Effect of Stocking Sizes on the Yield and Survival of Nile Tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus* L.) On-Grown in Ponds

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In the grow-out phase, twelve (12) 500m² ponds were used in the study to determine the growth, yield and survival of Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus* L.) in ponds. The treatments consisted of the following: I- direct stocking at size #22; II- stocking at size #14; and III- stocking at size #10. The various treatments and replicates were assigned randomly in the ponds following a completely randomized design.

Treatment III gave the highest extrapolated fish yield (3,799 kg ha⁻¹) followed by Treatment II (3,065 kg ha⁻¹) then Treatment I (2,738 kg ha⁻¹). Analysis of variance on fish yield showed significant difference between Treatments I and III (P<0.05). Specific growth rate likewise significantly differed among treatments (P<0.01).

Survival rate of Nile tilapia was also significantly affected by stocking size of fingerlings. Higher survival rate was obtained with bigger size fingerlings.

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