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RESEARCH REPORTS

Sustainable Aquaculture for a Secure Future

Title: Assessment of faecal collection methods for determination of digestibilities of snakehead fish (*Channa striata*) with protein feed ingredients sources

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Abstract: This study was conducted to determine suitable faecal collection methods applied for digestibility studies of different protein ingredients for snakehead fish (*Channa striata*). The study included three experiments: in the first experiment, faecal collection was done every 2 hours within 24-hour period by settling technique; in the second experiment, different feces collection were applied such as settling, stripping and dissection; and in the last experiment, ADC of dry matter, protein, and energy of fish meal, soy bean meal, meat bone meal, and blood meal was evaluated as feed ingredients for snakehead. The results showed the suitable time for collecting snakehead feces was 8 hours; faecal collection by settlement method was more suitable than dissection and stripping methods for snakehead digestibility study; and the best ADC of dry mater was found in fish meal (85.8%), then deflated soybean meal (69.7%), blood meal (69.0%) and meat bone meal (52.3%). Similar results on ADC protein and ADC energy of these ingredient used as feed for snakehead were confirmed.

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