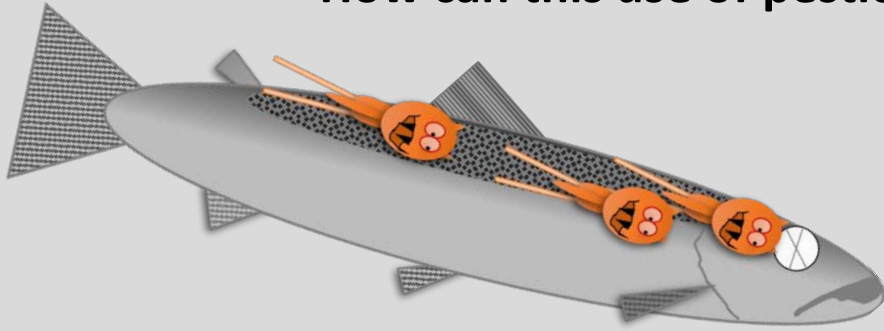


## Environmental effects of chemicals used against salmon lice



In aquaculture, pesticides are used against parasitic salmon lice to protect the health of farmed and wild Atlantic salmon.

- How can this use of pesticides as medicine affect our coastal marine environment?



## Salmon lice and the war against lice



How to get rid of lice

- Kill them with **chemicals**
- Use cleaner fish and other non-chemical methods
- Protect the salmon from lice in (semi-)closed cages

### Economic consequences

- Costs billions for the aquaculture industry

### Environmental consequences

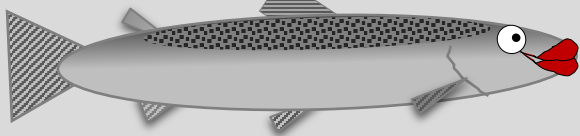
- Animal welfare for farmed and wild salmon
- Risk for reduced stocks of wild salmon
- Animal welfare and overfishing of cleaner fish
- **Risk for non-target crustaceans**, and the rest of the coastal ecosystem

# The perfect anti-salmon lice medicine

Low toxicity to:

Humans

Salmon



Must eat the chemical or swim in a solution

- ✓ Fast depuration after treatment of the fish

The environment

including *non-target crustaceans*

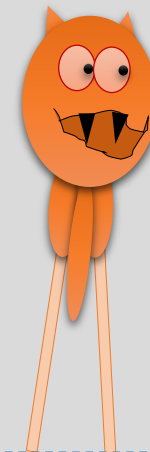


- ✓ Fast degradation
- ✓ Low bioavailability
- ✓ Low toxicity

High toxicity to:

Salmon lice

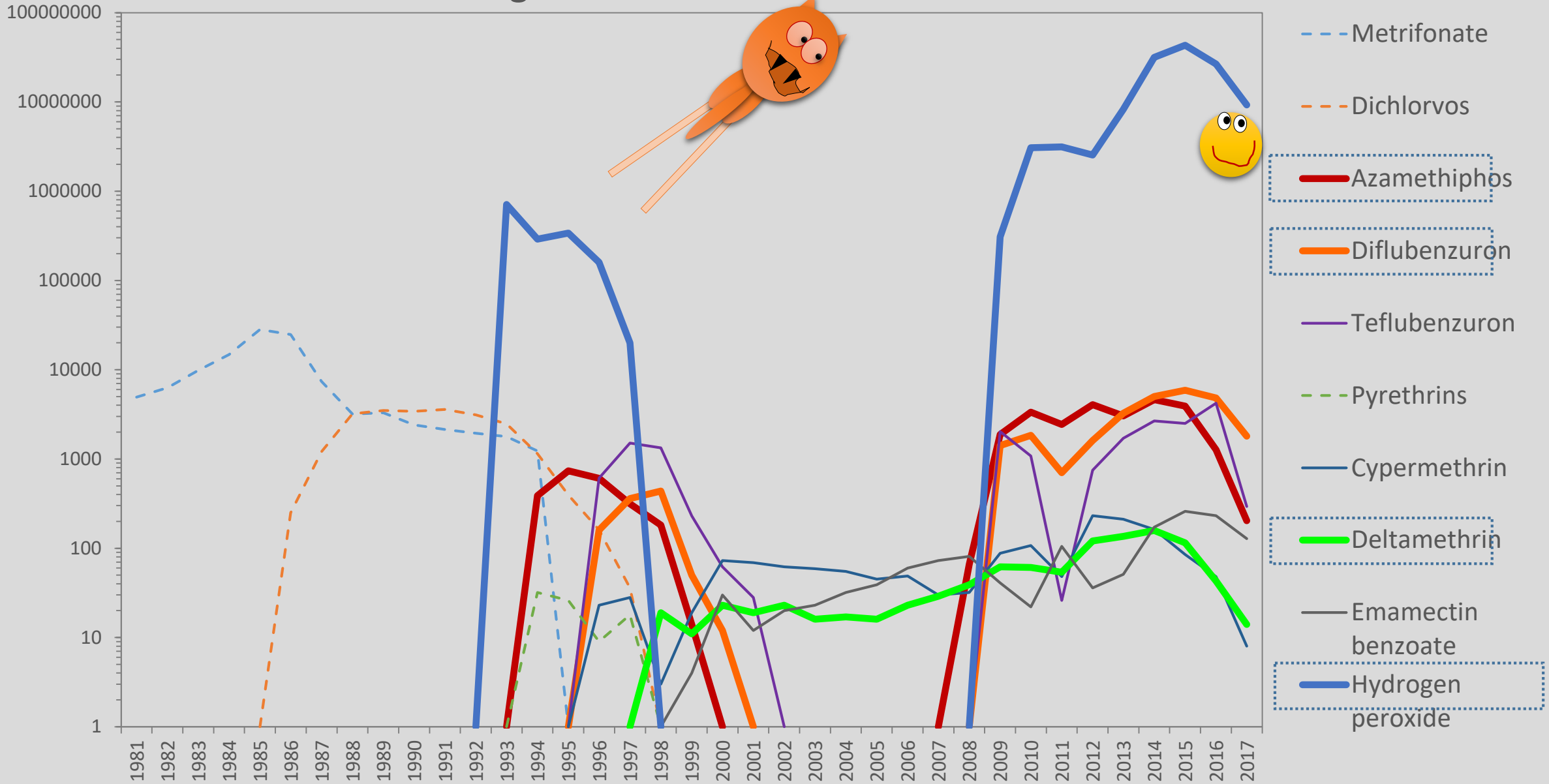
= target *crustaceans*



Must die!  
... and not develop resistance

# Chemicals used against salmon lice 1981-2017

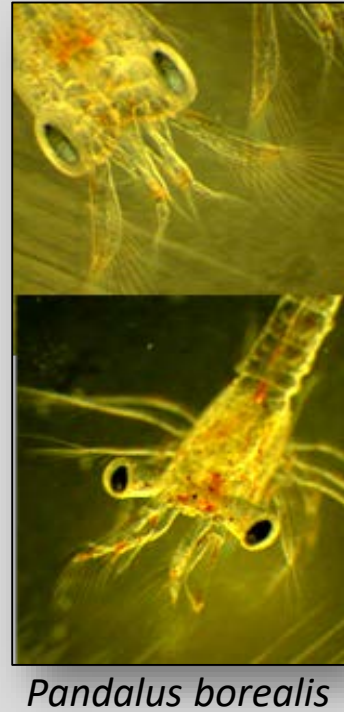
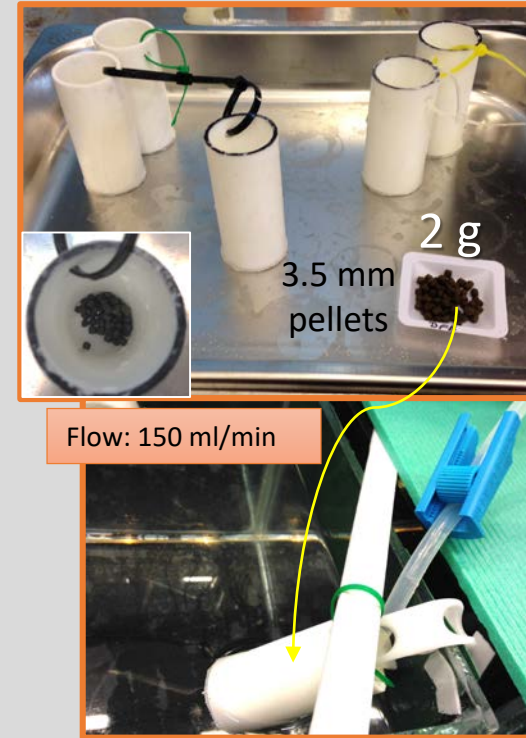
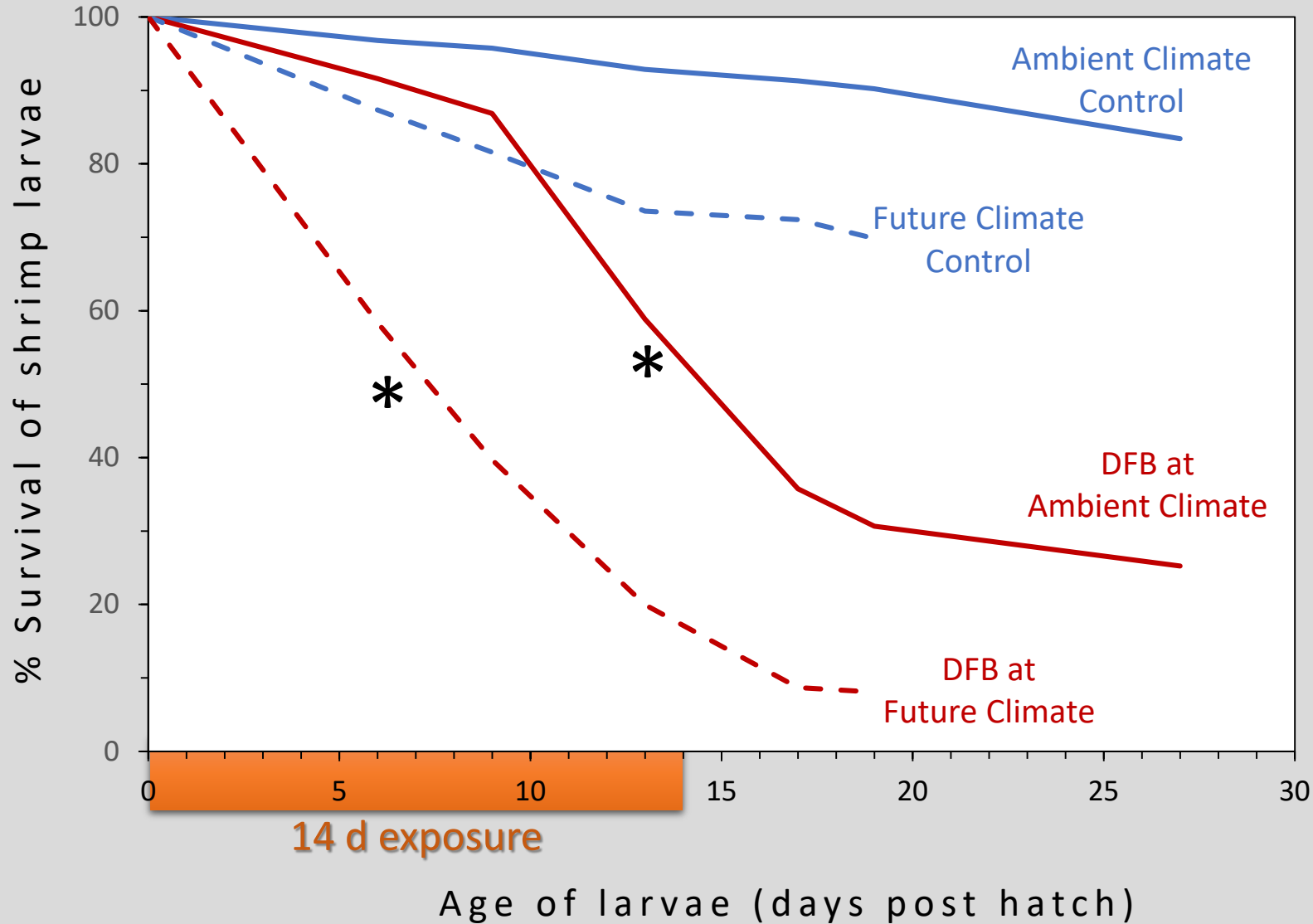
kg used per year (log scale)



Effects of Releeze  
medicine feed  
containing diflubenzuron

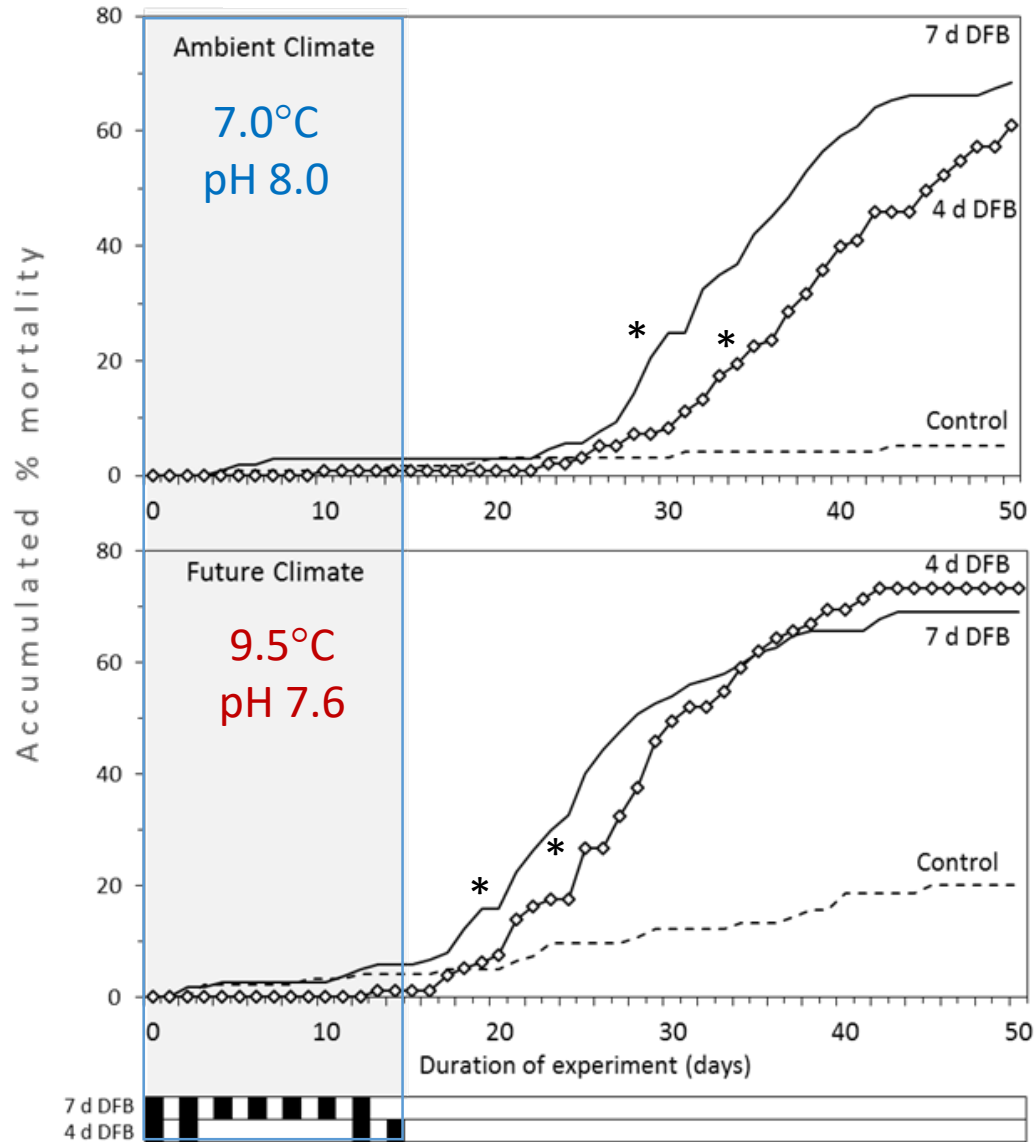


# High mortality of shrimp larvae exposed to tiny particles of medicated feed with diflubenzuron (DFB) as the active ingredient



Ambient climate: pH 8.0, 7.0 °C  
Future Climate: pH 7.6, 9.5 °C

# Mortality



Female shrimp were fed Releeze a few times before moulting

High mortality of adult shrimp eating a few pellets Releeze



- Control shrimp moulted successfully
- Hardly any shrimp exposed to medicine feed for two weeks managed to moult, and most died during moulting
- 4 pellets Releeze (ca 0.1 gram) is enough to kill adult shrimp that need to moult during the next 2-3 weeks
- 8 million kg of this medicine feed was used in 2016

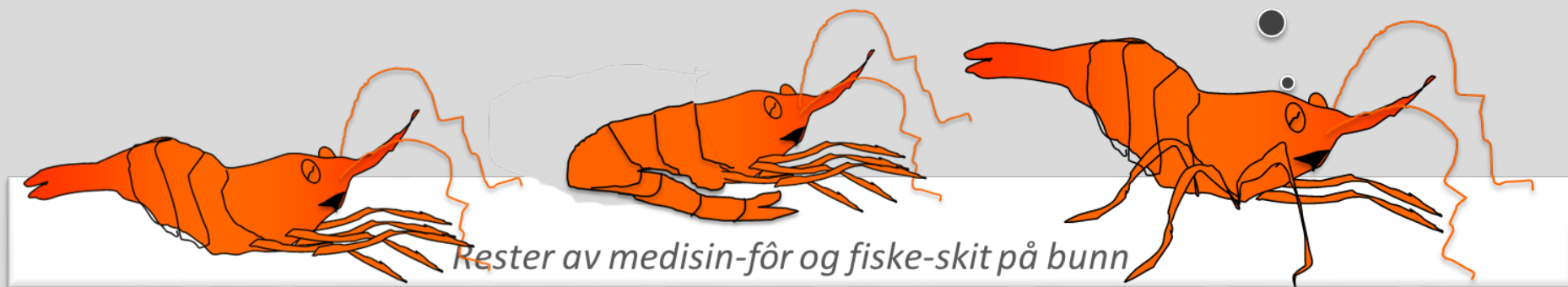
Mean for 6 replicate tanks with 17 shrimps in each

# - Are flubenzuronones (from feed) bioavailable for crustaceans in the field?

- Yes

- ✓ Langford *et al.* 2014, NIVA: Diflubenzuron and teflubenzuron were detected in shrimp, crab and blue mussels sampled 3 weeks after treatment.
- ✓ Samuelsen *et al.* 2015, IMR: Teflubenzuron was still detected in crustaceans and polychaets 8 months after treatment.
- ✓ Samuelsen *et al.* 2014 & 2015, IMR: The results indicate that the concentrations of teflubenzuron in king crab, shrimp, squat lobster and Norway lobster were high enough to induce mortality if moulting was imminent.

There is no such thing as a free lunch



# Effects of «bath chemicals»

Hydrogen peroxide – in Paramove

Strong oxidizing agent, non-specific

Azamethiphos – in Salmosan

Neurotoxic acetylcholinesterase inhibitor

..... leading to paralysis

Deltamethrin – in AlphaMax

Neurotoxic ... leading to paralysis

# Experiment with shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*)

AlphaMax

DEL

Deltamethrin



5 L  
stock solution

3.2 ml/min

Peristaltic pump  
with 6 pump heads



10 shrimp with eggs



X 6 tanks

DEL

Salmosan

AZA

Azamethiphos



5 L  
stock solution

Peristaltic pump  
with 6 pump heads



10 shrimp with eggs



X 6 tanks

AZA

AlphaMax

DEL

Deltamethrin



5 L  
stock solution

Peristaltic pump  
with 6 pump heads



10 shrimp with eggs



X 6 tanks

AZA + DEL

Salmosan

AZA

Azamethiphos



5 L  
stock solution

Peristaltic pump  
with 6 pump heads



Paramove

H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

Hydrogen peroxide



5 L  
stock solution

Peristaltic pump  
with 6 pump heads



10 shrimp with eggs

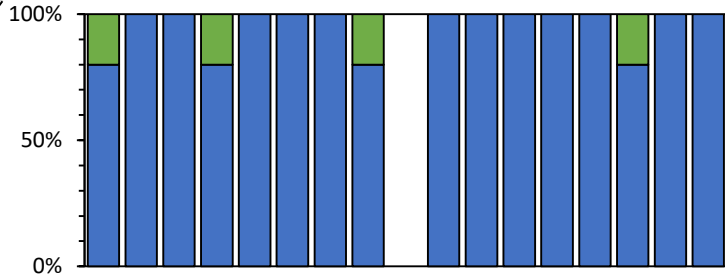


X 6 tanks

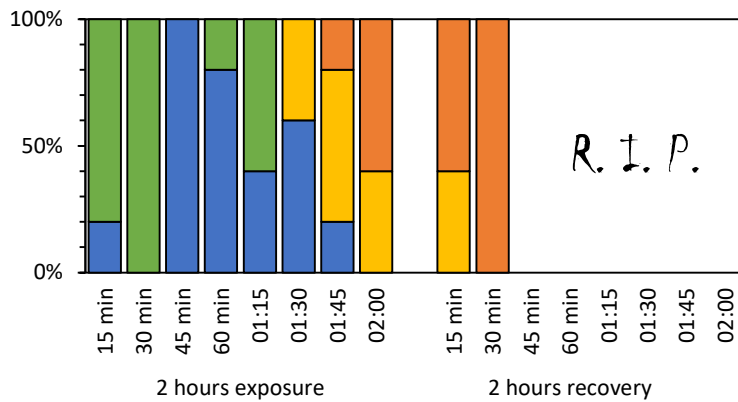
H2O2

# Scceening tests with AlphaMax (deltamethrin)

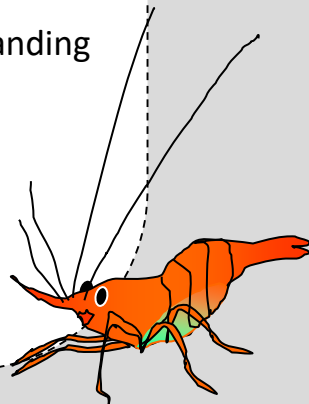
Control



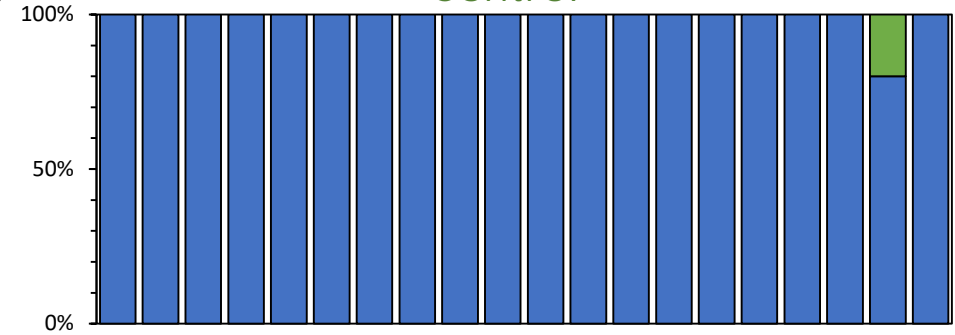
2 hours @ 10 times diluted AlphaMax solution + 2 hours recovery



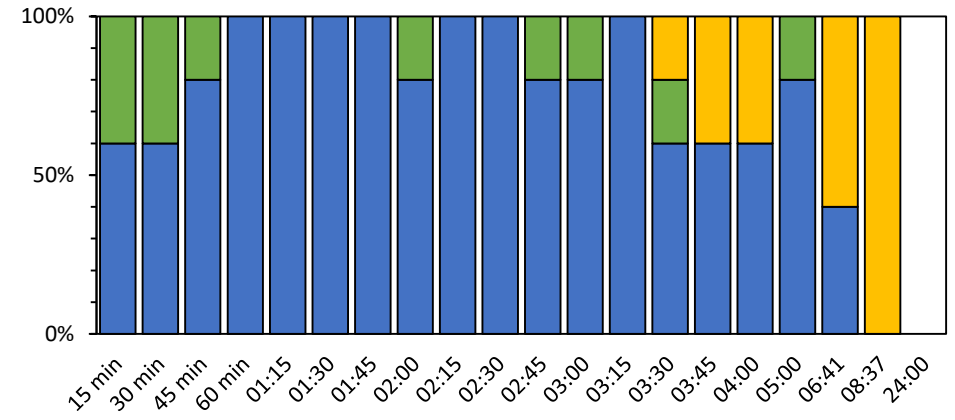
- acc. Dead
- Lying down
- Swimming
- Standing

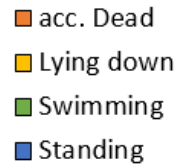


Control

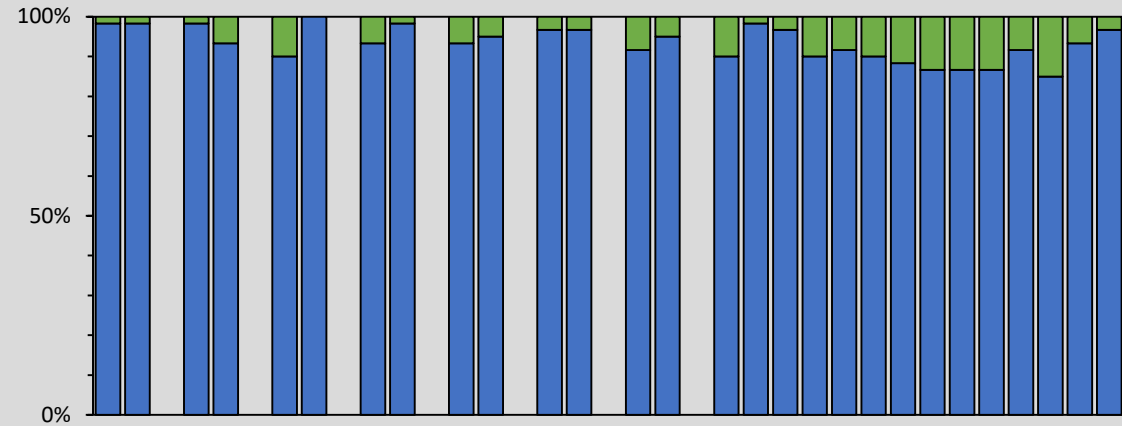


8 hours @ 1000 times diluted AlphaMax solution



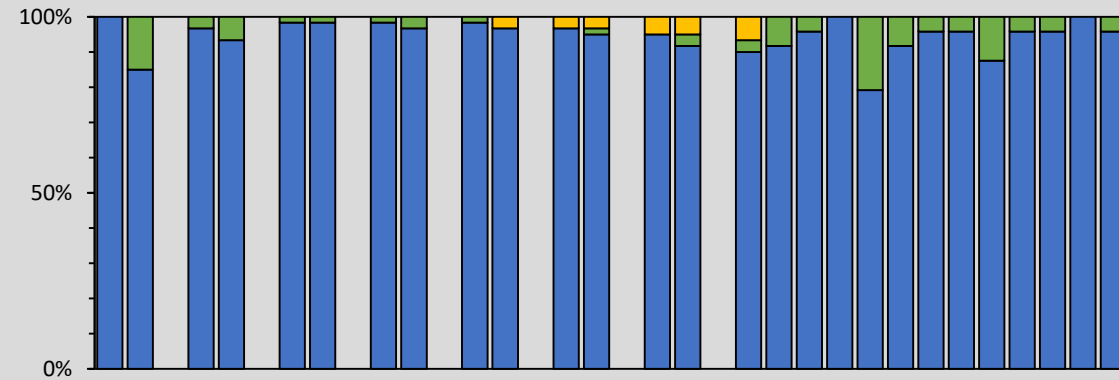


Control



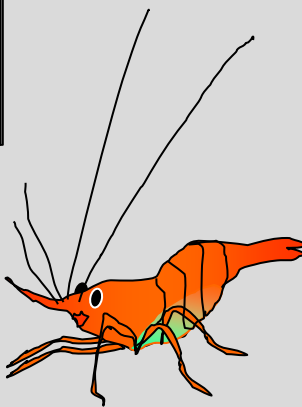
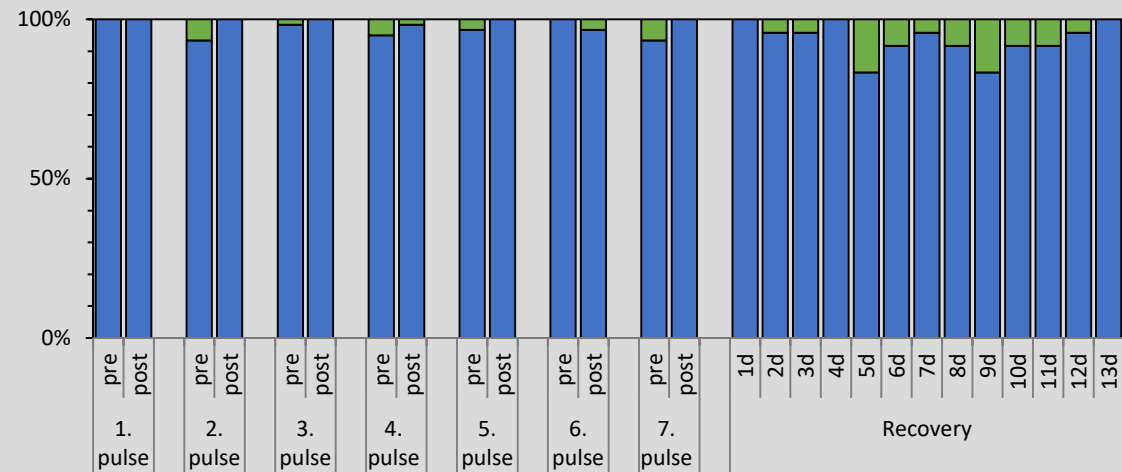
2 ng/L deltamethrin

1000 times diluted salmon treatment concentration of AlphaMax



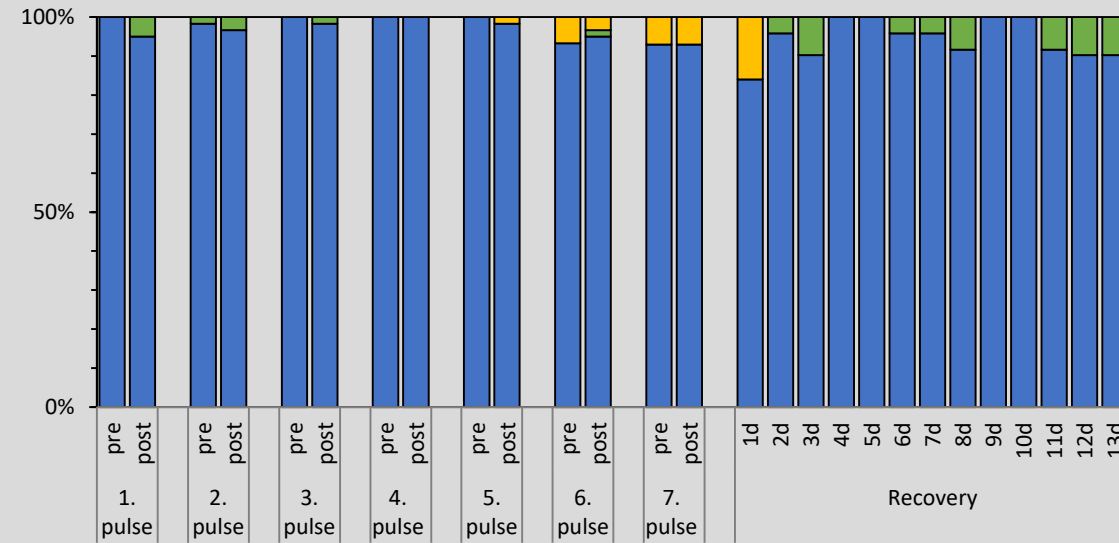
0.1 µg/L azamethiphos

1000 times diluted salmon treatment concentration of Salmosan



0.1 µg/L azamethiphos + 2 ng/L deltamethrin

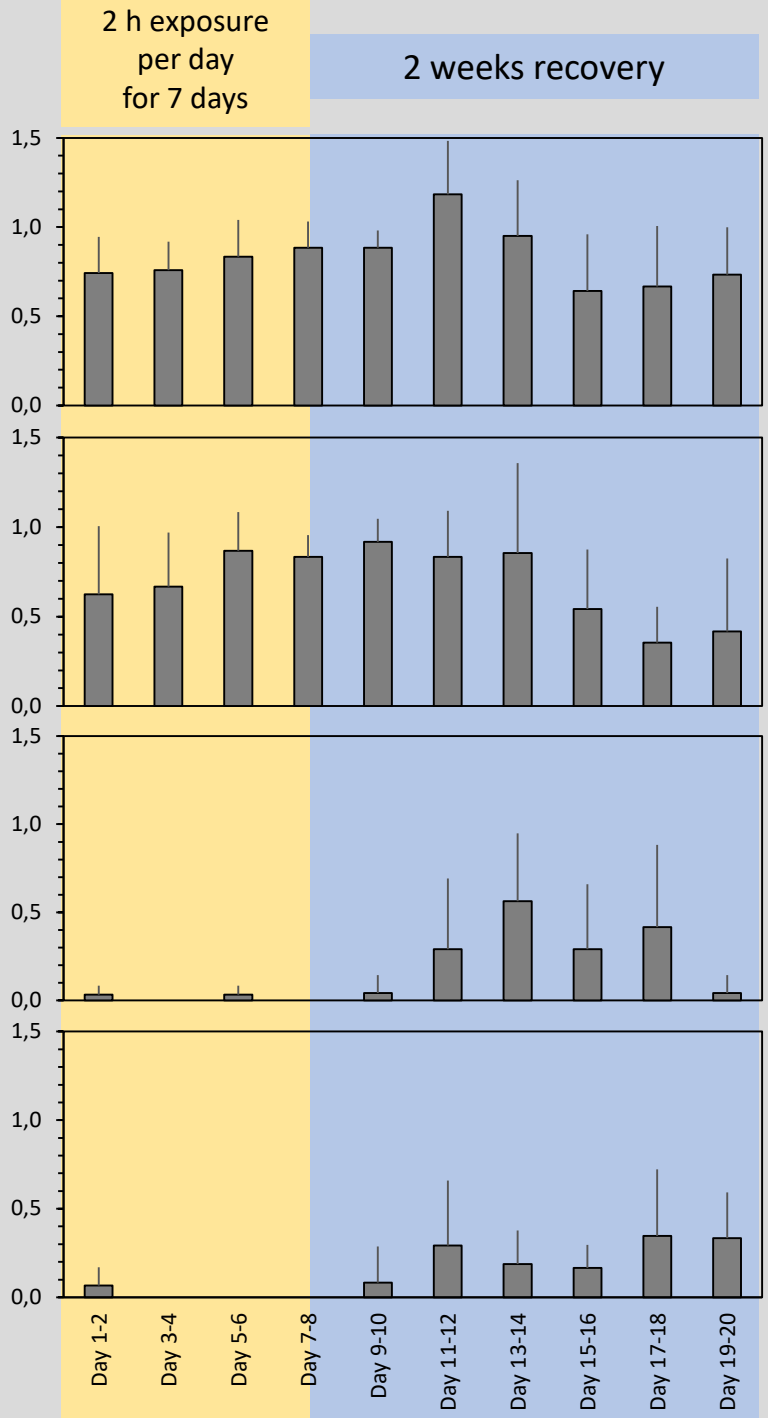
1000 times diluted of the salmon treatment concentrations of Salmosan and AlphaMax



1 dead shrimp after 7 pulses

Feeding rate for shrimp

Number of pellets consumed per shrimp per day (mean + SD)



1000 times diluted AlphaMax solution caused reduced feeding for adult shrimp

Control

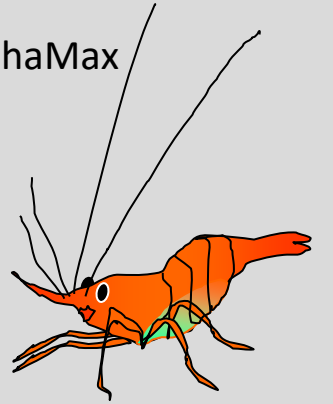
0.1 µg/L azamethiphos

1000 times diluted salmon treatment concentration of Salmosan

2 ng/L deltamethrin (AlphaMax)

1000 times diluted salmon treatment concentration of AlphaMax

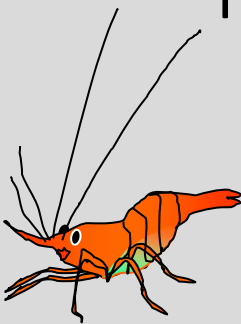
1000 times diluted mix of Salmosan and AlphaMax



n = 6 replicate tanks per treatment, each with 10 shrimp at start

# Histological assessment of adult shrimp – Digestive gland alterations (*work in progress*)

7 x 2 hours exposure to 1000 times diluted treatment water of Salmosan and/or AlphaMax

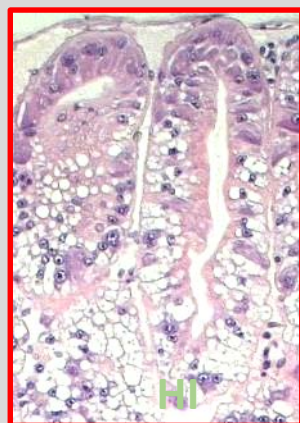
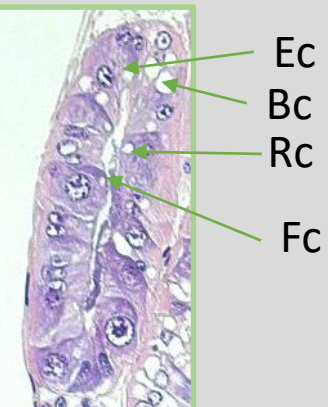


Control

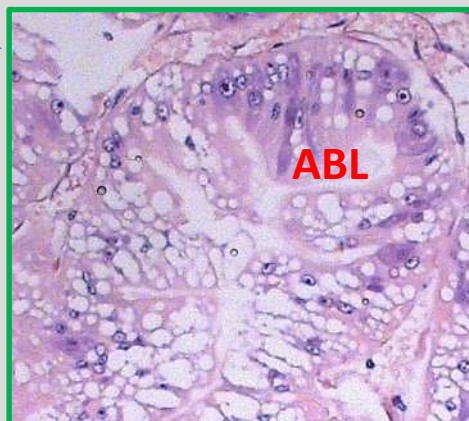
Salmosan

AlphaMax

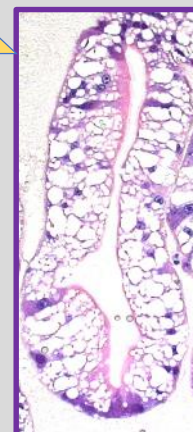
Salmosan +  
AlphaMax



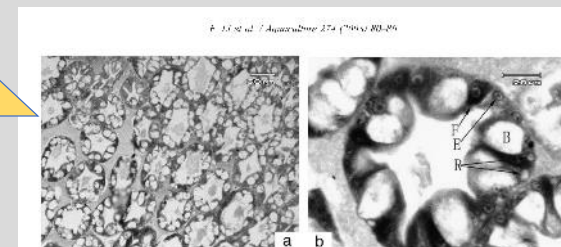
Rc



Rc

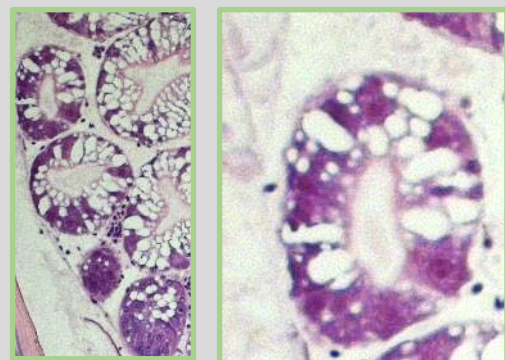


Rc



Bc

Abnormal lumen (**ABL**) and hemocytic infiltration (**HI**) in the interstitial sinus (IS) were observed.



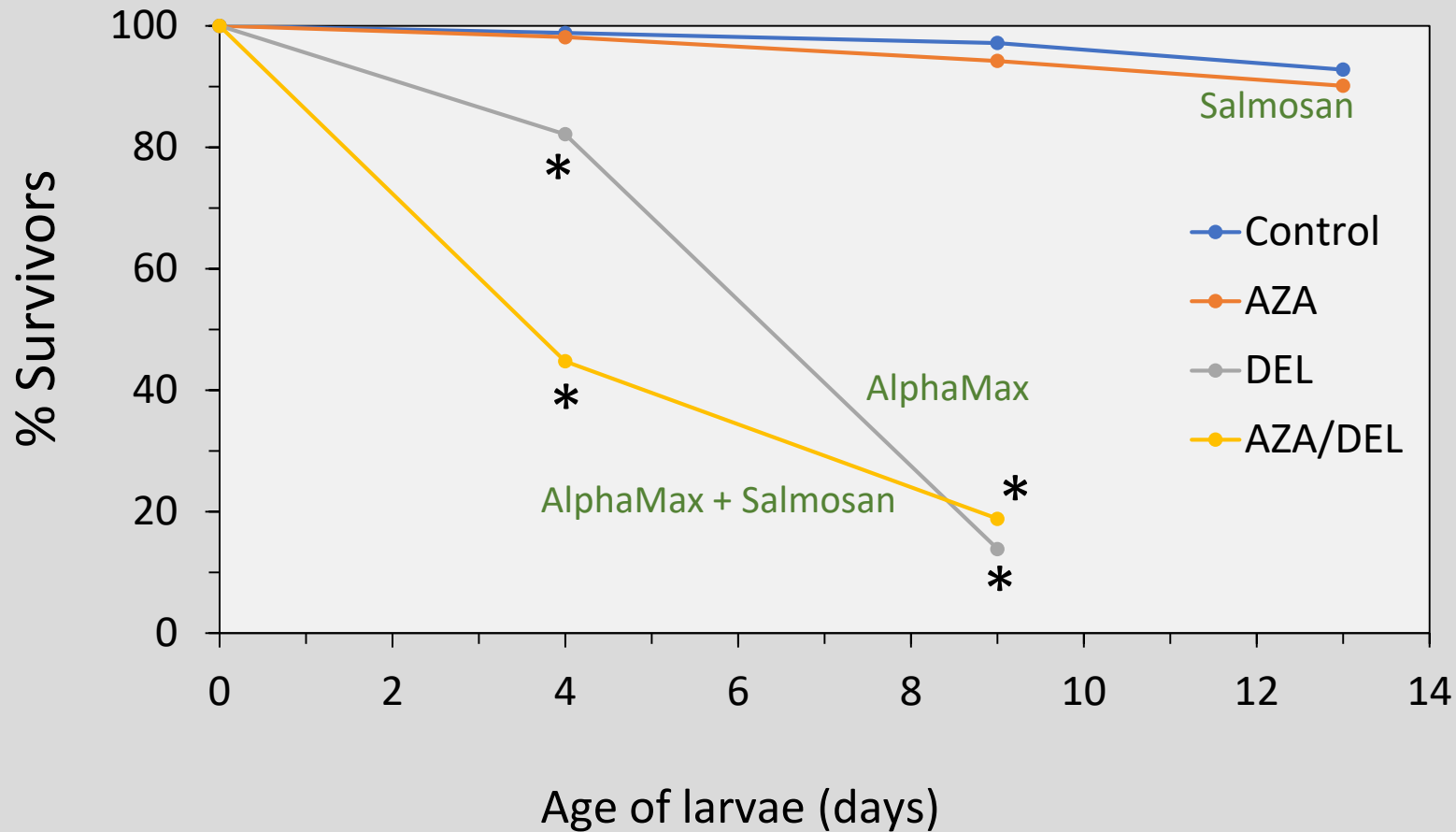
Preliminary conclusion:

Both Salmosan and AlphaMax caused tissue damage, and it was worse in the combined exposure

# DIRECT EXPOSURE OF SHRIMP LARVAE

High mortality of larvae exposed for 2 hours to 1000 times diluted

AlphaMax or AlphaMax + Salmosan

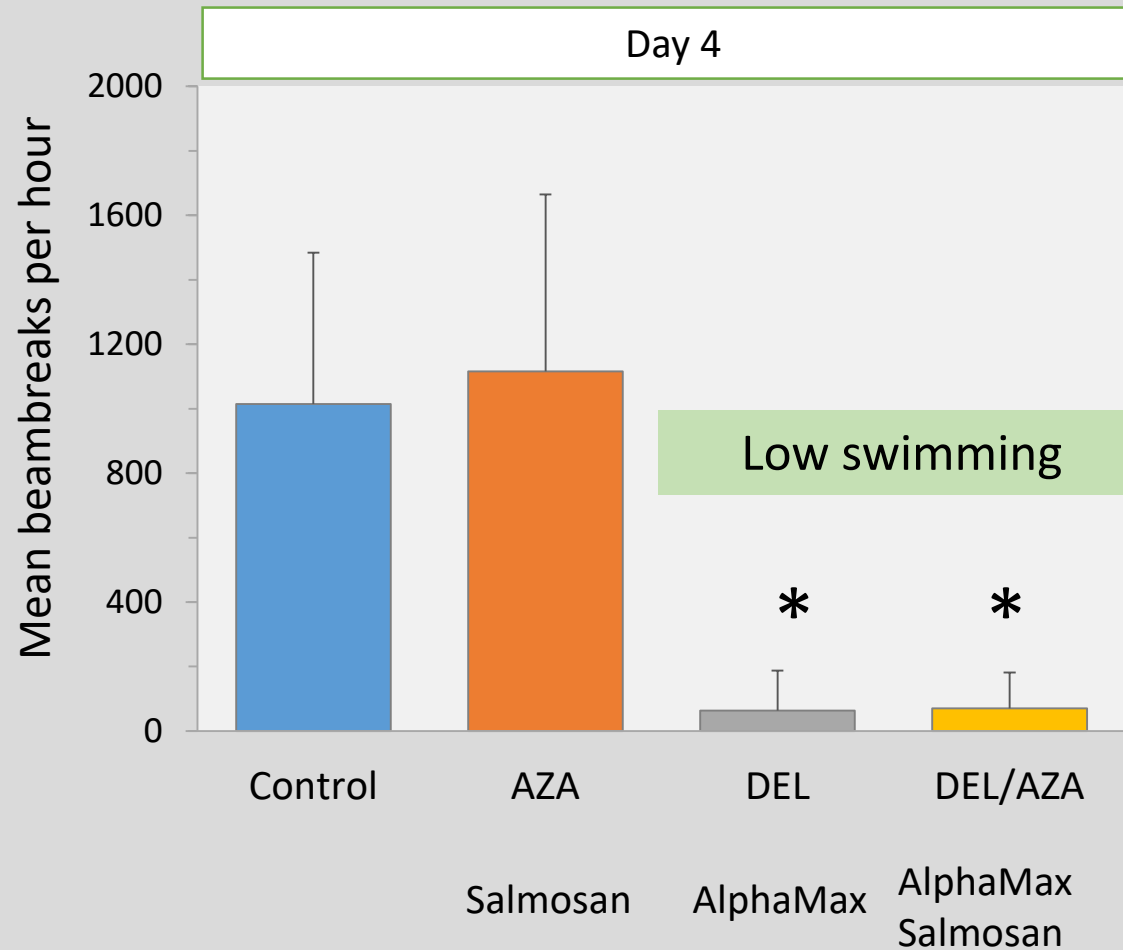


2 hour exposure  
+ two weeks recovery

# DIRECT EXPOSURE OF SHRIMP LARVAE

Low swimming activity of larvae exposed for 2 hours to 1000 times diluted

AlphaMax or AlphaMax + Salmosan

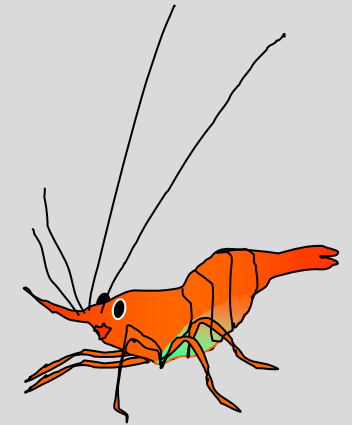
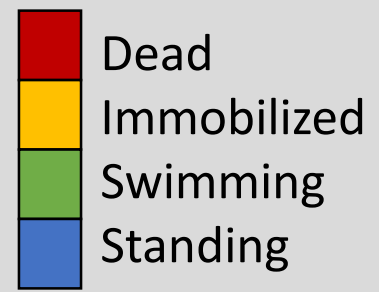


2 hours exposure  
+ two weeks recovery

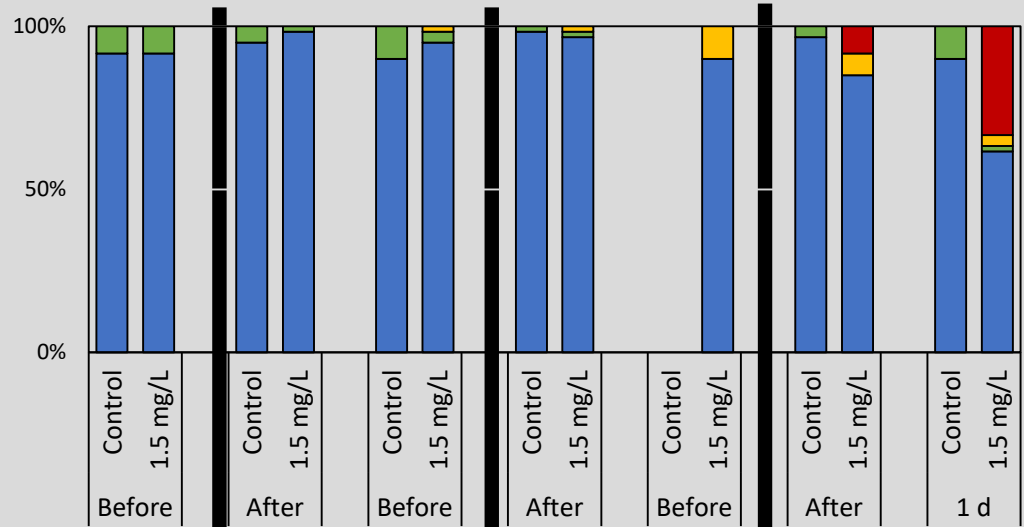


- How do shrimp respond to pulses of diluted Paramove ( $H_2O_2$ ) treatment water?

# High mortality of adult shrimp exposed to diluted Paramove ( $H_2O_2$ )



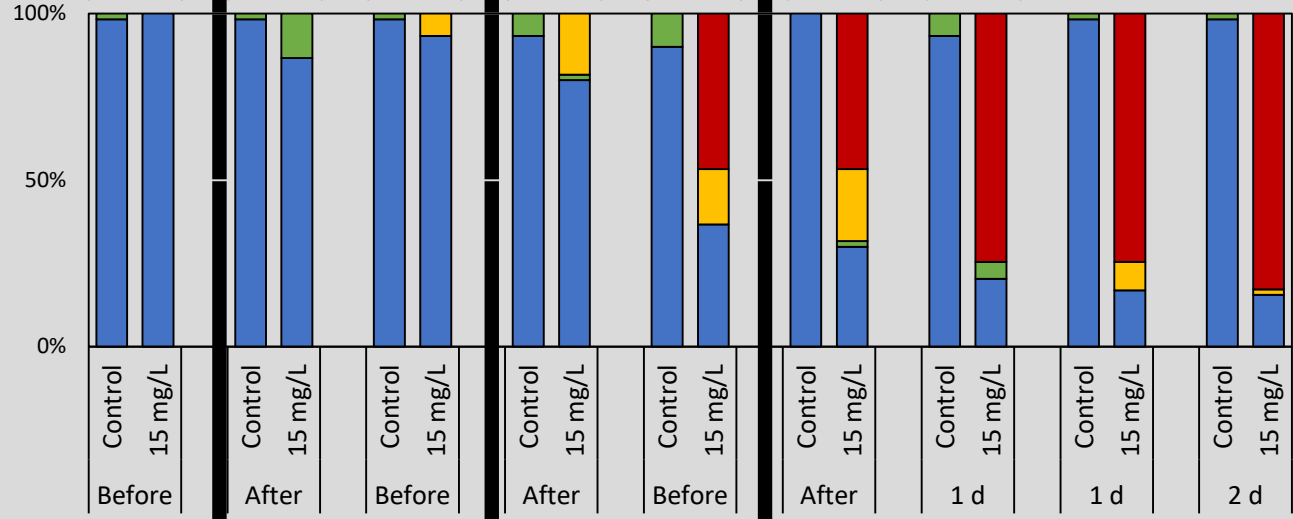
Increased mortality after exposure to 3 pulses of 1000 times diluted salmon treatment concentration



Very high mortality after exposure to 3 pulses of 100 times diluted salmon treatment concentration

Mortality also increased 3 days after 1 pulse exposure:

**Delayed effects!**



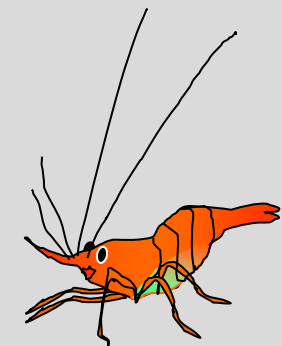
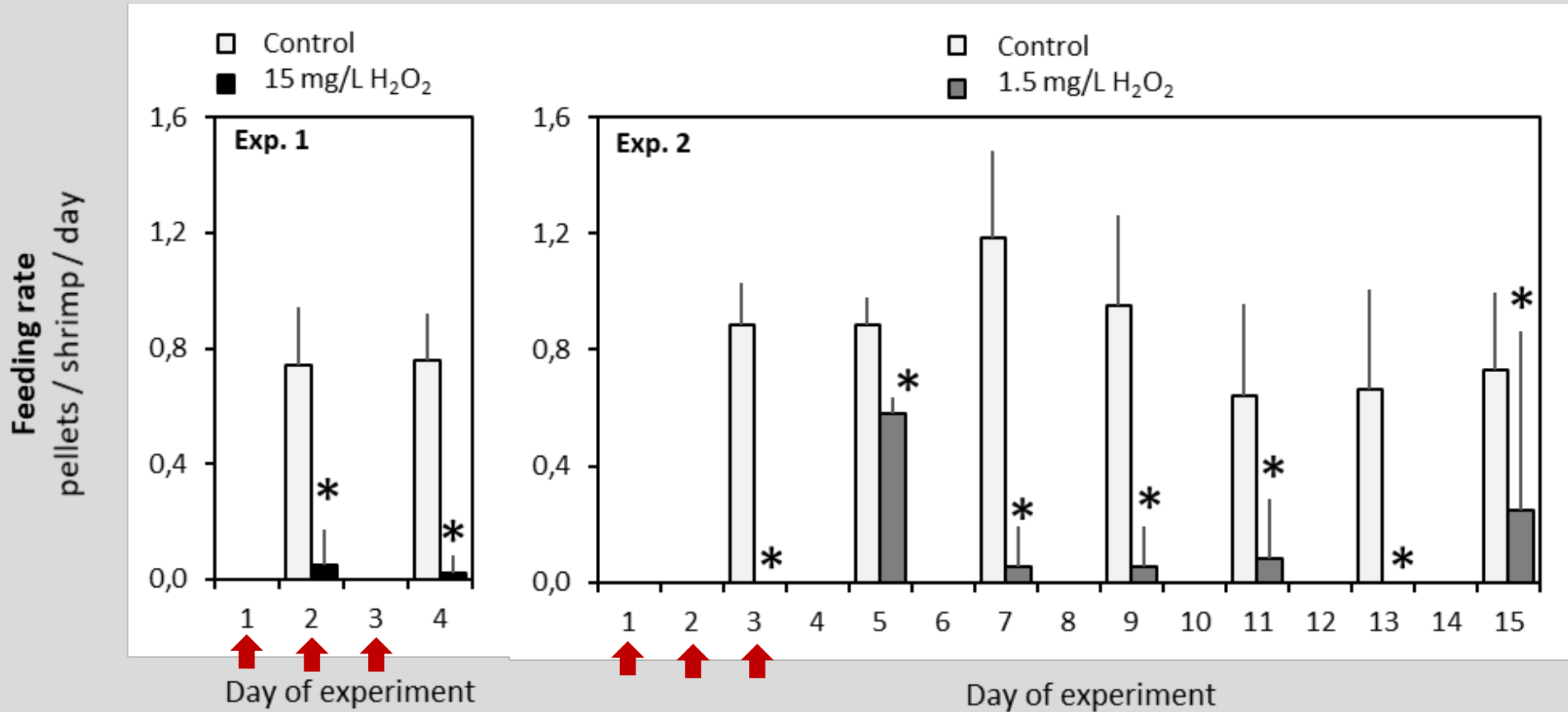
3 x 2 h exposure pulses      Recovery

Significantly reduced feeding rate for shrimp during and after exposure to  
3 pulses of 15 mg/L and 1.5 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

↑ 1 pulse  
= 2 hours

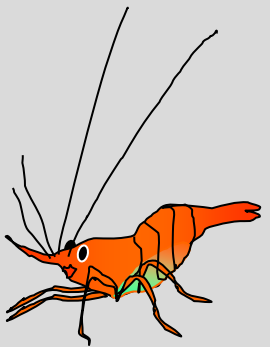
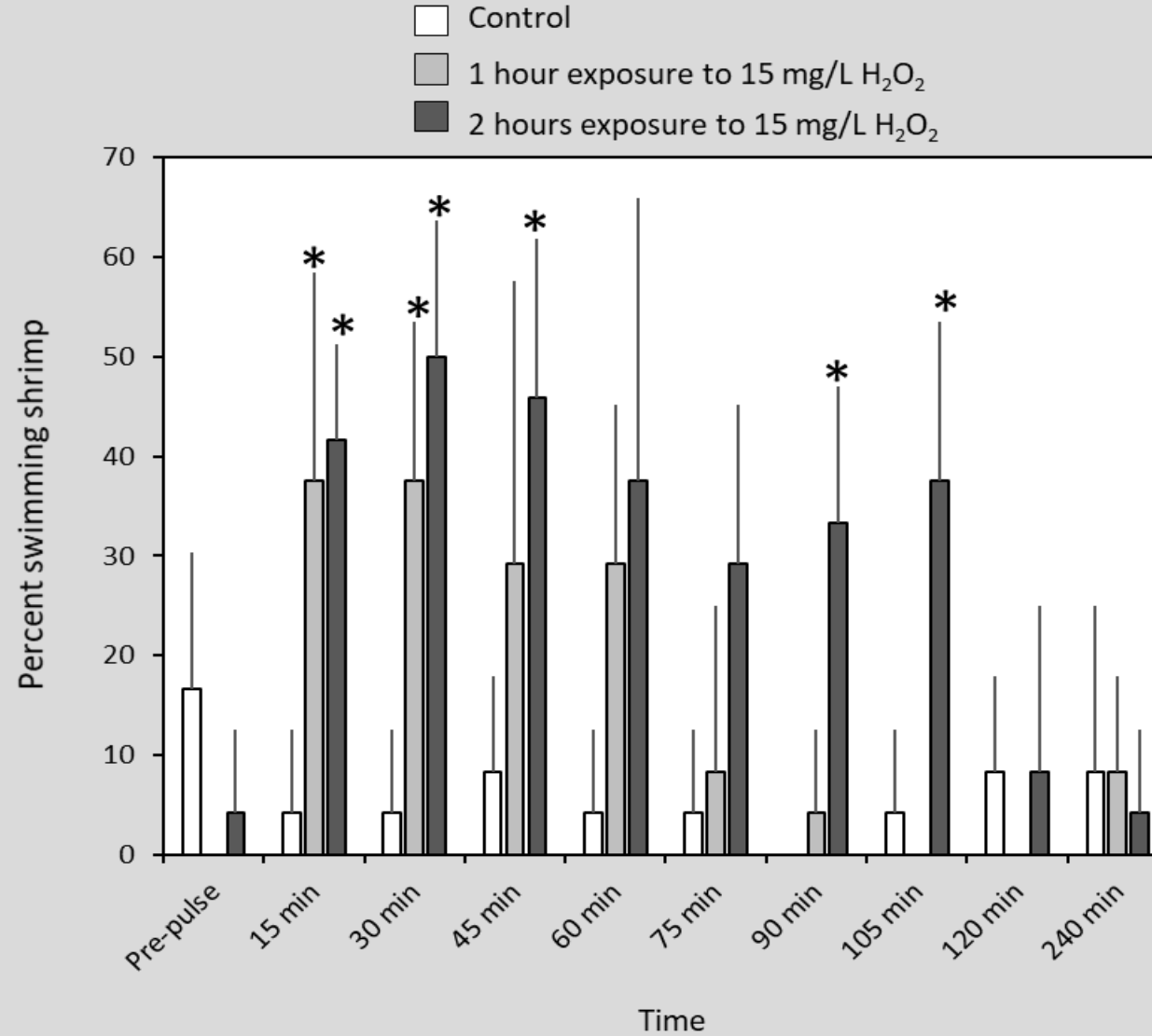
*100 times diluted*

*1000 times diluted*

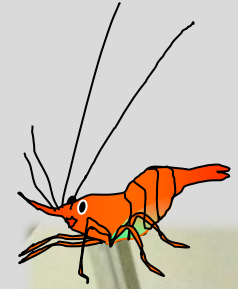


# Increased swimming activity during exposure to 15 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

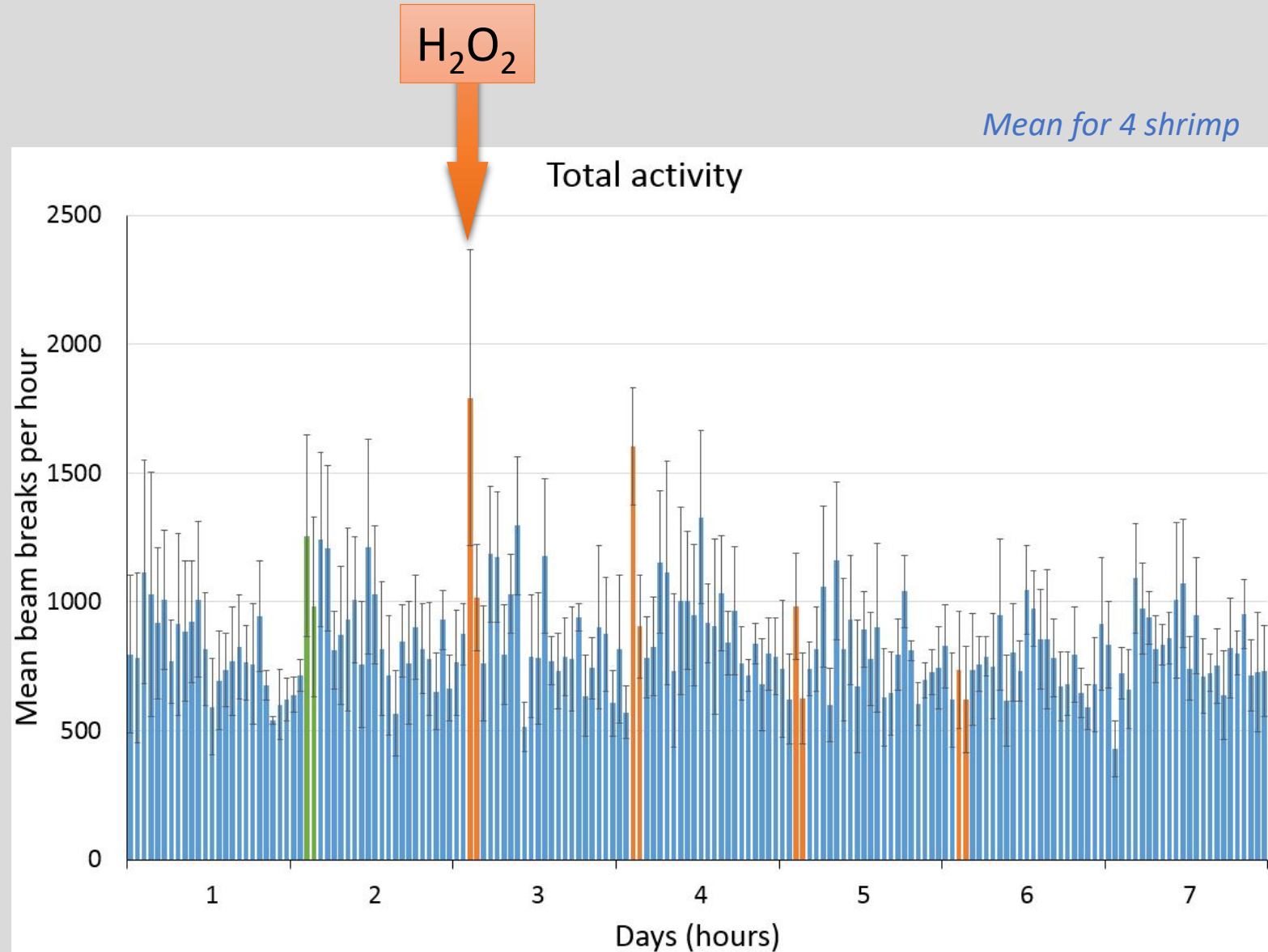
100 times diluted salmon treatment concentration of Paramove



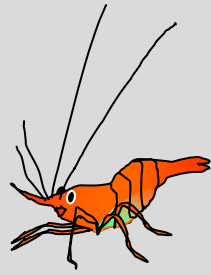
Indications of increased swimming activity for adult shrimp also after exposure to **1000 times diluted** treatment concentration of Paramove



Activity of shrimp monitored continuously over seven days



# One hour exposure to 1.5 mg/L and 15 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> caused gill damage in adult shrimp



Control



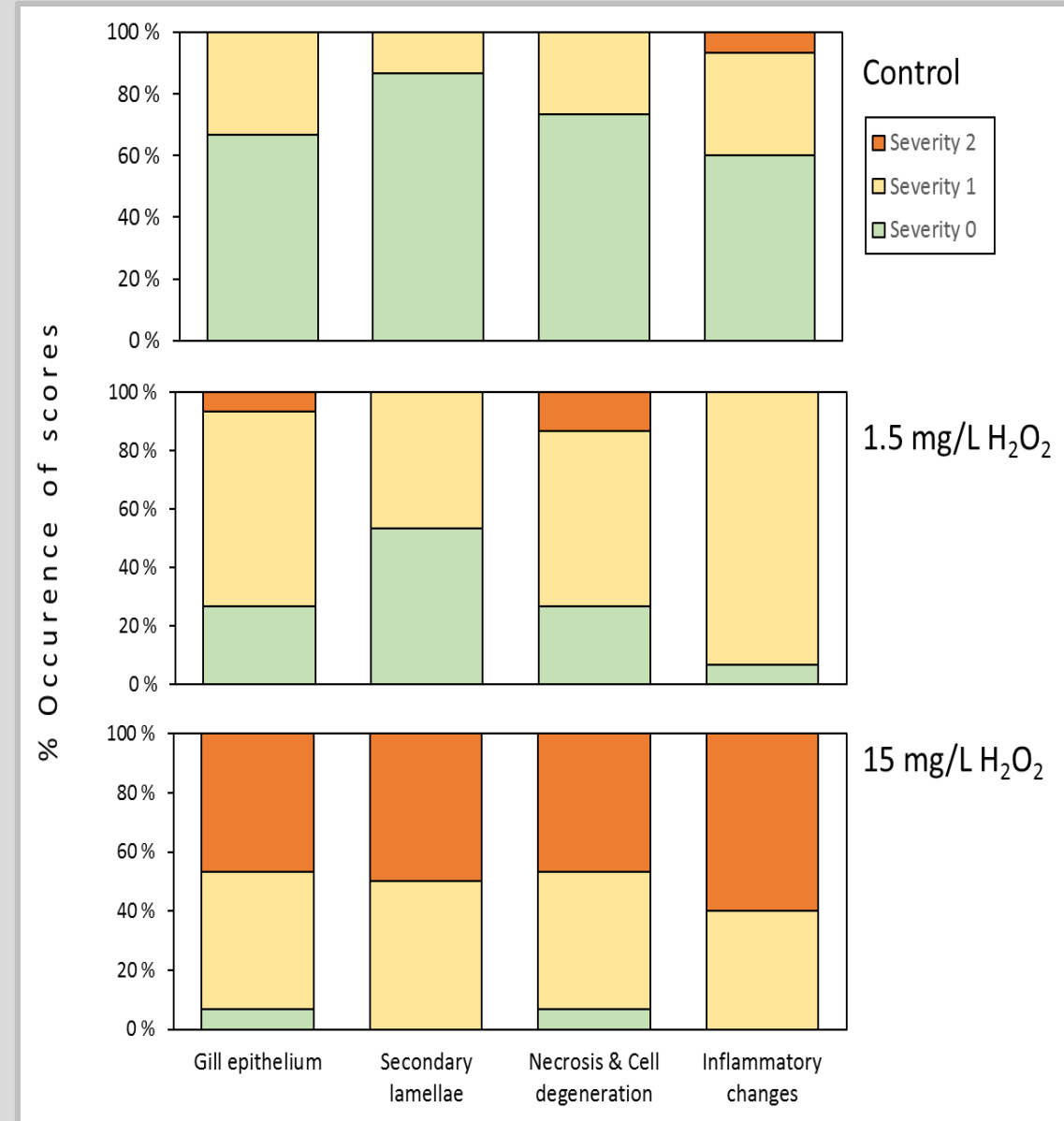
1000 times diluted treatment solution for salmon

1.5 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



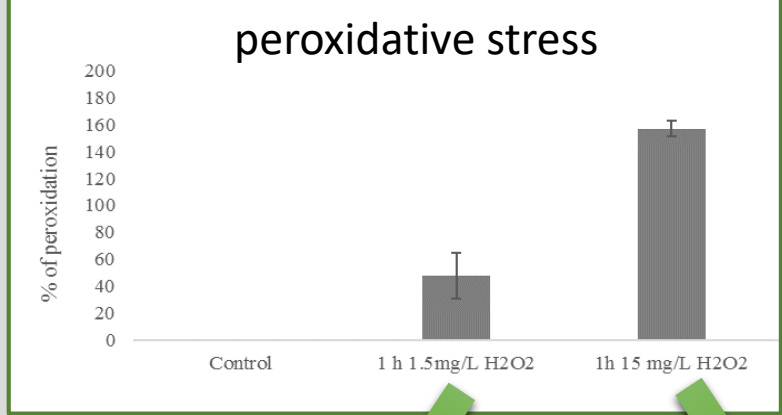
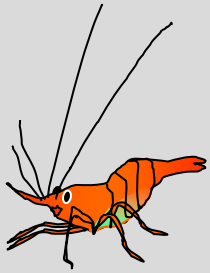
100 times diluted

15 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

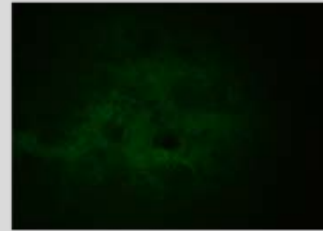


# Significant tissue damage

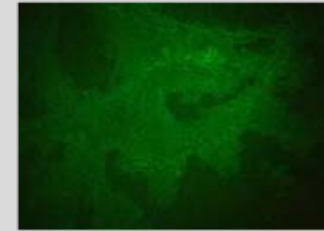
in the digestive gland of adult shrimp  
exposed to 1.5 mg/L and 15 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



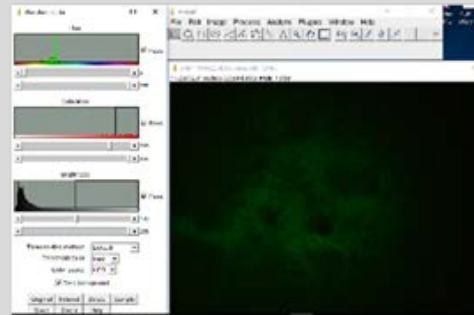
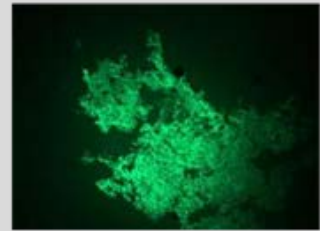
Control



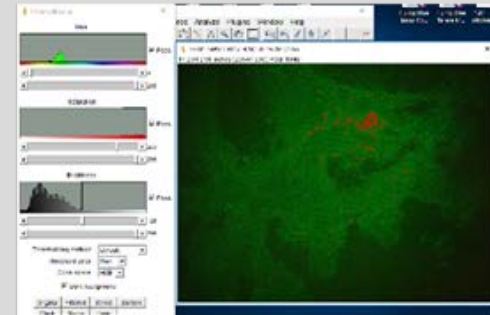
One pulse  
+ one week recovery  
1.5 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



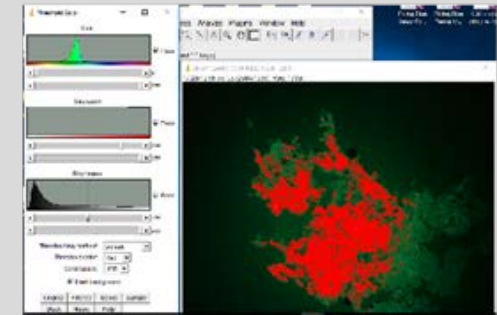
One pulse  
+ one week recovery  
15 mg/L H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>



Calculated OD (entire frame ):



2436



36543

1000 times diluted treatment water of AlphaMax & Paramove,  
or a few pellets of Releeze medicine feed can kill shrimp

- Is dilution the solution when pesticides are used as medicine?

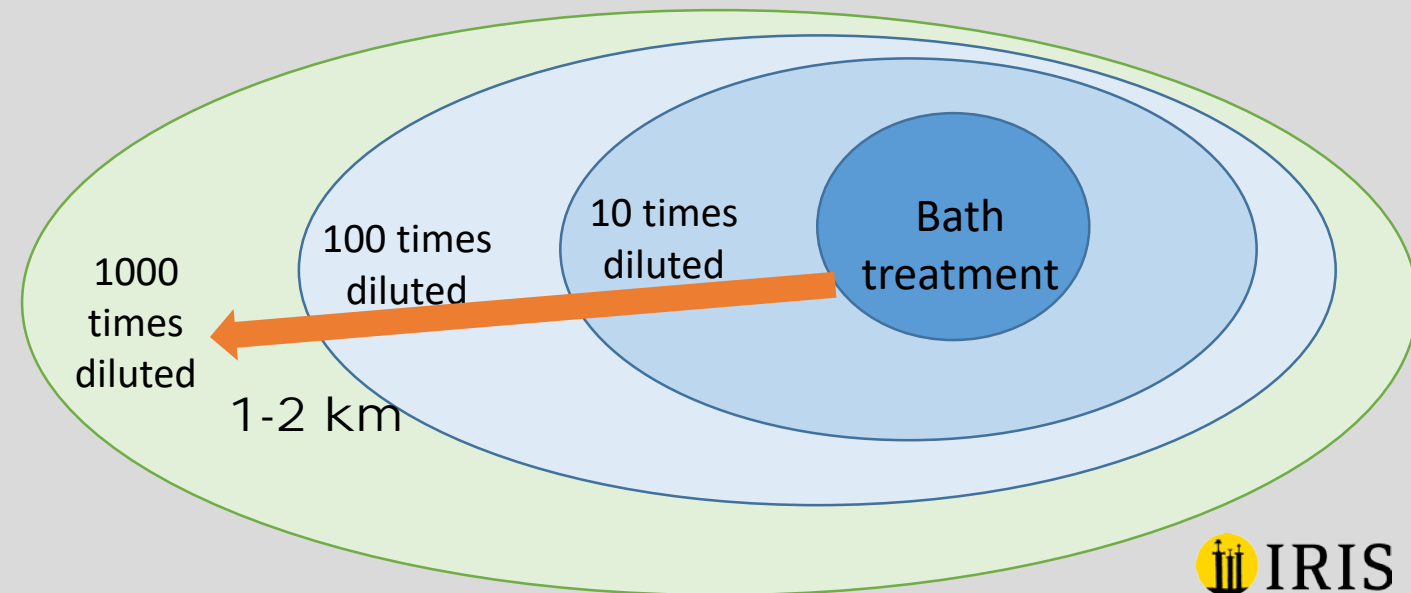
- Maybe not?

*Page et al. (2014), Fisheries and Oceans Canada:*

Within a couple of hours after release, bath chemicals may be advected up to 1-2 kilometers, and the concentration is estimated to be 100 – 1000 times diluted

*Samuelsen et al. 2015, IMR:*

Particles of medicine feed and feces from fish eating medicine can be transported more than 1 km away from the farm



*Please think about*

## What is acceptable?

Aquaculture is important for Norway

In 2017 we had ca. 3400 cages at 550 locations

*..... x 5 in the future?*

= Sustainable?

- ✓ How important is it to protect the coastal marine ecosystem? Are shrimp & co “expendable”?
- ✓ How important is it to protect wild Atlantic salmon from lice (and escaped farmed salmon)?
- ✓ Should farmed salmon be protected from lice in closed cages to stop the use of chemical treatment?

# Thank you all for listening!

Thank you to the Research Council of Norway,  
EU and Solvay for the funding:

1. The RCN project [FluClim](#) (PL: Renée K. Bechmann)
2. The EU project [ECOAST](#) (IRIS WP leader Thorleifur Agustsson)
3. The RCN project [PestPuls](#) (PL: Renée K. Bechmann)
4. The [Solvay](#) project (PL: Renée K. Bechmann)

## Thank you to the project participants:

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Stig Westerlund<sup>1)</sup>, Shaw Bamber<sup>1)</sup>,  
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Elisa Ravagnan<sup>1)</sup>, Jannicke Moe<sup>2)</sup>,  
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Piero Calosi<sup>4)</sup>, Katherine Langford<sup>2)</sup>,  
Alfhild Kringstad<sup>2)</sup>, Thomas Rundberget<sup>2)</sup>,  
Alessio Gomiero<sup>1)</sup>, Tjalling Jager<sup>5)</sup>,  
Frederike Keitel-Gröner, Thorleifur Agustsson<sup>1)</sup>,  
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1) IRIS

2) NIVA

3) University of Leicester

4) Université du Québec à Rimouski

5) DEBtox Research

6) Burridge Consulting Inc