

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	1
1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	3
2. SUMMARIES.....	4
2.1 Summary.....	4
2.2 Resumen.....	6
2.3 Resum.....	8
3. GENERAL INTRODUCTION.....	11
3.1 European eel life cycle.....	11
3.3 Current status of the European eel.....	15
3.4 Phylogeny of the freshwater eels.....	17
3.5 Teleost reproduction with an eel focus.....	18
3.6 Artificial manipulation of teleost sexual maturation.....	24
3.7 Recombinant hormones in Japanese eels.....	26
3.8 Artificial European eel maturation.....	27
3.9 Natural eel sexual maturation factors.....	29
3.10 Whole genome duplication.....	39
4. PROJECTS AND GRANTS SUPPOORTING THIS THESIS.....	43
5. OBJECTIVES.....	43
5.1 Specific objectives:	44
6. CHAPTER 1: Using specific recombinant gonadotropins to induce spermatogenesis and spermiation in the European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	45
6.1. Introduction.....	47

6.2. Materials and methods.....	49
6.3. Results.....	58
6.4. Discussion.....	71
6.5 Acknowledgements.....	79
7. CHAPTER 2: Cold seawater induces early maturational stages in the BPG axis of European eel males.....	80
7.1 Background.....	82
7.2 Materials and methods.....	84
7.3 Results.....	91
7.4 Discussion.....	111
7.5 Conclusion.....	119
8. CHAPTER 3: de novo European eel transcriptome provides insights into the evolutionary history of duplicated genes in teleost lineages.....	121
8.1 Introduction.....	123
8.2 Materials and methods.....	127
8.3 Results.....	136
8.4 Discussion.....	148
8.5 Conclusions.....	154
9. GENERAL DISCUSSION.....	156
9.1 Recombinant hormones for eel maturation.....	156
9.2 Pre-pubertal neuroendocrine blockage.....	158
9.3 A deeper look at the cold seawater treatment experiment.....	161
9.4 Did the European eel lineage experience a WGD after 3R?	174
9.5 Potentially important recently duplicated genes found in eels.....	180

10. FUTURE PERSPECTIVES.....	182
10.1 Other temperature treatments.....	183
10.2 Alternative eel species as a model.....	185
11. CONCLUSIONS.....	187
12. REFERENCES.....	188