

ABSTRACT

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Early post-cleavage stages and abnormalities identified in the embryonic development of chokka squid *Loligo Vulgaris Reynaudii*.

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Six early, post-cleavage embryonic stages for chokka squid eggs (*Loligo vulgaris reynaudii*), developed in an aquarium, were identified and described using the Arnold scheme (i.e. A12, 13, 14 and A16, 17, 18). This increases the total number of recognized embryonic stages for this species to 20, starting at A12 and ending with hatching at A30. This scheme provided sufficient detail to determine the influence of temperature on embryonic development. At water temperatures $\leq 12^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $\geq 15^{\circ}\text{C}$, morphological abnormalities in embryonic development were observed. Gross forms were described and illustrated.