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Effect of nutmeg (*Myristica fragrans*) as an additive on the growth performance of juvenile catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*)

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380 juvenile fish (*Clarias gariepinus*) were used to examine the effect of nutmeg (*Myristica Fragrans*) on weight gain and carcass evaluation of juvenile catfish. The catfish were allocated into six treatments with three replicates each containing 20 catfishes. Treatment A contained 0% of nutmeg while treatment B contained 0.5% of nutmeg, treatment C contained 1% of nutmeg, treatment D contained 1.5% of nutmeg, also, treatment E contained 2.0% of nutmeg and treatment F contained 2.5% of nutmeg inclusions. The feeding trial lasted for eight weeks. Parameters measured include weight gain, feed intake and mortality rate. The result showed that there were significant differences ($P < 0.05$) in weight gain with the catfish on treatment F having the highest value (5.2 g), followed by treatment E (4.6 g) while treatment D (3.8 g) and treatment C (3.8 g) while treatment B (3.4 g) and treatment A (2.9 g). There was significant difference ($P < 0.05$) in the feed intake with the catfish on treatment F having the highest feed intake (6.9 g) compared to treatment A (control) which had the least feed intake (5.5 g). Therefore, it can be concluded that nutmeg at 2.5% inclusion in the diet of juvenile fish improved the weight gain of the fish and also reduced the mortality rate.

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