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## Fish Culture Technical Bulletin

### Best Management Practices

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#### **TROUT EGG INVENTORY METHODS <sup>1</sup>.**

Following the collection and water hardening of eggs, or at the eyed stage, the number of eggs collected must be determined. This procedure is best carried out at the same time as egg disinfection, before the eggs are placed, in quantities that can be safely incubated, into the incubation units.

Equipment required: Egg baskets/trays  
Measuring cylinders (volumetric)  
Von Bayer trough  
Record forms

Procedure:

1. Thoroughly mix and take a sample of eggs from the egg container and place them in a single row in a Von Bayer trout egg measuring trough (see Figure 1). Count the number of eggs. Using the accompanying table (Table 1), the number of eggs per U.S. fluid ounce or per litre can be read and recorded. Return the eggs to the egg container.
2. Repeat Step 1 three more times and calculate the average number of eggs per U.S. fluid ounce or per litre.
3. If loading to an optimum number of eggs, calculate the total volume of eggs to be measured into an incubation unit by dividing the required number of eggs by the average number of eggs per U.S. fluid ounce or per litre (Step 2). If loading to an optimum volume of eggs, calculate the number of eggs by multiplying that volume by the average number of eggs per U.S. fluid ounce or per litre (Step 2).
4. Fill a tall, preferably cylindrical, volumetric container to the desired volume, settling the eggs using a gentle circular agitation, so that the top layer of eggs is spilt by the line marking that volume. There should be enough water in the measuring cylinder to keep the eggs moist and fluid but not floating.
5. Record the volume of eggs and empty them into the incubation unit.
6. Repeat Steps 4 and 5 until the desired volume or number of eggs have been placed in the required number of incubation units. The total number of eggs collected or received can then be calculated.

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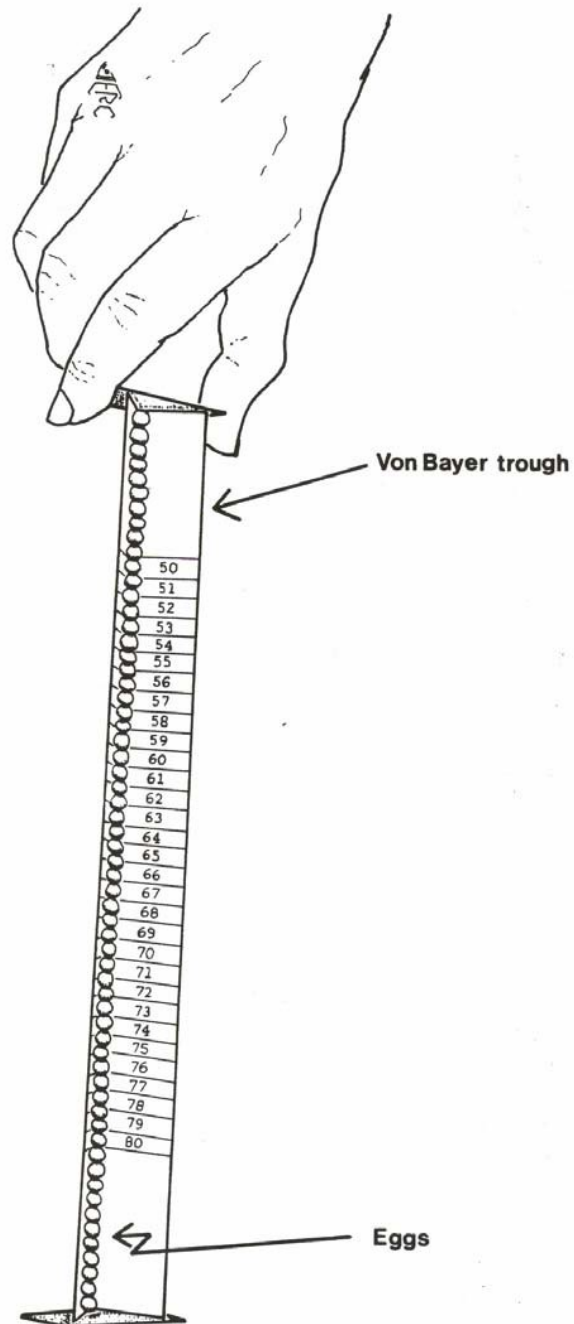
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Figure 1. Von Bayer trough.



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Table 1. Number of eggs per U.S. fluid ounce and per litre from the number of eggs in a 12” Von Bayer trough.

Von Bayer		Number of eggs per litre
No. of eggs in 12” trough	No. of eggs per U.S. fl. oz.	
50	153	5172
51	163	5511
52	172	5815
53	183	6187
54	193	6525
55	204	6897
56	216	7302
57	225	7607
58	238	8046
59	253	8553
60	264	8925
61	277	9365
62	290	9804
63	304	10278
64	318	10751
65	334	11292
66	351	11867
67	369	12475
68	381	12881
69	401	13557
70	423	14301
71	438	114808
72	454	15349
73	479	16194
74	497	16803
75	516	17445
76	536	18122
77	557	18832
78	579	19757
79	602	20353
80	627	21198

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from: Handbook of Fish Culture: 4.1.5 Egg Enumeration. OMNR, 1981.  
G.K. Iwana, C.Y. Cho, J.D. Hynes (eds.).