

Optimization of Feeding and Growth Conditions for Hatchery-bred Larvae of Indigenous Philippine Silver Perch, *Leiopotherapon plumbeus* (Perciformes: Terapontidae)

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The Philippine silver perch, locally known as *ayungin*, is an endemic fish species and is considered as a potential candidate for aquaculture and for stock enhancement. However, high mortality associated with early larval stages presents a significant bottleneck to its latent commercialization. Culture experiments considered interactions among prey proportions, growth conditions and their consequences on fish growth performance and survival. Two phases of the experiment were conducted: (1) a short duration feeding trial utilizing different prey proportions of *Brachionus calyciflorus* and *Moina macrocopa* and (2) an indoor larval rearing technique that ensured optimum growth and survival of juveniles. Findings of this research will be used to propose an efficient rearing strategy addressing the aquaculture of this indigenous species.

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