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To induce brood stock of *Heterobranchus longifilis* using a synthetic hormone

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An experiment was carried out at Urban Farms and Fisheries Nigeria Ltd, Owerri Imo State Nigeria between February and June 2016 to induce Brood stock of *Heterobranchus longifilis* (mean weight 1.3 kg) in concrete tanks (1.0×2.0×1.5 m) in dimension using a synthetic hormone (Ovaprim) and pituitary extract from *Heterobranchus longifilis*. Brood stock males were selected as pituitary donors and their weights matched with those of females to be injected at 1 ml/kg body weight. Ovaprim was injected at 0.5 ml/kg body weight of female fish. A latency period of 12 hours was allowed after injection of the Brood stock females before stripping the eggs and incubation at 23o C. While incubating the eggs, samples were drawn and the rate of fertilization was determined. *Hatching occurred* within 33 hours and hatchability rate (%) was determined by counting the active hatchings. The result showed that Ovaprim injected Brood stock eggs fertilized up to 80% while the pituitary from the *Heterobranchus longifilis* had low fertilization and hatching success 20%. Ovaprim is imported and costly, so more effort is required to enhance the procedures for homoplastic hypophysation.

Biography

Romanus Keke is currently working as Professor at Imo State University, Nigeria.

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