Weight gain and shell thickness of juvenile American lobsters (*Homarus americanus*) fed a cod liver oil enriched brine shrimp (*Artemia sp.*) diet

Brine shrimp (*Artemia sp.*) is considered the most effective, economically cost-efficient diet used in aquaculture today, but it has a low fatty acid content and lipids are essential for the growth of juvenile lobsters. In this study, juvenile American lobsters between stage IV and VI were fed either brine shrimp only or brine shrimp enriched with lipid-rich Arctic cod liver oil to determine which diet produced thicker exoskeletons and increased percent weight gain. The results of this study show that there was no significant difference in the percent weight gain or shell thickness between the lobsters fed either diet.

Advisor: Jim McKenna