Dietary Salt Requirement for Barramundi Asian Seabass (Lates calcarifer, Bloch 1970) Fingerlings Reared in Freshwater Recirculation Units

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Abstract
The present study was conducted to determine the dietary salt requirement for Asian seabass fingerlings reared in freshwater. Fingerlings (3.3 g) were fed salt-rich diets prepared by adding 5%, 6%, 7%, or 8% salt to a commercial pelleted fish feed. The feed was ground and re-pelleted after addition of the salt. The highest ($p<0.05$) growth and survival rates were obtained in fish fed the 6% salt-rich diet, followed by fish fed the 5% and control (no salt enrichment) diets. The best feed conversion and protein efficiency ratios were also obtained in groups fed the 6% diet. Fish fed the 8% salt-rich diet had the lowest growth and survival rates. Incorporation of salt in the diet was not detrimental to the fish.

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