Summary Table of Dolphin, (Coryphaena hippurus) life history for the Gulf of Mexico. Associations and interactions with environmental and habitat variables are listed with citations.

							Trophic relationships		Habitat Associations and Interactions			
Life Stage	Season	Location	Temp(°C)	Salinity(ppt)	Oxygen	Depth(m)	Food	Predators	Habitat Selection	Growth	Mortality	Production
Eggs	Nearly year-round; peaks in spring or summer, depending on location	Pelagic	Hatch in 40 h at 26 C; 38 h at 25 C	Oceanic	Near saturation (6 mg/L)							
Citation	1,4,11,18	6	9,18	9	9							
Larvae	Throughout year; peak in early summer	Pelagic; offshore. Particularly abundant around Mississippi River delta	Most abundant at 24 C and above. Reared at 25-29 in hatchery	Most abundant at 33 ppt and above. Reared at 30-35 in hatchery	Prefer 6 mg/L; sensitive to low DO	Usually found at >50 m depths; most abundant over 180 m contour	Mainly planktonic crustaceans; fish larvae appear in stomachs of dolphins >20 mm SL	Considered to be a significant food source for young billfish	Abundant in Sargassum communities		Very high in first 15 days of hatching; sensitive to environmental conditions and food availability	Mississippi River delta an important area of larval abundance
Citation	4,11	12,18	9,12,18	9,12,18	9	12,18	11,15	11	18		5	18
Early Juveniles	Throughout year, peaking in summer		26-29 C in culture experiments		5.8 mg/l or higher; show signs of distress at <5.5 mg/L			Larger fish, including larger dolphin	Associated with Sargassum communities			
Citation	11		9		7,9			14	13			
Late Juveniles		Inshore and Offshore					Fish, including larger dolphin; squid and crustaceans	Larger pelagic fishes.	Closely associated with Sargassum communities and drifting objects			
Citation	4,6						8	11,14	6,13			Dolphin, (Coryphaena hippurus) cont.
							Trophic relationships		Habitat Associations and Interactions			
Life Stage	Season	Location	Temp(°C)	Salinity(ppt)	Oxygen	Depth(m)	Food	Predators	Habitat Selection	Growth	Mortality	Production

Adults	Highest catches are reported in summer; makes seasonal north-south migrations	Oceanic pelagic; both offshore and coastal inshore	20 C isotherm considered northern distributional limitation; more numerous at 25-28 C	Oceanic; 32-35ppt used in culture experiments	Poor tolerance for low oxygen conditions; ideally 6 mg/L	Out to 1800 m depths; most common at 40-200 m	Pelagic fishes, such as carangids, scombrids and flying fishes; also crustaceans and cephalopods	Larger pelagic fishes, such as billfish	Closely associated with Sargassum communities and drifting objects	Grow rapidly throughout life cycle; grow fastest at temperatures of 23.9-29.4 C	Have a short life span (2-4 yrs). Have high natural mortality due to predation. Small dolphin vulnerable to fishing pressure due to formation of close-knit schools	
Citation	10,11,13	4,11	1,4,9,11	9	9,17	4,16	4,8,13,14	3,11	11	1,11	1,2,11,13	
Spawning Adults	Multiple spawning occurs nearly throughout year, peaking at various times of year depending on location: Jan-Mar in the Florida current; spring and early fall in Gulf	Offshore; continental shelf and upper slope waters	Usually at >24 C; successfully spawned at 24-29C in culture experiments.	Oceanic								
Citation	1,2,11,13,18	12,13	9,18	9								

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