TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUMMARY		1
RESUMEN		3
RESUM		5
	GENERAL INTRODUCTION	7
	1. The European eel	9
	1.1 European eel life cycle	10
	1.2 Conservation status	12
	2. Artificial maturation	12
	2.1 Hormonal treatments	13
	2.2 Sperm quality in fish	14
	3. Cryopreservation of fish sperm	16
	3.1 Origins of eel sperm cryopreservation	18
	3.2 European eel sperm cryopreservation	19
	4. Projects, grants and companies involved in this Thesis	20
	OBJECTIVES	23
CHAPTER 1	Subjective and objective assessment of fish sperm motility: when the technique and technicians matter	27
CHAPTER 2	Recombinant vs purifed mammal gonadotropins as maturation hormonal treatments of European eel males	47
CHAPTER 3	Comparison of European eel sperm cryopreservation protocols with standardization as a target	71
CHAPTER 4	European eel sperm storage: optimization of short-term protocols and cryopreservation of large volumes	89
CHAPTER 5	Eel sperm cryopreservation: an overview	113

GENERAL DISCUSSION		131
1.	Alternative methods for European eel artificial maturation	133
2.	Sperm quality analysis: Future remarks	135
3.	Prospects for European eel cryopreservation	137
со	CONCLUSIONS	
REFERENCES		145