

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-58566

Title: Reproductive Performance of Tilapia Oreochromis niloticus (Linnaeus, 1758) in Hapas Installed in Ponds at the Layo Experimental Station (Côte d'Ivoire).

Recommendation:

Accept as it is ☐☐☐☐..

Accept after minor revision ☐☐☒☐

Accept after major revision ☐☐☐☐

Do not accept (*Reasons below*) ☐☐☐

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	√			
Techn. Quality		√		
Clarity		√		
Significance		√		

Reviewer ID: JP085

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This manuscript investigates the reproductive performance of Oreochromis niloticus broodstock reared in hapa systems under pond conditions in Côte d'Ivoire. The study addresses an important challenge in aquaculture, namely the production of quality fingerlings for sustainable fish farming. The objectives are clearly stated, the methodology is appropriate, and the findings demonstrate that the hapa system can effectively support tilapia reproduction under favorable environmental conditions. However, several methodological limitations and reporting issues should be addressed before publication.

Strength:

1. Addresses a practical and economically important issue in aquaculture.
2. Experimental procedures and reproductive performance indicators are clearly described.
3. Water quality parameters were regularly monitored and remained within suitable ranges.
4. Results are clearly presented with appropriate tables and figures.
5. Findings provide useful information for improving fingerling production in Côte d'Ivoire and similar aquaculture systems

Weakness:

1. The experiment included only two hapas, providing very limited replication and reducing statistical reliability.
2. Statistical comparisons were descriptive only because of the limited number of experimental units; no inferential statistical tests were performed.
3. The study duration of six weeks is relatively short to comprehensively evaluate reproductive performance.
4. Broodstock originated from a single experimental station, limiting the generalizability of the findings.
5. No economic or cost-benefit analysis was included to support the practical adoption of the hapa system.

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6. Minor English language and formatting revisions are required throughout the manuscript.

Overall assessment:

The manuscript provides valuable information on the reproductive performance of Nile tilapia in hapa culture systems and contributes to aquaculture development in Côte d'Ivoire. The study is relevant, well organized, and its conclusions are generally supported by the data. Nevertheless, the limited experimental replication, short study period, and absence of statistical hypothesis testing reduce the strength of the conclusions. Addressing these issues and improving the language would further enhance the quality of the manuscript.

Recommendation: Manuscript accepted for publication after minor revision.