NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

RESEARCH REPORTS TITLE XII POND DYNAMICS AQUACULTURE COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAM

Title:

Idiopathic muscle necrosis in the freshwater prawn, Macrobrachium

rosenbergii de Man, cultured in Thailand

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Date:

30 November 1987

Publication Number: CRSP Research Reports 87-2

Price:

The CRSP will not be distributing this publication. Copies may be obtained by writing to the author(s). Direct correspondence to: Dr. G. Nash, Institute of

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Abstract:

A mass mortality of up to 60% per tank occurred in 28-day-old *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* postlarvae cultured under intensive conditions in a hatchery in Thailand. Grossly affected prawns displayed a diffuse 'milky' white body opacity; histologically and ultrastructurally, segmental myofibre (myofibrillar and sarcoplasmic) necrosis unassociated with any infectious agents was observed, and was diagnosed as idiopathic muscle necrosis. Avoidance of overstocking and increased dissolved oxygen in tank water have proved effective in preventing subsequent recurrences of the condition.

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This paper was published in Journal of Fish Diseases 1987, 10: 109-120.