

# GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF *Pangasius sp* FED DIFFERENT TYPES OF DIETS FORMULATED FROM VARIETIES FISH MEAL SOURCES

K. Ahmad<sup>1</sup>, A. Syazili<sup>2</sup>, Surahman<sup>3</sup>, Mutmainnah<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup>Aquaculture Study Program, FPK of Khairun University

<sup>3,4</sup>Utilizing of fisheries resources Study Program, FPK of Khairun University

Email: [Khamsiah999@gmail.com](mailto:Khamsiah999@gmail.com)

## ABSTRACT

*Pangasius sp* is an introductory species which is widely distributed in freshwater regions to Indonesia since 1990s and it was initiatively reared at the beginning of 2011 using floating net cage in Lake Ngade, Ternate. Even though it has benefit economically, but there is still lack information of its biological and ecological aspects. Growth and survival rate are two main factors should be known to develop *Pangasius* aquaculture. The study aims to understand the growth and survival rate of *Pangasius* by mixing different fish meal into dietary. 120 *Pangasius* fingerlings were placed into 12 tanks. Diet was formulated using Pearson's square method. Three different protein fish meal sources were mixed into feed formulation namely flying fish meal, Nile meal, and eel meal. Commercial feed was used as control. Filling Randomized Design (FRD) was applied with experimental set up of the treatments. The results show that feed stability in water ranges from 2'23" to 3'47" while feed durability before spread into water column ranges from 2'09" to 2'35". Survival rate of *Pangasius* almost 100% except on treatment C. Growth rates vary among treatments which the highest found in treatment A (16.42%) followed by treatment B (15.85%), D (15.57%), and C (7.00%) respectively. Nile fish meal is also significantly affect ( $P < 0.05$ ) on Specific Growth Rate (SGR) of fish larvae. Nutrition ingredients of diet as high as commercial feed, and water quality parameters are conducive to maintain the fish live. All in all, different fish meal sources in formulated diet are significantly supporting *Pangasius* growth.

**Key words:** diet formulation, fish meal, growth, *Pangasiid* fingerlings

## ABSTRAK

Ikan Patin (*Pangasius sp*) merupakan spesies introduksi yang tersebar di perairan tawar Indonesia sejak tahun 1990an, dan awal mula dibudidayakan di Ternate adalah di keramba jaring apung Danau Ngade pada tahun 2011. Walaupun menguntungkan secara ekonomi, namun informasi tentang biologi dan ekologi masih sangat kurang. Pertumbuhan dan sintasan merupakan dua faktor utama yang harus diketahui dalam pengembangan budidaya ikan patin. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui pertumbuhan dan sintasan ikan patin yang diberi jenis tepung ikan berbeda dalam campuran formulasi pakan buatan. 120 ekor ukuran fingerling ditempatkan pada 12 akuarium. Pakan buatan diformulasi menggunakan metode bujursangkar Pearson. Tiga penyumbang protein tepung ikan yang berbeda yaitu tepung ikan layang, tepung ikan nila, dan tepung ikan sidat dicampurkan pada formulasi pakan. Pakan komersial digunakan sebagai kontrol. Penelitian dilakukan secara eksperimen menggunakan RAL (Rancangan Acak Lengkap). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan uji daya apung berkisar 2 menit dan 23 detik hingga 3 menit 47 detik, dan daya tahan pakan di dalam air adalah 2 menit 09 detik hingga 2 menit 35 detik. Sintasan sebesar 100% kecuali pada perlakuan C. Laju pertumbuhan tertinggi berturut-turut pada perlakuan A (16,47%), B (15,85%), D (15,57%), dan C (7,00%). Penggunaan tepung ikan nila berpengaruh signifikan ( $P < 0,05$ ) pada SGR ikan. Kandungan

nutrisi pakan dan kualitas air sangat baik. Secara keseluruhan, penggunaan tepung ikan yang berbeda pada pakan formulasi secara signifikan menunjang pertumbuhan ikan patin.

**Kata kunci** : formulasi pakan, tepung ikan, pertumbuhan, fingerling ikan patin

## INTRODUCTION

*Pangasius sp* has been known as freshwater commodity broadly in Indonesia since 1990s. This species was initially introduced to Indonesia from Vietnam, Thailand, and mostly from larger rivers in Sumatra, Borneo, and Java (Gustiano et al., 2018). Distribution of habitat includes rivers, swamps, reservoirs, and lakes (Gupta, 2016). The phenotypic characteristics are streamlined body, scissors-shape of caudal fin, silver belly, wide and sub terminal mouth, long twin beard, soft meat texture, and delicious taste (Slembrouck, J., Komarudin, O., Maskur, Legendre, 2003). This last two features make *Pangasius* more preferred by public, and then it is reared as aquaculture commodity economically (Sadi & Yoga, 2021). Besides that, it grows fast when culture it and it has higher market demand (Hoque et al., 2021). In Ternate, the information of *Pangasiid* is still lack. Initially, the culture was conducted in 2011 at floating net cage of Lake Ngade which becomes one of the local culinary destinations. However, the culture activities are still seasonal which depends on larval supply and production cost in one maintenance cycle.

In production cycle of *Pangasiid* aquaculture, the most important problems is the reduction in feed costs and production of high-quality feed. Generally, 60-70% operational expenditure in aquaculture is feed availability due to the high price of meal source and usually it is imported from other countries (FAO, 2022). Even though the market demand has improving significantly, fish farmer still has low income. Providing self-formulated artificial feed is an alternative solution that can be done (Tugiyono et al., 2020). The availability of local raw materials is the key in the preparation of diet formulations. Therefore, efforts to prepare raw materials that have high nutrition, easy to obtain, and do not compete with human needs are crucial (Workagegn et al., 2014). The selection of material sources mainly to protein ingredient contribution is needed to be considered (Iskandar & Subhan, 2017).

Protein content is used as energy source for standard metabolism and fish growth. The role of an essential amino acid in the diet participates in various functions of body such as muscle tissue constructions, enzyme production and many others (Zeng et al., 2021). The higher amino acids content in diet, the better protein quality, and vice versa (Yuangsoi et al., 2016). Feed which has high biological value can stimulate greater body protein accumulation compared to protein feed with low biological value. Hence, diet formulation that has different protein contents will give better result for fish growth (Korkut et al., 2017). The primary source of protein diet is able to find in fish meal. This study objective is to know the growth and survival rate of *Pangasius* which given different fish meal sources on diet formulation.

## METODOLOGY

120 fingerlings *Pangasius* size 10 cm was used as object of treatments. Each aquarium was filled 10 individuals, then there were 12 aquaria for an experimental set up. A 3x4 randomized completely design was used to evaluate the effect of diet in four different source of fish meal as below:

Treatment A : Nile fish meal (30% of protein)

Treatment B : Eel fish meal (30% of protein)

Treatment C : Flying fish meal (30% of protein)

Treatment D : Control/commercial feed (31% of protein)

Formulated fish composition for each treatment can be seen on Table 1, 2, and 3.

Table 1. Diet composition on treatment A (30% of protein content in 100 g of diet).

Feed source	Protein content (%)	Feed source usage (g)	Protein content usage (%)
1	2	3	4=(2x3)
Nile fish meal	17,80	28,00	4,98
Ketapang leave meal	20,99	10,00	2,09
Coconut cake	20,50	5,00	1,02
Corn meal	9,00	4,00	0,36
Anchovy head meal	68,07	20,89	14,21
Tofu dregs	23,55	31,10	7,32
Vitamin premiks	-	1,00	-
<b>Total amount</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>

Table 2. Diet composition on treatment B (30% protein content in 100 g of diet).

Feed source	Protein content (%)	Feed source usage (g)	Protein content usage (%)
1	2	3	4= (2x3)
Eel fish meal	18,40	28,00	5,15
Ketapang leave meal	20,99	10,00	2,09
Coconut cake	20,50	5,00	1,02
Corn meal	9,00	4,00	0,36
Anchovy head meal	68,07	20,48	13,94
Tofu dregs	23,55	31,31	7,37
Vitamin premiks	-	1,00	-
<b>Total amount</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>

Table 3. Diet composition of treatment C (30% protein content in 100 g of diet).

Feed source	Protein content (%)	Feed source usage (g)	Protein content usage (%)
1	2	3	4= (2x3)
Flying fish meal	18,13	28,00	5,07
Ketapang leave meal	20,99	10,00	2,09
Coconut cake	20,50	5,00	1,02
Corn meal	9,00	4,00	0,36
Anchovy head meal	68,07	20,48	13,94
Tofu dregs	23,55	31,31	7,37
Vitamin premiks	-	1,00	-
<b>Total amount</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>

Parameter of measurement includes:

- Physical measurement of feed (buoyancy and stability in water column) is the time of feed that floats on water surface until go down, and the time of feed able to disperse into water column.
- Survival rate is measured followed by (Djajasewaka, 1985):

$$SR = \frac{Nt}{No} \times 100 \%$$

Where, SR : survival rate (%)  
 Nt : number of fish alive at the end of study (ind)  
 No : number of fish at the beginning of study (ind)

- Growth (Zonneveld, N., E.A.Huisman., 1991):

$$W = Wt - Wo$$

Where, W : Growth (g)  
 Wt : final body weight (g)  
 Wo : initial body weight (g)

4. Specific Growth Rate (Zonneveld, N., E.A.Huisman., 1991):

$$SGR = \frac{(\ln Wt - \ln Wo)}{t} \times 100 \%$$

Where, SGR : Specific growth rate (%BW/day)  
 Wt : final body weight (g)  
 Wo : initial body weight (g)  
 t : rearing time (day)

Pangasius was reared for 42 days and be given 5% feed from its biomass. The frequency of feeding fish was 4 times a day.

Diet nutrition ingredients were obtained using proximate analysis in Veterinary laboratory UNHAS, whereas water quality parameter was measured by in situ. Data obtained was calculated using statistical tools of ANOVA.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Physical measurement of diet can be done by observing the softness and hardness of formulated feed which effects to feed stability in water column. The purpose of this activity is to know the buoyancy of the diet in water. The study result is showed on Table 4.

Table 4. Physical measurement of formulated diet.

Treatment	Feed buoyancy	Feed stability
A	2 min 23 sec	2 min 10 sec
B	2 min 13 sec	2 min 09 sec
C	3 min 47 sec	2 min 35 sec

Based on the floating time of feed on surface water, treatment A has the fastest time before sank to the bottom i.e. 2 minute and 23 second which means it needs 30 second to drown. On the other hand, treatment B only has 2 minute and 13 second to sink or 25 second. Treatment C has the longest time to float which 3 minute and 47 second, and it needs 30 minute to go down. The usage of the same binder on diet formulation gives the same texture but different floating time. This can be assumed that water content of the diet is differ so that will effect to the strength and buoyancy of the diet.

Feed endurance measurement is also conducted to observe whether the feed has longer time to disperse in water column or not. Treatment C has the longest time to disperse in water (2'35"). (Yulianto, 2018) classified that diet which has 2-3 hours solubility in water as a good diet physically. If the feed was deployed before 2-3 hours so that it is categorized as the bad one as well as more than that hours. Fish has no enough time to consume properly. On the other hand, the longer time the diet in the water column, the more difficult of fish to crush it.

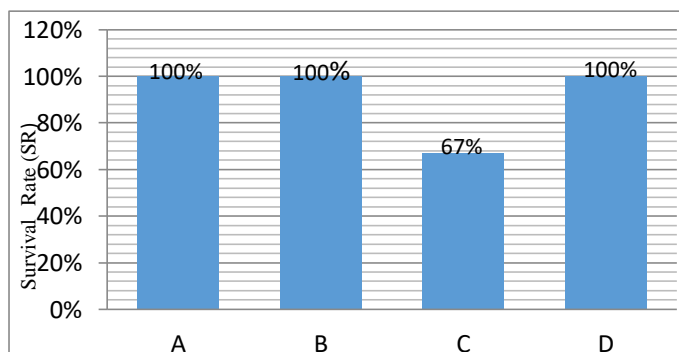


Figure 1. Survival rate of Pangasius in different treatments

The highest survival rate is given by treatment A, B, and D. It is likely caused the ability of Pangasiid in digesting diet appropriately in their stomach which is shown by fine feces. The given diet is suitable to larva's mouth opening and easy to respond.

On the increasing total biomass graph of fish, treatment A has the highest number which 1.15 g. It is followed by treatment B (1.11 g), D (1.09 g), and C (0.49 g), respectively.

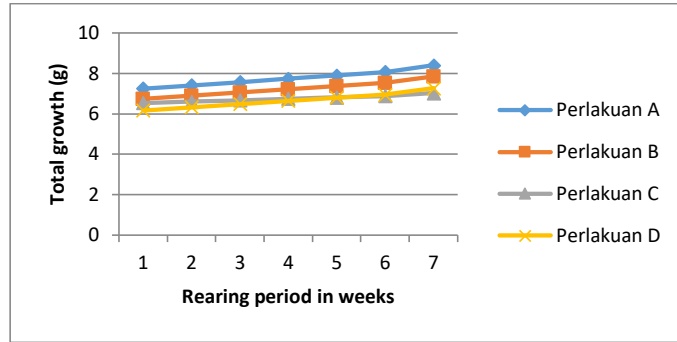


Figure 2. Growth rate of Pangasius in 42 days of rearing time

The low feed given stimulates food competition among fish and decreases fish growth. At the end, the number of fish harvested will decline and will give different variation in size. Otherwise, larger number of given feed is able to pollute water due to the accumulation at the bottom. It escalates ammonia and envenoms fish slowly. Besides, it spends cost in rearing cycle. This is in agreement with the statement of (Craig & Helfrich, 2017) who stated that overfeeding results in water pollution, low dissolved oxygen levels, increased biological oxygen demand, and increased bacterial loads which lead to fish mortality.

Based on Fig.3, it reveals that SGR results are similar as growth rate. Treatment A (16.42%) has higher number from B (15.85%), D (15.57%), and C (7.00%), serially. According to (Halver & Hardy, 2002), the excess energy input and amino acids from proper food will support fish growth. Basically, eaten feed is firstly used to metabolism process and swimming activity. Next, the energy is absorbed and restored to reproduction purposes, and the rest is earmarked for growth.

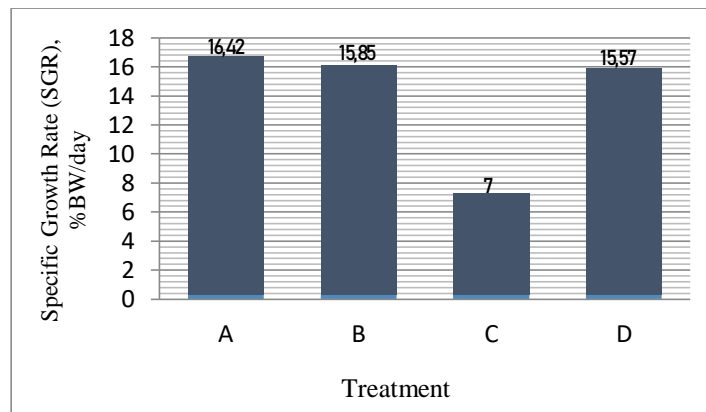


Figure 3. Specific Growth Rate of Pangasius in different treatments

The results of the present study also revealed that all the experimental diets were accepted by fingerlings Pangasius. This implies that the different experimental feed ingredients did not affect the palatability of the diets. The lower SGR of the fish fed on diet C could be due to the higher fiber level in this diet (Table 5). This result is in line with the previous work of (Kamarudin et al., 2018) who reported that feed with higher concentration of fiber in fish diets

reduces the digestibility of protein as well as the bioavailability of nutrients which intern reduces the growth performance of the fish.

Proximate analysis was performed to understand the ingredients of supplemental diet. Balance nutrients are resulted from a balanced mixture of diet ingredients than only use inadequate feed components to formulate dietary fish (Rezaya Rabbi Bhuiyan et al., 2016). The percentage of crude protein of different fish meal sources ranged was from 67.66% - 74.62%. This high percentage indicates that entire diets are sufficient for the protein needs of fish's growth. (Pratiwi et al., 2020) stated that 30-60% of protein content is importantly needed to reach maximum performance of catfish production. Interestingly, the percentage of crude lipid varies among experimental diets which eel fish meal has the lowest number (4.00%) compared than others that much higher (14.27%-15.32%). It is probably related to the life cycle of eels which migrated species so that low restored fat level in their body. Lipids and their constituent fatty acids (FA) play significant roles in various functions of organisms such as growth, reproduction, health, etc. (Dawodu et al., 2012). Fiber content for all diets is very low number whereas ash content as similar as (Herdiyanti et al., 2018) found in their study. It is reported that ash can be represented the mineral content of diet which allowable rates 3-7% and cannot be applied for main fish feed constituent.

Table 5. Nutritional contents of each experimental feed.

Proximate Analysis (%)	Diet		
	A	B	C
Crude protein	73.20	74.62	67.66
Crude lipid	14.27	4.00	15.32
Crude fiber	0.26	0.38	0.55
Nitrogen-free extract material	4.24	4.51	4.40
Ash	8.03	16.50	12.07
Moisture	7.24	13.03	8.48
Calcium	1.14	3.40	1.68
Phosphat	0.89	1.60	1.02

The growth performance and survival rate of Pangasiid fingerlings were affected by different environmental factors such as water quality parameters including water temperature, pH, nitrogen waste, dissolved oxygen concentration, and food quantity and quality, genetic factor, sex of the fish and their interaction (Boyd, 2015). However, the average values of all water quality parameters recorded during the experiment were not significantly different ( $P>0.05$ ) and were within a suitable range for the normal growth performance of Pangasius (Table 6).

Table 6. Water quality for each treatment during study.

Treatment/repetition	Parameter			
	Temperature ( $^{\circ}$ C)	DO (ppm)	Salinity (ppt)	pH
A1	25-27.0	5	31-34	7.8-7.92
A2	25-26.7	5	31-34	7.8-7.92
A3	25-26.7	5	31-34	7.8-7.92
B1	25-26.7	5	32-35	7.0-7.92
B2	25-26.7	5	32-35	7.0-7.92
B3	25-26.7	5	32-35	7.0-7.92
C1	25-26.7	5	32-35	7.0-7.95
C2	25-26.7	5	32-35	7.0-7.95
C3	25-26.7	5	32-35	7.0-7.95

D1	25-26.7	5	31-34	7.8-7.95
D2	25-26.7	5	31-34	7.8-7.95
D3	25-26.7	5	31-34	7.8-7.95

## CONCLUSION

This present study tend to estimate the feed composition of some fish meal sources fed to *Pangasius fingerlings*. During the rearing time, it is obvious to concentrate about formulated diet given to growth performance, in terms of increasing body weight of culture species. The type of feed which use local raw materials have good nutritional level for body building and survival rate of fish. It is important to notice that supplemental self-formulated diet can be applied in the local fish farmers and in developing aquaculture industries nowadays.

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