

ABSTRACT

Otoliths are small, white minerals mostly composed of calcium carbonate. They are located in inner ear of fishes and provide balance and hearing. To the biologist, the otoliths are one of the most important structure for understanding the annual age, where and in which conditions the fish was living, and even what was its diet. This paper is focused on summarizing and ordering the use of otoliths, what methods do we use and possibilities of applications in environmental studies.

Key words: otolith, fish age, fish population, chemistry otoliths, microstructure of otoliths, chemistry otoliths, fish growth