

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.

ABOUT THE MANUSCRIPT

The article is about testing 7 iso-nitrogenous diets to grow Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) with a percentage of formulated crude protein replacement of 0%, 50%, and 100%, using fish by-products and pig blood. The experiments were done with a completely randomized design with 8 treatments, using 30 L aquariums at constant temperature. In these experiments, growth, survival, feed consumption, protein efficiency ratio, and feed conversion ratio were measured.

The hypothesis is that the formulations will be adequate for the protein requirement but at a substantially lower cost. The feed with 35% crude protein was administered at 5% of body weight twice daily. The greatest growth was obtained in fish fed with 100% byproducts of bycatch. Food was given in the form of pellets weighing 5% of the fish's weight twice a day. (How daily weight is quantified). For 11 weeks and compared to a flock fed commercial feed.

The growth of the fish was monitored by weekly sampling with a digital scale; at the end (11 weeks), they were harvested and weighed to obtain the final weight.

COMMENTS FOR AUTHORS

In general, the manuscript is simple and well written. I only give some suggestions, like:

1. Throughout the document, it is suggested to use the correct way of expressing the results and their references (units); the magnitude must be separated from the relative or measurement unit (% , °C, g, etc.) by a space, for example, 35 %.
2. In the first line of the third paragraph of the introduction, a space must be included between the words "is" and "primarily."
3. All abbreviations or symbols used in the body of the document must be specified from the first time they were used, especially if the document does not have an index of used abbreviations. As in the "Feed Ingredients" section, in the first line, there is an abbreviation "DM" that has not been defined before its use. The same abbreviation is used again without being defined in the "Proximate Analysis" section.
4. All quantities must have their unit of measurement, for example, 9 % - 17 %.

5. The correct units for energy levels in diets is kJ, where the kilo symbol is lowercase k.
6. Review the entire document in relation to the correct writing of the results of the manuscript. Please review Table 3.

Suggested clarifications from the authors:

In the article, they specify having used 160 Nile Tilapias in 8 treatments, which gives approximately 20 per aquarium. This topic in particular is not clear. However, they also write that three replicas were made, but it is not clear how the three replicas were carried out.