

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.

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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The manuscript tries to identify a suitable substitute for fishmeal as a feed ingredient. We know feed is an important ingredient and a significant contributor to aquaculture entrepreneurship's cost. Several studies of a similar nature exist, but they could not effectively replace fishmeal as a feed ingredient. This study could be a prospective study from Zimbabwe's point of view.

This study is organised well, but there are a few queries for clarification, and they are given below:

1. There are, in fact, six feeds prepared with fish meal, fish byproduct (2), fish bycatch (2), and pig blood meal, and they are compared with commercial feed. Table 1 compares several feed ingredients. What is the relevance of the data on the feed ingredients such as maize meal, SBM, and wheat bran in this study?
2. How many replicates of the experiments were done? A minimum of three experiments is needed to compare the results. Again, the author has discussed that the experiments were carried out during winter, leading to poor feed intake and, hence, lower FCR and SGR. Is it not required to verify in other seasons to confirm the efficiency of the altered feed on growth?
3. Materials and Methods discusses the microbial sample collection and analysis. No data are seen or discussed.
4. The data on the proximate composition of byproducts 50% and byproducts 100% feeds are missing in Table 2. Table 3 can be combined with Table 2.
5. The references cited are older than 2016. Needs updation.
6. The aim of the study and conclusions are not clearly spelt out.

Comments:

The manuscript cannot be accepted in its present form. It needs to be rewritten in the context of the comments.

