GROWING OUT BABYLON SNAIL (*Babylonia areolata*, LinK 1807) IN RECYCLING WATER TANK

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Summary

This paper reports the results on growing out Babylon snail *Babylonia areolata* Link 1807 in recycling water tanks (RAS). Juveniles at size of 0.05 g were stocked at 2700-2800 ind./m^2 in three tanks each had 54.3 m^2. The juveniles were fed with trashfish at 1-2 times daily. Water from culture tanks was treated by biological filters and daily reused up to 90%. The environmental parameters recorded were tempeature: 27.8-32.2^oC; salinity: 30.2-36.4‰; pH: 7.6-8.2; DO: 3.8-5.6 mg/L; alkalinity: 81.2-127.4 mg/L; TAN: 0.092-0.322 mg/L; NO_2-N: 0.014 – 0.081 mg/L; NO_3-N < 27.34 mg/L. After 5 month trial, the snails reached to a body size of 6.0 ± 0.27 g; DGR: 0.041 ± 0.002 g/day; SR: 75.7 ± 3.0%; productivity: 12.49 ± 0.62 kg/m^2; FCR: 2.4 ± 0.15. While DGR was similar and SR was lower than those in some cases the productivity was much higher compared to those reported. Low DO and high TAN in late period should have impacted growth and survival of Babylon snails. For each crop, interest rate was 27.20 – 49.04%; and payback period was 2.72-1.22 years depending on price. The results indicate advangtage suggesting further studies to complete in order to apply this model culture in commercial scale.

Keywords: *Babylonia, growth, recirculating, tank.*