

EFFECTS OF THE INTERMITTENT FASTING AND FEEDING RATE ON GROWTH AND FEED UTILISATION OF PANGASIUS (*Pangasianodon hypophthalmus*)

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Summary

The effects of intermittent fasting and feeding rate on survival, growth performance and feed conversion ratio was conducted on pangasius (*Pangasianodon hypophthalmus*) of approximately average initial weight 20 g/fish in hapas 6 m² for a period of 6 months at the stocking density of 50 fish/m². The fish were fed with different feeding rate and intermittent fasting: no fasting (called daily feeding treatment), 5 days of feeding and 1 day of fasting (treatment 5+1), 7 days of feeding and 1 day of fasting (treatment 7+1), 10 days of feeding and 2 days of fasting (treatment 10+2). For each intermittent fasting regime, the feed intake was studied at the levels of 100% of satiation requirement [satiation requirement \(90% NC\)](#), 80% of satiation requirement (80% NC) and 70% of satiation requirement (70% NC). Feeding rate and intermittent fasting did not affect fish's survival but significantly affected their growth and feed utilization. Feeding fish to saturation 100% NC showed a high feed conversion ratio (FCR). When feeding rate was reduced, FCR reduced but fish showed slower growth performance. The formula 7+1 (7 days of feeding and 1 day of fasting) with the feeding rate of 80% satiation requirement (80% NC) gave best results with low FCR (1.4) and average harvested weight of fish being above 900 g/fish.

Keywords: *Feeding rate, intermittent fasting, growth, feed utilisation, pangasius.*