


# VISUAL MATURITY SCALE

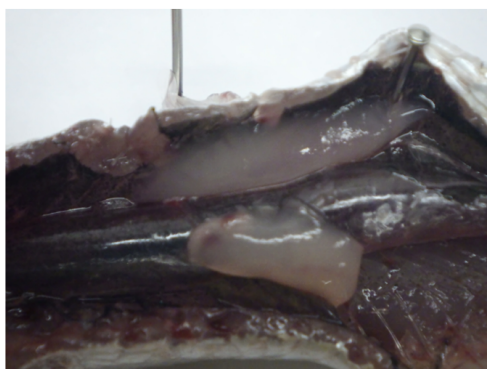
## Sardine / *Sardina pilchardus*

Picture	Sex	Species	First maturity size
	♂	<i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	12 - 17 cm

### A - IMMATURE

FILIFORM and flattened  
knife-shaped surface

TRANSLUCID



### B - DEVELOPING

NON-FLOWING GONADS

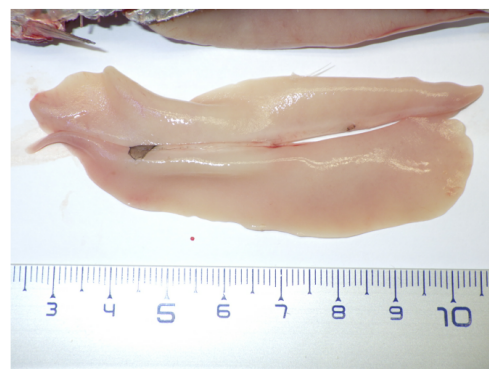
Gonads are filling and  
becoming opaque



### C - SPAWNING

OPAQUE AND WHITISH  
GONADS

FLOWING GONADS



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## D - REGRESSION/REGENERATION

BLOOD RESIDUE IN  
TISSUES

FLABBY, FLAT AND  
RELAXED GONADS

MILT RESIDUALS



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## E - OMITTED SPAWNING

NOT DETERMINABLE BY  
THE EYE



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## F - ABNORMAL

NECROSIS, SCLEROSIS  
OR INTERSEX



References/Photos :

ICES (WKASMSF 2018 & WKMATCH 2012),  
IFREMER