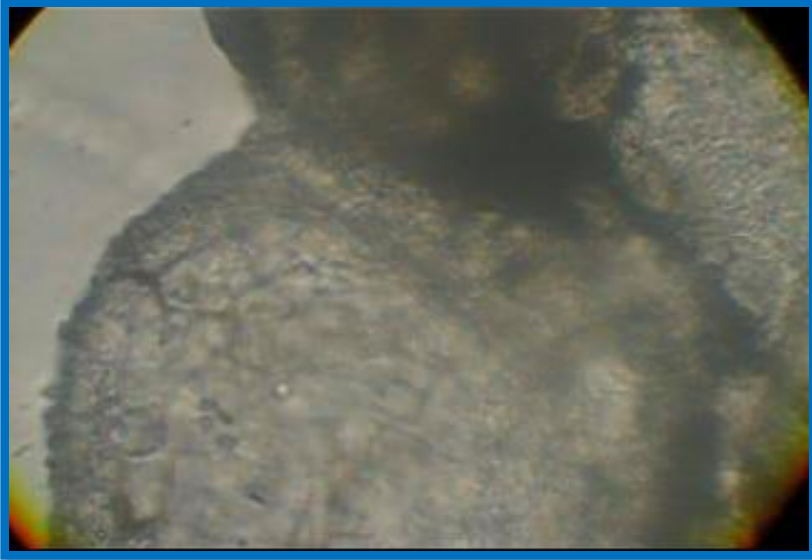
- 8) In short-term toxicity tests (24, 48, 72, 96 h), the toxicity of crude oil was due to dissolved hydrocarbon.
- 9) The concentration of TPH in marine water of Kuwait ranges from 0.0015 to 0.026 mg TPH/l seawater with occasional values touching more than 0.02 mg TPH/l seawater (EPA Kuwait, 2008).
- 10) Therefore, although normally, the concentration of TPH in marine water of Kuwait remains far below the concentration that can induce morphological deformity nonetheless, risk of exposure does exist.



# Control Fish Larvae



# Deformed Fish Larvae Reduced Heart Beat



# THANK YOU

