

SHINKAWA

October 29, 1962

Dr. Hideaki Shinkawa  
Hiroshima Womens Junior College  
Ujina  
Hiroshima-city, Japan

Dear Dr. Shinkawa:

Your address was given to me by your colleague Dr. Nakano of the Faculty of Science of Hiroshima University with the annotation that you are a physiological ecologist familiar with Japanese oysters.

At present, I am engaged in writing a review of the family Ostreidae, which I find is a very difficult task. Therefore, with your kind permission, I would like to ask you some questions.

Has anyone lately investigated the anatomy of Ostrea sinensis Gmelin, Ostrea hyotis Linne, Ostrea imbricata Lamarck, and Ostrea cochlear Poli and demonstrated that the rectum passes through the pericardium and through the heart or demonstrated that it passes outside the pericardium? This feature is rather important, because in the common oysters the rectum passes outside the pericardium.

Has anyone observed whether these four species incubate their larvae or not? As you know, Ostrea denselamellosa Lischke incubates its eggs until they become larvae and Crassostrea gigas Thunberg does not.

I hope you can give me some pertinent information on these questions.

Thanking you in advance,

Very truly yours,

H. B. Stenzel

HBS:cd

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