

Evaluation of Local Ingredients (Fish, Shrimp, Snail, Copra, Leaf Meals and Rice Bran) For Feeding Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) Fingerlings

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Seven experimental diets using locally available ingredients (various combinations of fish, shrimp, snail, copra, leaf meals and rice bran) were tested in Nile tilapia kept in 2-1 aquaria measuring 30 cm x 75 cm x 30 cm for 120 days. Treatments were randomly assigned to three aquaria, each stocked with 10 fish. Fish were fed 7 days a week at a rate of 5 percent of the fish body weight and their daily feed allowance was adjusted at bi-weekly interval on the basis of weight gain. Statistically higher growth took place in those fish receiving feed II (23.2g) (15% shrimp meal, 60% rice bran, 14% cassava leaf meal) followed by feed VII (19.3g) (commercial chick starter mash). Lowest growth was found in fish given feed I (9.8 g) (15% fish meal, 60% rice bran, 10% copra meal and 14% cassava leaf meal). Analysis of variance of the mean weight gain in all treatments yielded significant differences ($P < 0.05$).