

Induced Breeding of Two Clariid Catfishes *Clarius gariepinus* and *Heterobranchus bidorsalis* Using Tilapia Pituitary Extracts

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Abstract

Induced breeding trials of two clariid catfishes, *Clarias gariepinus* and *Heterobranchus bidorsalis*, were conducted using five doses (2, 4, 6, 8 or 10 mg/kg) of acetone-dried tilapia pituitary (ADTP) extracts. Oocyte maturation and ovulation were induced in female catfishes by single intramuscular injection of 6–10 mg/kg ADTP; optimum results were obtained with 8 mg/kg in both catfishes. At ambient temperature (27 ± 1 C), ovulation occurred within 14–18 h post-injection resulting in 16–20% increase in egg diameter. Fertilization and hatching percentages increased ($P < 0.05$) with increases in hormone dosage. Survival of fry fed a mixed zooplankton diet was high (ranging from 79% to 85%) after 30 d of rearing.

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