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RESEARCH REPORTS

SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE FOR A SECURE FUTURE

Title: Timing of the onset of supplemental feeding of Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) in ponds

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Abstract: An on-farm trial was conducted in seven (7) farms in Nueva Ecija, Philippines, to investigate the effect of two onsets of feeding on the growth, yield and survival of Nile tilapia. There were no significant differences on the performance data (final mean weight, daily weight gain, extrapolated gross fish yield, and survival rate) that were recorded in this study. The only statistically significant difference observed was in the total quantities of feed used in the trial. The 45-day onset in feeding produced a slightly higher mean gross value of the crop (P205,617 ha⁻¹) compared with the 75-day delay (P197,063 ha⁻¹) but by delaying the start of feeding, the costs were reduced such that the net value of the crop was improved (P124,242 ha⁻¹ in 75-day vs. P106,026 ha⁻¹ in 45-day delay).

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