**FIGURE 1. FEMALES – BAIE SAINTE-MARGUERITE 1994-1998 TRAWL DATA**

Legend: LC (x-axis) is carapace width in mm; Immature (juvenile) females in red; Primiparous females in blue; Multiparous females not shown

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| IX  VIII  VI  VII  V  IV | **1994, 3-6 May**  1994 is the last year before the 1988-1992 (year-classes) recruitment pulse starts to contribute mature (adult) females to the population  Instars IV to IX are identified |
| XI  X  IX | **1995, 2-5 May**  First year of massive recruitment of primiparous females mainly into instars IX and X (identified). Note that there are also minute numbers of instar VIII and XI primiparous females  Mean CW of instar VIII in 1994 (which generated primiparous instar IX in 1995) was greater than it is in 1995  Mean CW at instar IX in 1995 is coincident for juvenile and primiparous females |
| VI | **1996, 27 April – 2 May**  From 1996 to 1998, mean CW at instar IX seems to be decrease in both juvenile and primiparous females relative to 1995  Note small mean CW of instar VI: is this a density-dependent effect (growth stunting by preceding larger cohorts)? |
| X  IX  VIII  **?** | **1997, 25-29 April**  Primiparous females are for the first time very largely dominated by instar IX; instar X is dwarfed and partially “absorbed” by instar IX  “?” in graph indicates a mode that sits mid-way between mean CW of instars VI and VII in all other years. Mean CW of instar VI was smaller in 1996 than in previous years, so this unusually situated mode may be instar VII  Juvenile instar X is still clear, although the numbers are small |
|  | **1998, 25-30 April**  Last year of important primiparous recruitment before next pulse |

**FIGURE 2. FEMALES – BAIE SAINTE-MARGUERITE 1994-1996 TRAWL DATA (with diving observations added)**

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|  | **1994, 3-6 May (as in previous figure)** |
|  | **1995, 21-26 March**  **Females in diver-collected mating pairs**  In red: juvenile females committed to terminal molt (=pubescent); In blue: soft-shell nulliparous females (terminally-molted but not yet ovigerous); in green: soft-shell primiparous females (terminally-molted and ovigerous)  Diver-collected pubescent females can be related to juvenile females in the 1994 trawl data (previous graph) and diver-collected nulliparous/primiparous females to primiparous females in the 1995 trawl data (next graph) |
|  | **1995, 2-5 May (as in previous figure)** |
|  | **1996, 19-25 March**  **Females in diver-collected mating pairs** (color legend and interpretation as in 1995 March graph above)  Note that in March of both 1995 and 1996, pubescent females (in red) are a mix of instar VIII and IX, with instar IX dominating  In 1995 and 1996, instar VIII pubescent females appear to be larger instar VIII juvenile females when compared to CW distributions in trawl surveys of 1994 and 1995, respectively. This can explain why primiparous instar IX is equally as big (1995) or bigger (1996) than juvenile instar IX when this should not be expected |
|  | **1996, 27 April – 2 May (as in previous figure)** |