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Preliminary study: Effect of feeding frequency on growth, feed conversion ratio and specific growth rate of red tilapia, *Oreochromis* spp.

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A preliminary experiment was carried out to investigate the effect of different feeding frequency on the growth, feed conversion ratio (FCR) and specific growth rate (SGR) of red tilapia, *Oreochromis* spp. Feeding twice a day (TW) was applied as a control in this trial compared with feeding once a day (ON) and thrice a day (TH) at a common hours of fish feeding. Initial average weight of fish used was 2.7 ± 2 g. Trial was done in triplicates and 150 fish was randomly distributed into each aquarium. Experimental fish was fed using a commercial pellet based on 5% of total body weight per day. Final weight of fish was significantly higher in the ON treatment compared to TW and TH with 10.98 g, 8.29 g and 7.63 g, respectively. Fish weight was constantly increasing in all treatments throughout the experimental period. SGR for ON was 2 g/day which means fish gain weight of 2 g every day until the final day of the experiment. The present study shows that feeding once a day (ON) resulted to higher feed efficiency of feed based on the growth (linear relationship).

Biography

Esther Michelle Gunben has completed her Master's in Aquaculture majoring in Aquaculture Nutrition from Universiti Malaysia Sabah. She is currently an Educator in a technical institute teaching mainly on aquaculture feed and also fish husbandry.

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