

Review of: "The Growth Performance of Nile Tilapia (Oreochromis Niloticus) Fed Low-Cost Fish Feeds Formulated From Fish By-Products, Fishery By-Catch and Pig Blood-Meal"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Dear Authors,

The submitted manuscript presents an important aspect of food technology and nutrition. In this study, the authors evaluated the growth performance of Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis Niloticus*) fed fish feed derived from fish by-products, fishery by-catch, and pig blood-meal. This is an interesting study, fitting in with current trends of zero waste and sustainability.

I have recommended some suggestions to the authors that could improve the value of the article. Below are my suggestions:

For many small-scale fish farmers in Zimbabwe, the cost of commercial feed is often too high.– Please add a reference to the sentence.

In this study, it is demonstrated that using cheap and locally available fish products is perhaps one of the most realistic options. – I would recommend removing the "we" form and using the passive voice.

What makes the work stand out in light of the research? What is new about the research undertaken? Please explain these points in the Introduction section.

Feed was fed to the fish in the form of pellets at 5 % body weight twice a day.– Add a dot at the end of the sentence.

Feed was fed to the fish in the form of pellets at 5 % body weight twice a day... I would suggest changing the form of the sentence. It is hardly understandable.

The experiment was done for a period of 11 weeks to ascertain (...).– Remove the dot after "weeks".

Aseptically, fish by-products (skins and guts), by-catch, pig blood were individually transferred into sterile plastic bags and immediately put on ice for preservation purposes. – How long were these products stored in ice? Please add information.

Mineral and vitamin premix was added to the feed.– What did the premix consist of? What vitamins and minerals? Please add.

Samples of fish feed ingredients were collected and analysed for DM (...).— Explain the meaning of the abbreviation DM if you use it for the first time in the text.

The energy value of the diets was determined by multiplying the protein content by 4, carbohydrate content by 4, and fat content by 9 (AOAC, 2000). – Add a dot at the end of the sentence.

In the discussion of the results, literature sources from the last 10 years have been used to a large extent. I would very much appreciate the addition of more recent literature sources.

I would suggest adding Conclusions, in which the authors would summarize the research conducted and present in a few sentences the most important results and conclusions.

Conclusion: on the basis of the above introduced arguments, in spite of the mentioned comments, I evaluate this scientific paper as acceptable, and that is the reason why I can recommend it for publication in Qeios after proposed corrections.

Dear Editor,

First of all, thank you very much for allowing me to review the article “The Growth Performance of Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis Niloticus*) Fed Low-Cost Fish Feeds Formulated From Fish By-Products, Fishery By-Catch and Pig Blood-Meal” by Elizabeth Munyoro, Vimbai R Hamandishe, Allen Mavuru, Tamuka Nhiwatiwa. The manuscript presents an interesting study of high importance for the scientific community.

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