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1 **Generation of juvenile rainbow trout derived from cryopreserved whole ovaries by**
2 **intraperitoneal transplantation of ovarian germ cells**

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12

13 **Abstract**

14 Cryopreservation of fish sperm offers the practical applications in the selective breeding and
15 biodiversity conservation. However, because of the lack of cryopreservation methods for fish eggs and
16 embryos, maternally inherited cytoplasmic compartments cannot be successfully preserved. We
17 previously developed an alternative method to derive functional eggs and sperm from cryopreserved
18 whole testis by transplanting testicular cells into female and male recipients. However, if target fish had
19 ovaries, the previous method employing male-derived germ cells would be ineffective. Here, we aimed
20 to generate functional gametes from cryopreserved whole ovaries by transplanting ovarian germ cells
21 into peritoneal cavity of sterile hatchlings. Cryopreservation conditions for rainbow trout ovaries (1.0
22 M DMSO, 0.1 M trehalose, and 10% egg yolk) were optimized by testing several different
23 cryoprotective agents. Ovarian germ cells from thawed ovaries were intraperitoneally transplanted into
24 allogeneic triploid hatchlings. Transplanted germ cells migrated toward and were incorporated into
25 recipient gonads, where they underwent gametogenesis. Transplantation efficiency of ovarian germ
26 cells remained stable after cryopreservation period up to 1,185 days. Although all triploid recipients
27 that did not undergo transplantation were functionally sterile, 5 of 25 female recipients and 7 of 25
28 male recipients reached sexual maturity at 2.5 years post-transplantation. Inseminating the resultant
29 eggs and sperm generated viable offspring displaying the donor characteristics of orange body color,
30 green fluorescence, and chromosome numbers. This method is thus a breakthrough tool for the
31 conservation of endangered fish species that are crucial to cryopreserve the genetic resources of female
32 fish.

33

34 **1. Introduction**

35 Many fish species face a high risk of extinction; thus, preservation of fish fertility is vital for
36 conserving the biodiversity of threatened fish species. Cryopreservation is highly effective for the long-
37 term preservation of fish genetic resources [1]. However, because of the lack of cryopreservation
38 techniques for fish eggs and embryos [1,2], maternally inherited cytoplasmic compartments cannot be
39 successfully preserved [2,3]. Accordingly, although fish genetic resources have been maintained by
40 rearing viable individuals, this approach is vulnerable to pathogen outbreaks, natural disasters, and the
41 reduced fitness of individual fish within natural habitats [4,5].

42 We recently showed alternative methods for deriving functional eggs and sperm from
43 cryopreserved whole testis [6] or frozen male fish [7] by transplanting testicular cells into female and
44 male recipients. However, with gonadally female target fish, the methods employing male-derived
45 germ cells [6,7] would be ineffective. For example, overfishing of protogynous fish that can change
46 their gonadal sex from female to male [8] can cause biased sex ratios with large number of females
47 [9,10]; thus, female fish are more valid targets for preserving their genetic resources. Furthermore, with
48 endangered fish species having sex-determination mechanisms with female heterogamety (e.g., ZZ/ZW
49 sex-determination system) [8, 11–12], the female-specific W chromosome would not be preserved by
50 the previously established methods [6,7]. Therefore, a new method for preserving and restoring female
51 genetic resources is needed to protect endangered fish species.

52 Recently, female germline stem cells were identified in the ovaries of medaka fish [13], and the
53 oogonial stem cells were found capable of making intrinsic sperm-egg fate decisions [14]. Methods for
54 cryopreservation [15,16] and transplantation [17–19] of ovarian germ cells have been developed for
55 several fish species. However, no reports have described the derivation of fish eggs and sperm from
56 cryopreserved ovarian germ cells. We previously developed a surrogate broodstock technology [17] to

57 produce donor-derived eggs and sperm by transplanting ovarian germ cells into the peritoneal cavity of
58 sterile trout hatchlings. Here we investigated the generation of functional eggs and sperm following
59 cryopreservation of ovarian germ cells and subsequent germ cell transplantation.

60

61 **2. Materials and methods**

62 2.1. Fish

63 Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) were maintained at the Oizumi Research and Training
64 Station of Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (Yamanashi, Japan). Orange-colored
65 (heterozygous, OR/WT) [20] *pvasa-Gfp* transgenic (hemizygous, *vasa-Gfp*^{-/-}) [21,22] rainbow trout
66 females (chromosome number, 2n = 60,XX) [6] were used as donors. Wild-type triploid rainbow trout
67 (WT/WT/WT and *-/-/-*; chromosome number, 3n = 88) [6,23] were germ cell recipients. All
68 experiments were performed in accordance with the Guidelines for the Care and Use of Laboratory
69 Animals of the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology.

70

71 2.2. Ovary cryopreservation

72 Immature ovaries (ovary weight, 0.016 ± 0.004 g; gonad-somatic index, 0.089% ± 0.005%) were
73 isolated from 9-month-old transgenic rainbow trout (standard length, 11.1 ± 0.2 cm) whose ovarian
74 germ cells, including oogonia and early stage oocytes, specifically expressed green fluorescent protein
75 (GFP) [17]. Freshly isolated ovaries were transferred into 1.2-mL cryotubes (TPP, Switzerland)
76 containing 500 µL cryomedium (pH 7.8) that comprised permeating cryoprotectant agent (CPA;
77 propylene glycol, ethylene glycol, dimethyl sulfoxide, or glycerol at 1.0, 1.3, or 1.6 M), nonpermeating
78 CPA (0.1 M D-glucose or 0.1 M D-[+]-trehalose dihydrate and 1.5% [wt/vol] BSA, 1.5% [vol/vol] FBS,
79 10% [vol/vol] fresh egg yolk, or 1.5% [wt/vol] skim milk powder), and 35.2% (vol/vol) extender. The

80 cryotubes were maintained on ice for 60 min and cooled at $-1\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min}$ for 90 min using a Bicell plastic
81 freezing container (Nihon Freezer, Japan) located in a $-80\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ freezer before immersion in liquid
82 nitrogen. After cryopreservation in liquid-phase nitrogen, cryotubes were quickly thawed in a $10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
83 water bath and rehydrated [6]. Extender was formulated as described [6]. All cryopreservation reagents
84 were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich.

85

86 2.3. Viability assessment of germ cells

87 Fresh and frozen ovaries were dissociated into single cells [24], and the resultant cell suspensions
88 were filtered through a $20\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ -pore nylon screen (Tokyo Screen Company, Japan). Because the total
89 numbers of GFP (+) germ cells did not significantly differ between both ovaries of rainbow trout ($n = 4$,
90 $P < 0.05$), the numbers of GFP (+) germ cells in frozen (1, 73, 273, 450, 642, and 1,185 days) and fresh
91 ovaries were compared to determine the viability of cryopreserved GFP (+) germ cells ($n = 12\text{--}24$).
92 Survival of GFP (+) germ cells was assessed using a Guava PCA-96 flow cytometry system (Millipore)
93 and trypan blue (TB)-exclusion assay. The viability of GFP (+) germ cells was calculated as: viability
94 (%) = ([number of GFP-positive and TB-negative cells in frozen ovary]/[number of GFP-positive cells
95 in fresh ovary]) $\times 100$.

96

97 2.4. Germ cell transplantation

98 Approximately $20\text{--}30\text{ nL}$ cell suspension, containing $\sim 10,000$ GFP (+) cells, was
99 intraperitoneally transplanted into 33-day-old hatchlings. At 20, 50, and 193 days post-transplantation
100 (pt), recipients were dissected and their gonads were observed under fluorescent microscopes (BX51-
101 34FL and MVX10, Olympus). The ratios of recipients with GFP (+) donor cells in their gonads at 20
102 and 50 days pt and the number of incorporated GFP (+) cells at 20 days pt were recorded ($n = 101\text{--}133$).

103 Colonization and proliferation efficiencies of GFP (+) germ cells were calculated as: colonization rate
104 (%) = ([number of fish incorporating GFP-positive cells at 20 days pt]/[number of fish observed]) ×
105 100; proliferation rate (%) = ([number of fish proliferating GFP-positive cells at 50 days pt]/[number of
106 fish observed]) × 100.

107

108 2.5. Progeny test

109 Recipients were reared until maturity. To determine the generation of sperm from frozen GFP (+)
110 donor cells, total genomic DNA was extracted from the semen of male recipients and analyzed by PCR,
111 using *Gfp*-specific primers [25]. At 2.5 years pt, eggs from female recipients were inseminated with
112 milt from male recipients of the same experimental group. To determine the production of F1 offspring
113 by gametes derived from frozen donor cells, donor phenotypes (orange-color, *vasa-Gfp*, and ovary)
114 were examined in the F1 offspring. To determine the phenotypic sex of the F1 offspring, the middle
115 portions of the ovaries isolated from randomly selected F1 juveniles ($n = 22$) were fixed in Bouin
116 solution, paraffin-embedded, serially sectioned at 5- μm thickness, and stained with hematoxylin and
117 eosin (H&E). The genotypic sex of F1 juveniles was further examined by PCR. Total genomic DNA
118 was extracted from the fins of randomly selected F1 juveniles ($n = 13$) and analyzed by PCR with *sdY*-
119 specific primers [26]. To confirm the cytogenetic normality of the F1 juveniles, the DNA contents and
120 karyotype analyses of the donor rainbow trout ($n = 10$), recipients ($n = 12$), and randomly selected F1
121 juveniles ($n = 38$) were conducted [6].

122

123 2.6. Statistical analysis

124 Data are shown as the mean \pm standard error of the mean from three independent experiments.
125 Statistical significance was determined by one-way analysis of variance followed by Tukey's multiple-

126 comparisons test. Student's t-test was used for comparisons between two groups. $P < 0.05$ indicated
127 statistical significance.

128

129 **3. Results**

130 3.1. Viability of cryopreserved ovarian germ cells

131 When slowly cooled ovaries were cryopreserved for 1 day, significantly higher viability was
132 found with GFP (+) germ cells cryopreserved with cryomedium containing 1.3 M dimethyl sulfoxide
133 (DMSO) instead of 1.3 M propylene glycol (PG) or 1.3 M glycerol (GLY) (Fig. 1A). Using ovaries
134 cryopreserved in cryomedium containing ethylene glycol (EG) or DMSO at 1.0, 1.3, or 1.6 M
135 concentrations, we found that GFP (+) germ cells cryopreserved in 1.0 M DMSO tended to exhibit the
136 highest survival rate (Fig. 1B). Next, the effects of nonpermeating CPAs dissolved in cryomedium
137 containing 1.0 M DMSO on GFP (+) germ cell survival were assessed. The viability of GFP (+) germ
138 cells was significantly higher in ovaries cryopreserved in cryomedium containing 0.1 M trehalose and
139 1.5% (wt/vol) BSA (Fig. 1C). Finally, the effects of 1.5% (wt/vol) BSA, 10% (vol/vol) egg yolk, or 1.5%
140 (wt/vol) skim milk dissolved in cryomedium containing 1.0 M DMSO and 0.1 M trehalose on GFP (+)
141 germ cell survival were compared. GFP (+) germ cells with the highest survival rate ($72.9\% \pm 6.2\%$)
142 were obtained from ovaries whose cryomedium contained 10% (vol/vol) egg yolk (Fig. 1D). Ovaries
143 were cryopreserved for 1–1,185 days to assess the long-term viability of GFP (+) germ cells within
144 ovaries frozen in the optimized cryomedium containing 1.0 M DMSO, 0.1 M trehalose, and 10%
145 (vol/vol) egg yolk. The viability of GFP (+) germ cells obtained from the cryopreserved ovaries did not
146 change significantly from 1–1,185 days (Fig. 1E).

147

148 3.2. Transplantation of cryopreserved ovarian germ cells

149 To determine whether ovarian germ cells (Fig. 1K) recovered from long-term cryopreserved
150 ovaries (Fig. 1L,J) maintained stem cell potency [17,27], the transplantation efficiencies of ovarian
151 germ cells frozen for 1 or 1,185 days were compared with those of freshly prepared germ cells.
152 Recipients were dissected at 20, 50, and 193 days pt, and the behavior of GFP (+) donor cells were
153 examined. At 20 days pt, GFP (+) germ cells frozen for 1,185 days were incorporated into the gonads
154 in 73/102 recipients examined (Fig. 1L,P). The mean number of GFP (+) germ cells incorporated into
155 the gonads was 2.0 ± 0.2 in the 1,185-day-frozen group (Fig. 1L,Q). The 1,185-day-frozen cells began
156 to proliferate rapidly within the gonads in 64/112 recipients at 50 days pt (Fig. 1M,R) and resumed
157 oogenesis and spermatogenesis in 24/52 female recipients (Fig. 1N,N') and 29/58 male recipients (Fig.
158 1O,O'), respectively, at 193 days pt. Colonization (Fig. 1P) and proliferation efficiency (Fig. 1R) of
159 donor germ cells within recipient gonads, and the germ cell-incorporation rate (Fig. 1Q) did not differ
160 significantly with different freezing periods versus freshly prepared controls.

161

162 3.3 Eggs and sperm derived from cryopreserved ovarian germ cells

163 Although all triploid females that had not received transplants were completely sterile, 5/25
164 (20%) female CP8 recipients (CP8, recipients that received germ cells cryopreserved for 8 months)
165 reached sexual maturity at 2.5 years pt (Table 1). A similar maturation rate was observed with fresh
166 control recipients receiving freshly prepared germ cells (Table 1). The number of eggs ovulated from
167 CP8 recipients ($1,575 \pm 242$) did not significantly differ from those ovulated from fresh control
168 recipients and wild-type diploid trout (Fig. 2A).

169 All triploid males that had not received transplants were sterile, other than 3 exceptional males
170 that produced small amounts of aneuploid sperm incapable of generating normal hatchlings (Fig. 2B,
171 Table 1). In contrast, 4/29 (13.8%) and 7/25 (28.0%) male CP8 recipients reached sexual maturity at

172 1.5 and 2.5 years pt, respectively (Table 1). The numbers of sperm ($0.8 \pm 0.2 \times 10^{10}$ and $1.9 \pm 0.3 \times$
173 10^{10} at 1.5 and 2.5 years pt, respectively) obtained from CP8 males did not significantly differ from
174 those of fresh control recipients and wild-type diploid trout (Fig. 2B). The genetic background of sperm
175 obtained from the CP8 and fresh male recipients at 2.5 years pt was examined by PCR with *Gfp*-
176 specific primers [25]. All milt from the recipients was positive for the presence of the *Gfp* gene (Fig.
177 2C).

178

179 3.4. Production of donor-derived rainbow trout

180 At 2.5 years pt, eggs ovulated from female recipients were inseminated with milt from male
181 recipients. The fertilization ($98.4\% \pm 0.7\%$), eyed ($90.2\% \pm 1.6\%$), hatching ($86.6\% \pm 1.2\%$), and
182 swim-up rates ($83.4\% \pm 1.9\%$) of fertilized eggs from the CP8 recipients did not differ significantly
183 from those of eggs produced by fresh control recipients and wild-type diploid trout (Fig. 2D). When the
184 donor phenotypes of cryopreserved ovaries (OR and *vasa-Gfp*) were successfully transmitted to F1
185 generation, approximately 75% of F1 juveniles were expected to exhibit a donor phenotype, following
186 Mendelian inheritance. In the F1 juveniles produced by CP8 recipients, the percentages of orange-
187 colored ($76.6\% \pm 1.3\%$) and *vasa-Gfp* (+) ($74.1\% \pm 1.8\%$) fish approached 75% (Fig. 2E–I,
188 Supplementary Table 1). Furthermore, when donor germ cells carrying XX sex chromosomes were
189 successfully transmitted to the F1 generation, the F1 juveniles should be 100% female. Microscopic
190 observations of ovaries isolated from F1 juveniles produced by CP8 recipients ($n = 1,500$; Fig. 2J,K,
191 Supplementary Table 1), histological analyses ($n = 22$; Fig. 2L), and PCR analyses with *sdY*-specific
192 primers ($n = 13$; Fig. 2M) indicated that the F1 juveniles were all female. The same results were
193 observed with fresh control recipients receiving freshly prepared germ cells (Supplementary Table 1).
194 Analyses of the DNA content for 38 F1 juveniles produced by CP8 recipients revealed that all F1

195 juveniles were normal diploid (Fig. 2P) and none showed signs of aneuploidy or triploidy (Fig. 2O). All
196 F1 juveniles possessed 60 chromosomes with 104 arm numbers (Fig. 2S), which was identical to these
197 characteristics in the donor trout (Fig. 2Q), but clearly differed from those of the triploid recipients (Fig.
198 2R).

199

200 **4. Discussion**

201 The results of this study demonstrate that juvenile rainbow trout could be derived from
202 cryopreserved whole ovaries after intraperitoneal transplantation of ovarian germ cells. The viability
203 and transplantation efficiencies of frozen ovarian germ cells did not change for cryopreservation
204 periods up to 1,185 days. The long-term-frozen (8 months) ovarian germ cells possessed high capacity
205 for differentiating into eggs and sperm in the ovaries and testes of recipients. Insemination of the
206 resultant eggs and sperm generated normal rainbow trout that displayed the donor-derived
207 characteristics of orange body color, green fluorescence, XX ovaries, and chromosome numbers.
208 Because all triploid trout not receiving transplants were functionally sterile, we conclude that the F1
209 offspring obtained from triploid transplant recipients were all derived from frozen donor ovaries.

210 Previously, we established a technique for generating functional eggs and sperm from
211 cryopreserved testicular germ cells in rainbow trout [6] and applied this technique to conserving
212 endangered fish species [28]. However, this method [6,28] cannot be directly applied to female fishes
213 because it utilizes male germ cells. Here, we developed a new method that can be effectively applied
214 for cryopreserving the genetic resources of female fish. For example, with protogynous fish such as
215 Atlantic goliath grouper (*Epinephelus itajara*) or with female heterogametic fish such as European eel
216 (*Anguilla anguilla*) and Siberian sturgeon (*Acipenser baerii*), where cryopreserving female germ cells
217 is crucial, the technique established in this study would provide a key solution. Additionally, because

218 methods to cryopreserve eggs and embryos in amphibians utilizing female heterogamety for sex
219 determination have yet to be developed [29], our results also have significant implications for
220 conserving their biodiversity.

221 Here, we demonstrated that all F1 offspring from frozen XX ovarian germ cells were XX females.
222 Previously, [30] we showed that recipients transplanted with rainbow trout XY male germ cells
223 produced X sperm, X eggs, Y sperm, and Y eggs, and that YY supermales were produced in the F1
224 generation after random fertilization. When YY supermales, which do not normally appear in natural
225 environments, are released into the species' original habitat, this could result in the extinction of
226 species [31]. Thus, when germ cell-transplantation techniques are used to conserve species that employ
227 male heterogamety for sex determination, the appearance of YY supermales can be a significant
228 disadvantage. When X eggs (produced by female recipients transplanted with XX female germ cells)
229 and X or Y sperm (produced by male recipients transplanted with X or Y male germ cells) are
230 inseminated, a general 1:1 sex ratio can be induced without the appearance of YY supermales in the F1
231 generation [30]. Therefore, our new method can be significantly used with endangered fish species that
232 employ male heterogamety for sex determination.

233 Here, we optimized the CPA conditions (1.0 M DMSO, 0.1 M trehalose, and 10% egg yolk) for
234 cryopreserving the ovarian germ cells from rainbow trout, which were nearly identical to those
235 optimized for cryopreserving the testicular germ cells from the same species (1.3 M DMSO, 0.1 M
236 trehalose, and 10% egg yolk) [6]. Pšenička et al. [16] recently reported that 1.5 M ethylene glycol, 50
237 mM glucose, and 0.5% BSA is the best cryoprotectant for both ovarian and testicular germ cells in
238 Siberian sturgeon. Additional studies using different fish species are required to determine whether the
239 conditions of cryoprotectant agents differ between ovarian germ cells and testicular germ cells.

240 The method of whole-ovary cryopreservation established here is simple and does not require

241 complex laboratory equipment such as programmable freezers, enabling its use under field conditions.
242 Therefore, using this method would substantially contribute to the conservation of endangered fish
243 species that are crucial to cryopreserve the genetic resources of female fish. This is the first report of
244 successfully generating functional gametes from cryopreserved female germ cells in any fish species.

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249

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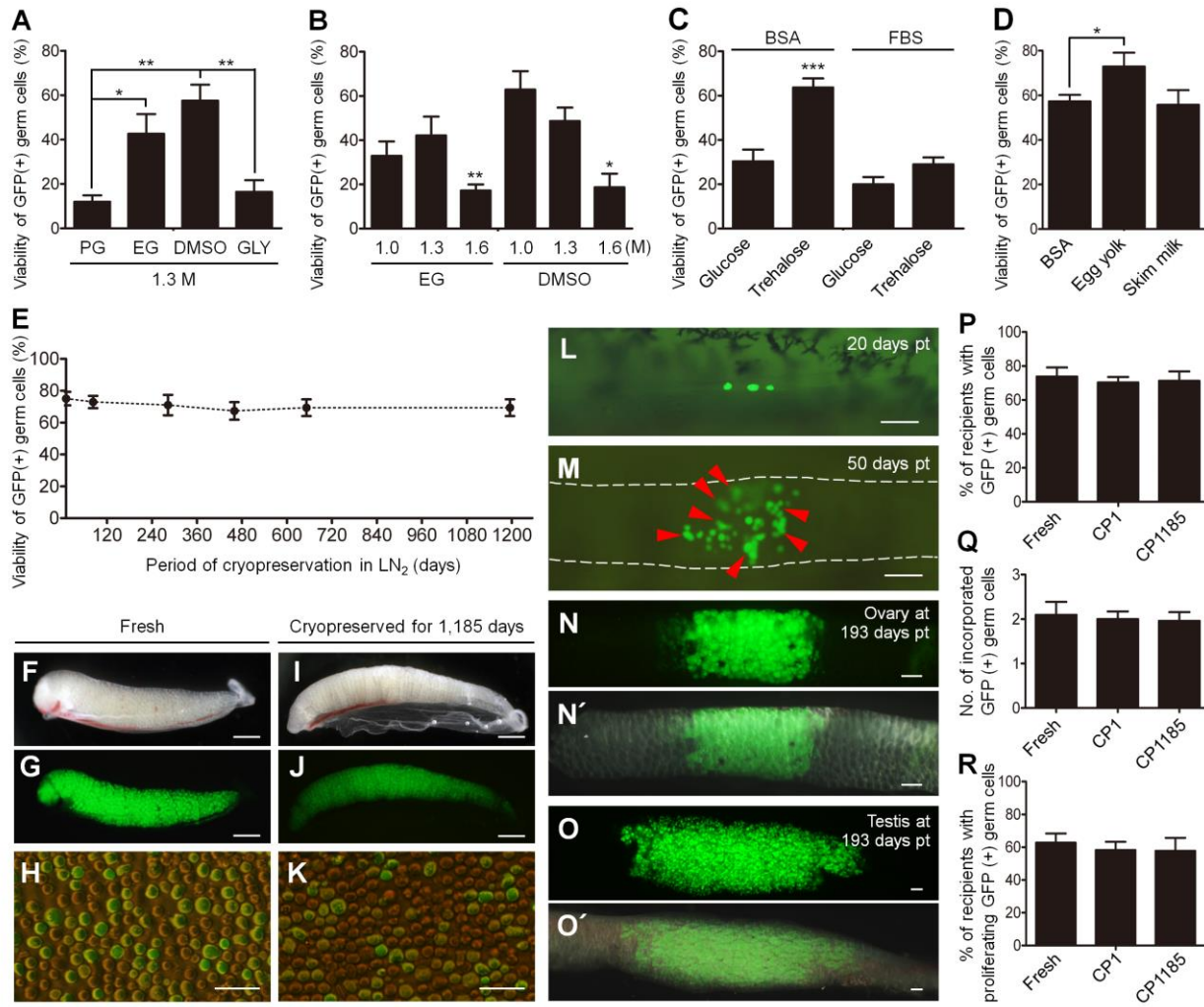
325 **Figure legends**

326 **Fig. 1. Transplantation of cryopreserved ovarian germ cells.** (A) Viability of germ cells in frozen-
327 thawed ovaries with medium containing 1.3 M propylene glycol (PG), ethylene glycol (EG), dimethyl
328 sulfoxide (DMSO) or glycerol (GLY) ($n = 14$). (B) Viability of germ cells with medium containing EG
329 or DMSO at various concentrations (1.0, 1.3, or 1.6 M; $n = 12$). (C) Viability of germ cells with
330 medium containing 0.1 M glucose or trehalose cryoprotectants with BSA or FBS ($n = 12$). (D) Viability
331 of germ cells with BSA, egg yolk, or skim milk with medium containing 1.0 M DMSO and 0.1 M
332 trehalose ($n = 12$). (E) Viability of germ cells within ovaries cryopreserved for 1–1,185 days. No
333 significant differences in cell viability were observed following the different cryopreservation periods
334 ($n = 12–24$). (F–H) Freshly prepared trout ovary in a bright-field (F) and fluorescence view (G), and
335 dissociated ovarian cells (H). (I–K) Trout ovary cryopreserved for 1,185 days in a bright-field (I) and
336 fluorescence view (J), and dissociated ovarian cells (K). (L) GFP (+) germ cells cryopreserved for
337 1,185 days were incorporated into recipient gonads at 20 days post-transplantation. (M–O)
338 Incorporated GFP (+) germ cells began proliferating (arrowheads) at 50 days post-transplantation (M)
339 and resumed gametogenesis in female (N, N') and male recipients (O, O') at 193 days post-
340 transplantation. (P–R) The percentage of recipients that contained donor germ cells within their gonads
341 (P), the number of germ cells incorporated into the recipient gonads (Q), and the percentage of
342 recipients having proliferated donor germ cells (R) were not significantly different between germ cells
343 cryopreserved for 1 (CP1) or 1,185 days (CP1185), or freshly prepared germ cells (fresh) ($n = 101–$
344 133). The data shown are the mean \pm standard error of the mean derived from three independent
345 experiments. Scale bars, 1 mm (F,G,I,J), 50 μm (H,K–M), 100 μm (N–O').

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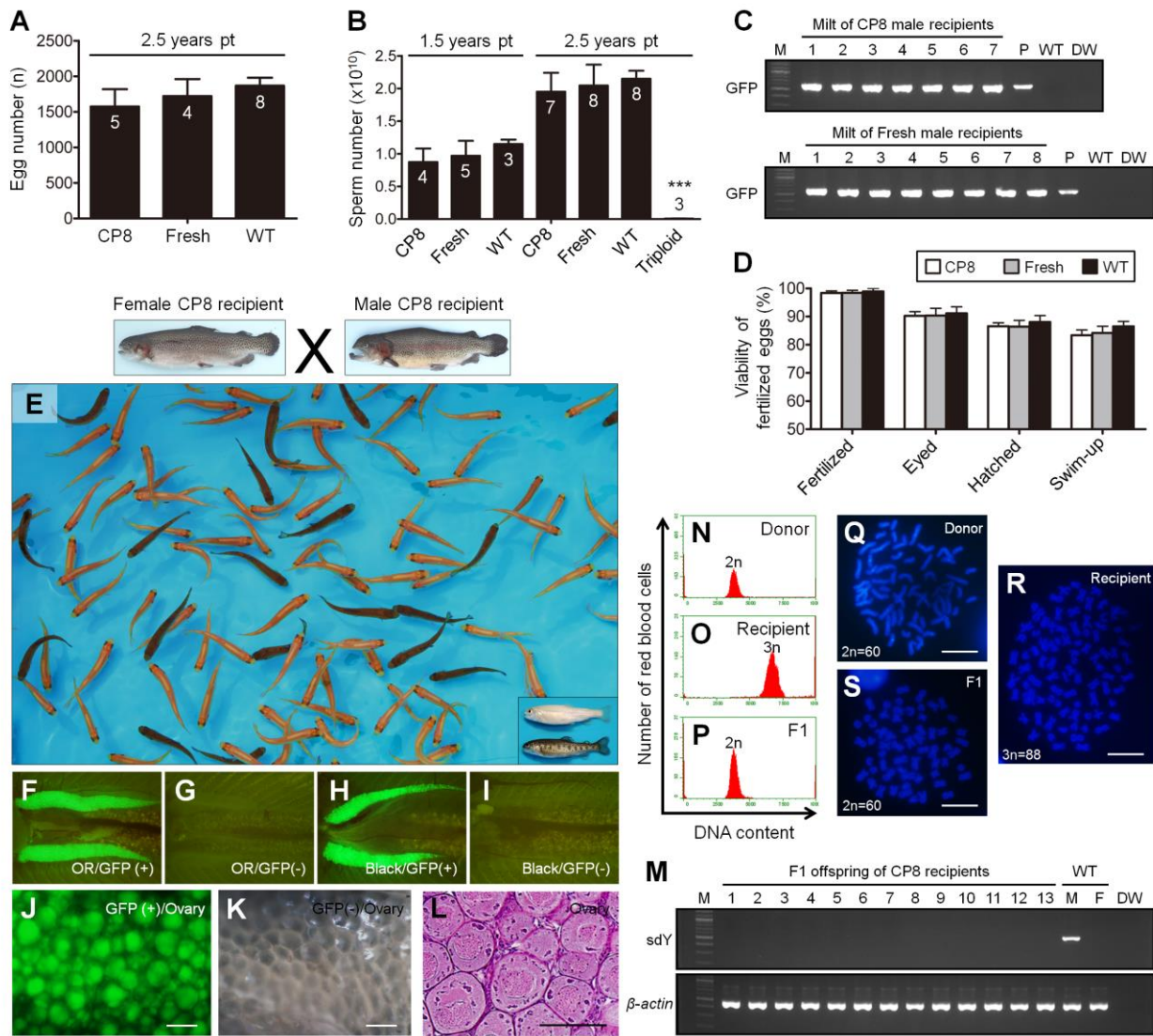
347 **Fig. 2. Generation of trout derived from cryopreserved ovarian germ cells.** (A) Numbers of eggs
348 ovulated by recipients that received ovarian germ cells frozen for 8 months (CP8), recipients that
349 received freshly prepared germ cells (fresh), and wild-type (WT) diploid trout at 2.5 years post-
350 transplantation. (B) Numbers of sperm produced by CP8 recipients, fresh recipients, WT diploid trout,
351 and WT triploid trout (Triploid). The numbers within each bar indicate the number of mature fish (A,B).
352 (C) PCR analyses of recipient milts with *Gfp*-specific primers. Lanes: M: molecular-weight marker, No.
353 1–8: milt obtained from recipients, P: *Gfp*-plasmid, WT: milt from WT diploid trout, DW: distilled
354 water. (D) Developmental performances of fertilized eggs obtained from CP8 recipients (white bars),
355 fresh recipients (gray bars), and WT diploid trout (black bars). (E–I) Approximately 75% of F1
356 juveniles derived from CP8 recipients displayed the donor-derived phenotypes of orange body color (E)
357 and GFP-positive germ cells (F,H). The boxed area in (E) shows both phenotypic colors of the F1
358 progeny. Ovaries of orange-colored transgenic (F) and non-transgenic (G) F1 juveniles, and ovaries of
359 WT transgenic (H) and non-transgenic (I) F1 juveniles are shown. (J,K) Transgenic (J) and non-
360 transgenic (K) ovaries at high magnification. (L) Histological analysis of selected ovaries from F1
361 juveniles produced by CP8 recipients confirmed the presence of an ovary ($n = 22$). (M) PCR analysis
362 of F1 juvenile fins with *sdY*-specific primers (top) or *β -actin*-specific primers (bottom). Lanes: M:
363 molecular-weight marker, No. 1–13: fins of F1 juveniles derived from CP8 recipients, WT-M: WT
364 male trout, WT-F: WT female trout, DW: distilled water. (N–P) Analyses of DNA content revealed that
365 all F1 juveniles were normal diploid (P) as the DNA content in donor trout (N), but clearly different
366 from the DNA content of CP8 recipients (O) ($n = 10$ –38). (Q–S) Karyotype of donor trout ($2n = 60$)
367 (Q), CP8 triploid recipients ($3n = 88$) (R), and F1 juveniles ($2n = 60$) (S) ($n = 10$ –38). Scale bars, 50
368 μm (J–L), 10 μm (Q–S).

369



370
371 **Figure 1.**

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373

374 **Figure 2.**

375

Table 1. Maturation of triploid recipients following transplantation of frozen-thawed ovarian germ cells.

Group	Cryopreservation period (months)	No. of fish	No. mature/surviving fish (%)			
			1.5 years post-transplantation		2.5 years post-transplantation	
			Female	Male	Female	Male
CP8 ^a	8	70	0/32 (0.0)	4/29 (13.8)	5/25 (20.0)	7/25 (28.0)
Fresh ^b	-	70	0/26 (0.0)	5/33 (15.2)	4/22 (18.2)	8/26 (30.8)
Wild-type ^c	-	32	0/13 (0.0)	3/12 (25.0)	8/9 (88.9)	8/8 (100)
Triploid ^d	-	50	0/22 (0.0)	0/20 (0.0)	0/18 (0.0)	3/17 (17.6)*

^aTriploid recipients received ovarian germ cells taken from whole ovaries cryopreserved for 8 months.

^bTriploid recipients received freshly prepared ovarian germ cells.

^cWild-type diploid trout that did not undergo transplantation.

^dWild-type triploid trout that did not undergo transplantation.

*Triploid males produced a low number of aneuploid sperm.

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