

Nuttapong Muangsuwan 2007: Effect of Copra Meal and Cassava Pulp on Growth, Digestibility and Feed Utilization in Hybrid Catfish (*Clarias macrocephalus* x *Clarias gariepinus*). Master of Science (Aquaculture), Major Field: Aquaculture, Department of Aquaculture. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Orapint Jintasathaporn, Ph.D. 74 pages.

Effect of copra meal and cassava pulp on growth performance, feed digestibility and feed utilization in hybrid catfish (*Clarias macrocephalus* x *Clarias gariepinus*) of 62.33 – 64.67 g. was studied for the feeding period of 2 months. The diets including copra meal or cassava pulp 0, 10, 15 and 20 % were prepared by contained 30 % crude protein and isocaloric diets of 2,800 kcal/kg. The results demonstrated that water stability and gelatinization of treatment diets were not significantly different ($p>0.05$). The hybrid catfish fed copra meal 15% for 2 months showed highest growth performance, protein efficiency but exhibited lowest feed conversion ratio and production cost for 1 kilogram fish ($p<0.05$). Average daily weight gain was 1.14 gm/fish/day, protein efficiency was 2.31, feed conversion ratio was 1.43 and production cost for 1 kilogram fish was 18.23 baths. Digestibility coefficient of 0% and 20% copra meal and 20% cassava pulp feed was not significantly different ($p>0.05$). There were 81.14%, 80.84 % and 80.29 %, respectively. Hemoglobin, hematocrit and red blood cell of fish fed with copra meal and cassava pulp for 1 and 2 months show no difference ($p>0.05$). Blood triglyceride of catfish fed with cassava pulp 10-20 % was lower than the control feed (without copra meal and cassava pulp) ($p<0.05$). Blood glucose in fish fed with cassava pulp 20 % for 1 month was lowest ($p<0.05$), whereas that of 2 month showed no significant difference ($p>0.05$). Liver glycogen of hybrid catfish was not significantly different ($p>0.05$). The result indicated that hybrid catfish with average size of 60-120 g. can use copra meal or cassava pulp up to 15% and 10%, respectively.

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