New Approaches to Collecting Reproductive Material from Amphibians for its Use in Artificial Fertilization

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This paper describes new methods for obtaining viable ovulated oocytes and testicular sperm from the carcasses of females and males of the common frog *Rana temporaria*, stored at +4ºC for 1–7 days. In addition, a new approach to delayed collection (1 to 30 days) of ovulated oocytes from live female frogs of the same species is given. Part of the frog testicular spermatozoa is shown to retain motility (21.0±1.5%) and fertilizing ability (13.2±1.9%) even after 6 days of storage at +4°C in the carcasses of males. Ovulated oocytes stored in female frog carcasses at 4°C for eight days retained the ability for fertilization (39.2±4.2%) and subsequent development until hatching (16.0±6.2%). Our results also indicate the possibility of delayed (up to 30 days) *in vivo* obtaining oocytes capable to fertilization (46.4±3.0%) and further development until hatching (49.2±7.7%). The results of this paper are a further step in the development of modern reproductive technologies.
Key words: common frog, *Rana temporaria*, oocytes, spermatozoids, reproductive technologies, cryopreservation.

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