

BACTERIAL DISEASES IN BALLAN WRASSE (*Labrus berggylta*)

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The use of captured wrasse as cleaner fish to diminish infestations of salmon lice (*Lepeoptheirus salmonis*) on farmed Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), has been developed as an environmentally sound supplement to the use of chemical treatment (Bjordal 1990, 1992). Two of the most used species are goldsinny (*Ctenolabrus rupestris*) and corkwing (*Symphodus melops*) wrasse.

Atypical strains of *Aeromonas salmonicida* have, however, been isolated from goldsinny wrasse and have been responsible for occasionally high mortality in wrasse held in salmon cages (Kvenseth 1999). *Vibrio splendidus* and *V. tapetis* have been isolated from corkwing wrasse (Jensen 2003).

Ballan wrasse (*Labrus berggylt*) is the most rough fish of these limpfishes and the use of ballan wrasse has therefore grown the last years (Kvenseth 2003). Few investigations have been done about ballan wrasse.

In this investigation ballan wrasse were stressed to isolate atypical strains of *Aeromonas salmonicida*. Furthermore were different sorts of bacteria causing vibriosis and furunculosis in wrasse and salmon, injected in ballan wrasse to see if these bacteria can cause mortality.