

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-57386

Title: **Caracterisation des exploitations piscicoles dans le nord du Senegal : cas des regions de Saint-Louis, Matam et Louga, .**

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓,		
Techn. Quality		✓,		
Clarity	✓,			
Significance	✓,			

Reviewer Name: Abdul Haseeb Mir

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The article provides a comprehensive socio-economic and technical characterization of fish farming in Northern Senegal, specifically covering the regions of Saint-Louis, Matam, and Louga. Using a sample representing 50% of the local fish-farming population, the authors utilize the Sphinx software to analyze organizational systems, production metrics, and major sector constraints. A significant strength of the work is its detailed primary data collection, which offers specific insights into the demographic profile of farmers, the dominance of Tilapia (81.3%) and Catfish (14%) species, and the heavy reliance on the National Aquaculture Agency (ANA) for inputs. The inclusion of GIS mapping to visualize the spatial distribution of farms adds a valuable geographical dimension to the study. However, the manuscript exhibits some weaknesses in its quantitative presentation; while it mentions total production (106,000 kg), the distribution of this data across different farm types could be more granular. Additionally, the discussion section frequently compares results to older studies (some from 1997 or 2000), which may not fully reflect the modern technological landscape of West African aquaculture. The conclusion, while sound, remains somewhat general in its call for subsidies without proposing a specific framework for how these should be implemented to ensure sustainability.

Recommendations for Improvement

- **Update Comparative Literature:** While the historical context is useful, the authors should incorporate more recent studies (from 2021–2025) on West African aquaculture to better contextualize their findings within current regional trends.

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- **Detailed Financial Analysis:** Given that "limited access to financial institutions" is cited as a major constraint, a brief cost-benefit analysis or a more detailed breakdown of the 1,590 FCFA/kg sale price versus production costs would significantly strengthen the paper's economic relevance.
- **Clarify Data Gaps:** The text notes that 25.6% of fish farmers did not have data on their production quantities. The authors should briefly discuss how this data gap might influence the overall reliability of the total production estimate (106,000 kg).
- **Enhance Technical Descriptions:** Provide more specific details on the "archaic techniques" used for water quality monitoring to help practitioners understand exactly which gaps in training need to be addressed.

Recommendation: Recommend for publication with minor revision.