Standard Operating Procedure

Collection

Egg masses will be collected with disinfected gear

Only half of four egg masses will be collected at each pond (n=10)

Egg masses will be rinsed with dH20 and stored in small containers for transportation purposes

The egg masses will then be transferred from the containers to 5 gallon buckets

Housing

Egg masses are housed in 5 gallon (19 L) buckets with at least 15 L of aged tap water(5-10 tadpoles per liter with ~100 tadpoles)

To move tadpoles from the bucket to other containers, we will wait until tadpoles are able to handle being moved (at least 2 weeks) and then will use a piece of window screen to scoop the tadpole

Tadpoles will be Gosner staged under a microscope and weighed (stage 30, same weights will be start of experiment)

Individual tadpoles will be housed in containers with 300 mL aged tap water

Each experiment was conducted under identical laboratory conditions (23°C and a 12:12 day:night photo- period). Our experimental units were 2-l plastic tubs filled with 1 l of aged dechlorinated tap water placed on 4 9 8-ft shelving units at uniform height. The water was passed through a dechlorination filter and aged for at least 24 h in indoor 700-l tanks prior to use (Hoverman 2011)

Brunner et al. Virulence paper