

By Lou Zeidberg

Based upon interviews conducted during dissections with Unai Markaida

Five steps to aging your squid.

Following Lipinski and Underhill, 1995; adapted for *Dosidicus gigas*.

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| I | Juveniles: | Cannot tell male or female.
Nidamental glands hard or impossible to see.
Can tell testes (compact) from ovary (sack of grapes). |
| II | Females: | Nidamental glands, translucent or white.
Oviduct is not distended |
| | Males: | Spermatophoric sack is small. |
| III | Females: | Nidamental gland white and broad.
Oviducal gland is tiny
Oviducts have no eggs
Ovary is transparent -> getting yellow |
| | Males: | no spermatophores in spermatophoric complex, but can differentiate all parts. |
| IV | Females: | few eggs in oviducts of yellow-brown ovary
Orange ripe eggs in oviducts |
| | Males: | few sperm in spermatophoric complex |
| V | Females: | Oviduct is full of orange eggs
Ovary is yellow |
| | Males: | spermatophoric complex full of spermatophores |
| VI | Spent, Unai has never seen this | |