

APPLIED ICHTHYOLOGY

**G. S. Sandhu
Shefalika Narain**





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Knowledge is Our Business

APPLIED ICHTHYOLOGY

By G. S. Sandhu, Shefalika Narain

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Ph. +91-11-23281685, 41043100, Fax: +91-11-23270680

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Ph. 0120-4270027, 4273334

e-mail: dominantbooks@gmail.com
info@dominantbooks.com

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CHAPTER 1

EXPLORING THE APPLIED ICHTHYOLOGY: A BRIEF INTRODUCTION

Shefalika Narain, Professor
Department of ISDI, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- shefalika.narain@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

Applied Ichthyology is a subject that studies fish-related topics in a practical way. It involves using knowledge about fish to help manage fisheries, promote aquaculture, and protect fish populations. This first chapter gives a general idea about the basic ideas, methods, and important areas in Applied Ichthyology. The chapter starts by explaining why it is important to study fish and how studying fish can help us protect and manage water resources. This text highlights the importance of knowing about fish biology, behavior, and ecology when it comes to sustainable fishing and aquaculture methods. Applied Ichthyology is the study of fish and covers many things like the structure of fish, how they work inside, how they are classified, and how they live in their environment. This chapter gives a brief look at these important parts, showing how they are important in many real-life situations. Moreover, it talks about the methods and tools used to study fish populations, like catching and counting fish, attaching tags to them, and analyzing their DNA. The chapter also talks about how important fish are for people's health, jobs, and economies all over the world. This stresses the significance of managing fisheries responsibly and based on scientific knowledge to make sure fish populations can last for a long time. In short, this first chapter introduces the study of Applied Ichthyology and explains why it is important for dealing with important global problems like food security, protecting different species of fish, and maintaining the health of ecosystems. This text is a basic guide for readers who want to learn about the diverse and ever-changing field of applied fish science.

KEYWORDS:

Applied Ichthyology, Fish, Mountains Streams, Populations.

INTRODUCTION

Ichthyology is the science of studying fish. Ichthyologists were scientists who used to be nature experts and wrote about the fish they caught. In 1867, Edward Drinker Cope's trip taught us a lot about fish in Virginia. Cope's work on North American animals earned him the respected title of "Master Naturalist." In the late 1800s, McDonald and Jordan continued his research on fishes in Virginia. By 1899, scientists had identified and described 180 different types of fish species in Virginia. Since 1900, many fish scientists, especially Robert E. Jenkins of Roanoke College, have been studying fish. Jenkins have helped us learn more about fish in Virginia. If you want to learn about the fish history in Virginia, you can check out Jenkins and Burkhead's survey from 1993. Ichthyology is not just about classifying fish; it also involves studying fish populations, their habitat requirements, and the people who rely on fishing resources. Today, different organizations like governments, businesses, non-profits, and universities hire scientists who study fish and the environment they live in.

To understand the different types of fish and where they are found, it is important to first understand zoogeography. Fish don't usually move across land like other animals, unless there is a flood or a big geological event that changes the flow of a river. To understand where fish live, you need to know about the rivers they are found in and the different landscapes they inhabit because these factors affect how fish are spread out. Virginia has ten main rivers that flow into larger bodies of water: the Potomac, Rappahannock, York, James, Chowan, Roanoke, PeeDee, New, BigSandy, and Tennessee rivers. Apart from the Rappahannock and York rivers, most of Virginia's rivers are shared with neighboring states. Virginia fishes can be found in other nearby states because they are not limited by state borders. Usually, the types of fish in Virginia increase when you go from the top to the bottom of the state. There are many different kinds of fish in all rivers and streams. Some rivers have fish that can only be found there. These are called endemics. Most of these unique species are located in the rivers of southwestern Virginia, specifically the Tennessee, New, and Roanoke rivers[1], [2].

Virginia has five main areas of land. They are called the Appalachian Plateau, Valley and Ridge, Blue Ridge, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain. The Appalachian Plateau, Valley and Ridge, and Blue Ridge are in the west of Virginia, while the Piedmont and Coastal Plain are in the east. Each of these areas of land has rocks and minerals underneath that affect how streams flow and the plants and animals that live there. Since fishes are well adapted to their environment, it is important to consider their habitats when studying fishes in Virginia. The types of fish found in Virginia are mostly found in streams and rivers, but some species can move between saltwater and freshwater in coastal rivers and bays. Virginia, a state in the eastern part of the United States, has many different kinds of fish that live in its wetlands and mountains. Let's explore these unique homes and see how fish have changed to fit in.

Mountain Streams in Virginia's Western Area In the western part of Virginia, there are more than 2,000 miles of mountain streams. These streams have cold water and flow through hills with lots of trees. The water in these streams comes out from underground as springs. Mountain streams often have rocky bottoms. These streams stay cool in the summer because they have lots of shade and water that is 55 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature of the streams usually stays below 70 degrees Fahrenheit.

Mountain streams usually don't have a lot of different kinds of fish. Some mountain streams in areas without much limestone rock have rain that is acidic and has a low pH level. Brook trout and blacknose dace, which belong to the minnow family, are often found in Virginia's mountain streams. Brook trout are really good swimmers and can come back to live in mountain streams after really bad floods and long periods without rain. They are the top hunters in these rivers. Brook trout can only live in water that has lots of oxygen, is very cold, and is always flowing. They require loose, clean rocks to build their homes and eat the small organisms living in those rocks. The body of a brook trout is slim so that it can swim fast to find food and stay balanced in fast-moving water. Native Americans and early pioneers both enjoyed eating brook trout, which is the only type of fish that is originally from Virginia. Blacknose dace usually swim together in groups in the peaceful areas of mountain streams. Brook trout need them to eat, and they help show if acid rain is polluting the water.

As the streams flow away from their starting points, the water gets warmer, more food becomes available, and the environment changes. This causes different types of fish to come and live in these streams. Small fish like sculpins, darters, shiners, and suckers are sometimes confused with trout in areas below 1,000 feet elevation. Sculpins are small fish that have a rounded body, big fins on their sides, and a small sac of air inside them. These traits help them stick to the bottom of the stream, where they eat small bugs and sometimes fish eggs.

There are 25,000 miles of streams in the Commonwealth where you can fish in warm water. They are in charge of the Piedmont region, the Coastal Plain region, and a big part of the Valley and Ridge provinces. Warm-water streams usually have water that is warmer than 70 degrees Fahrenheit during the summer. These streams are where most of the freshwater fish and shellfish in the state live. In the Valley and Ridge province, the streams have gentle slopes and their beds are made of solid rock, big rocks, and rounded stones[3], [4].

Streams in the Piedmont have relatively flat bottoms that are made up of big rocks, smaller rocks, small stones, and sand. Because the pH levels in Piedmont streams are close to normal, the habitats are diverse, and the water is warm, different kinds of fish can live there. Coastal Plain streams are streams in flat areas by the coast, and they have a lot of sand, mud, branches, and plants in and around them. Due to chemicals called tannic acids, a lot of streams in coastal areas have low levels of pH and oxygen in the water. This means that fish that can live in these types of dark and stained waters are needed. The main type of fish in our warm-water streams are called Cyprinidae. This group of fish is called by many different names, such as minnows, dace, chubs, and shiners. Most common carps are small, but the invasive common carp can grow up to 30 inches long. The members of this family are not very big, but there are a lot of them and they come in many different kinds. Cyprinids are a really large group of fish, with about 2,400 different kinds. In Virginia, there are 67 different species of cyprinids. Lots of fish gather together in large groups, which is important for bigger predators to find food. Some fish, like the river chub, are very skilled at building large and detailed homes for other fish to lay their eggs in.

Warm-water streams have a lot of suckers living in them. They act like vacuum cleaners for fish. They eat insects, crustaceans, and mollusks in the water to clean it up. Some people continue to catch fish for bait or fish eggs during the spring breeding season. Darters are fish that are native to North America, and they belong to the same family as perch. Most of the darters in Virginia are located in the southwestern corner of the state, specifically in the Tennessee River drainage. Darters can live on the bottom of streams where the water is moving quickly, like in runs and riffles. Darters are fish that live near the bottom of the water and help to link insects and other small water creatures to bigger fish that eat them. Darters live in the cleanest rivers and streams, so they can tell us if the water is good quality or not. The rivers named Potomac, Rappahannock, York, James, Meherrin, Nottoway, and Roanoke all have a place where the land changes from flat to hilly. This spot is called the fall line and it divides the areas known as the Coastal Plain and the Piedmont[5], [6].

The rivers are affected by tides and salt when they flow down from the rocky fall line. The striped bass, herring, shad, white perch, and yellow perch are types of fish that swim from the Chesapeake Bay into freshwater rivers to lay their eggs every year. These types of animals and plants were eaten by Native Americans and the first settlers. People are still catching fish in our estuaries and it helps our economy a lot. The quiet parts of our tidal rivers are like nurseries for baby fish. Fish like largemouth bass and imported blue catfish can survive in the salty waters of the Chesapeake Bay. They are loved by professional fishermen who participate in competitions and catfish enthusiasts who want to break world records. The eggs of the rare Atlantic sturgeon, which can grow to be very big, used to be very expensive. Even though there are many caves in western Virginia because of its karst geology, cavefish are not found in the underground streams of Virginia. Cavefish can be found in parts of Tennessee, Alabama, and Kentucky. However, they are not found in Virginia. The small swampfish in southern Virginia has adapted to live in dark and acidic waters. It has smaller eyes and a special sensing tool on its snout. In Virginia, there are only two lakes that occurred naturally.

One is called Mountain Lake, which was formed by a landslide in Giles County. The other is Lake Drummond, located in the Dismal Swamp in southeastern Virginia[7], [8].

DISCUSSION

Streams and rivers in Virginia have been blocked off to create barriers in order to make electricity, control flooding, and offer opportunities for fun and leisure activities. Reservoirs are particularly bad for freshwater mussels and fish that like to be in moving water. Reservoirs are usually filled with different types of fish that do not naturally belong there because people made the reservoirs. In Virginia lakes, you can find various types of fish, like largemouth bass, bluegill, black crappie, channel catfish, walleye, brown trout, rainbow trout, and striped bass. These fish live there based on the type of environment they need. Baitfish are usually added to provide food for these very hungry meat-eating animals. Blueback herring, alewife, and threadfin shad are types of small fish that are commonly used as bait in fishing. The gizzard shad is a type of fish that is not usually wanted, but sometimes ends up being put in a body of water by accident. It is used as bait for fishing. Gizzard shad grow really big quickly, which makes them not good for young fish that eat other fish. All these small fish have long and thin gill rakers. They eat tiny plants and animals in the water by swimming with their mouths open and filtering them out. Baitfish are important for reservoirs because they eat at the bottom of the food chain in the reservoir. Some types of fish, like catfish, sunfish, eel, and pike, are popular for fishing because they are at the very top of the food chain in water[9], [10].

In 2006, Virginia sold around 858,000 licenses to residents and 218,000 licenses to people from outside the state. Recreational freshwater fishing had a big impact on the state's economy, generating about \$809 million in overall economic output. This created around 9,213 jobs and resulted in earnings of nearly \$250 million. This data was reported by the American Sportfishing Association in 2008. Virginia has many different types of fish. There are about 800 types of fish that are native to the United States and Canada. North America has the most diverse variety of freshwater fish in the world. The southern United States has about 600 different kinds of fish, making it the main place for fish diversity in North America. Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia, and Virginia have the highest number of different types of freshwater fish reported. It is best for experts who study fish and work in fisheries research to talk about the different types of fish in Virginia. The fish families in Virginia are a great starting point for Master Naturalists to learn about. Next, try to meet some of the people who represent those families in your area within your state. Virginia has different types of fish from 24 different families. The smallest fish called minnows are the most common family in Virginia, and there are 67 different kinds of them. Perches in Virginia have a wide variety of species, including small darters and prized sport fish like walleye.

Other important fish families in Virginia are suckers, catfishes, and sunfishes. Suckers have 18 kinds of fish that naturally live in Virginia. Catfishes have 15 different species, including big flathead catfish and small madtoms and stonecats that live in streams. Sunfishes have 19 species, some of which are popular sport fishes like largemouth and smallmouth bass, black crappie, and bluegill. One way to tell what kind of fish it is by looking at the outside of its body. Different types of fish can be recognized by their body shape and special features. This part gives a general description of basic traits. The most important parts of the description are the beginning, middle, and end. The head region goes from the front of the jaws to the very outer edge of the operculum. The body area stretches from the gills to the base of the tail fin. The side of a fish is called its lateral portion. The dorsal area means the back or top of a fish. The ventral area is located on the fish's underside or belly. The anterior region is the front

part of the fish, while the posterior region is the back part. The most common body shapes are fusiform spindle-shaped, tapered, rectangular, oval disk-shaped, and eel-like. A fusiform body type fish is smooth and shaped like a torpedo with slim ends.

On the other hand, a tapering body shape fish has a tail that becomes narrower as you move towards the back. A fish that has a rectangular body gets narrower quickly towards the end of its tail. Fish that have bodies shaped like ovals or disks are more round in their appearance. The body of a fish that looks like an eel is slim and snake-like. The body proportion of a fish refers to how long it is compared to how deep it is. The depth of a long body form is very small compared to its length. The chain pickerel is a great example of a fish with a long body shape. A deep body shape means that the body is taller or deeper compared to its length. Fully-grown Bluegills have a rounded body shape. Some characteristics can be described by looking at how the mouth is positioned. Fish with terminal mouths have jaws that are usually the same length. These jaws come together at the front of the fish's head. One fish with a terminal mouth is the largemouth bass. Some special fish have a bottom jaw that sticks out more than their top jaw. Some types of fish, such as hickory shad, have slightly better jaw position. A bad mouth has an opening below the head and the upper jaw sticks out further than the lower jaw. Members of the sucker family have a weak mouth, which means they eat things from the bottom of the water. Fish with mouths appearing at the bottom part of their head have a top jaw that sticks out a little further than the bottom jaw. Catfish have mouths that are positioned below their heads, which enables them to eat a lot of food from the bottom of their environment.

Other important things that can help identify a fish are the way its fins look and where they are on its body. Fish have three fins that are not paired with another fin. These fins can help identify different types of fish. Many fish families are distinguished by their tail fin. The tail fin of sturgeon and paddlefish, which is shaped like a V, is a well-known example. The dorsal fin is a fin in the middle of an animal's back. A special line of bones or rays help hold up the fin on the back of some animals. Dorsal fins come in different shapes and sizes. They can be long and wavy like the bowfin's dorsal fin or have sharp spines like the white perch's dorsal fin. The anal fin is a fin in the middle part of a fish's body that goes along the bottom near the anus. There may be many pointy or flexible rods that hold up the back fin. Some types of fish, like eels, have a fin on their back that is connected to the tail and bottom fins. Pectoral and pelvic fins are two pairs of fins that are found on the sides of most freshwater fish. The operculum is found at the back of the pectoral fins.

Pelvic fins are located on the lower part of the body, from the neck to the abdomen. The adipose fin is a soft fin located between the back fin and tail fin of certain fish. These fish include catfish, trout, and salmon. Having scales or not having scales helps us tell the difference between different kinds of fish. The catfish is an example of a fish that doesn't have scales. Identification can also use different scales. Cycloid scales are scales on the body that are smooth and make the body feel soft when touched. Salmon and trout have smooth scales. Ctenoid scales are fish scales that have rough edges that feel sharp and uncomfortable. If you have touched a yellow perch fish, you would be able to feel its rough scales. Ganoid scales look like a tough layer of armor made of scales. The gars, which are a type of fish called Lepisosteidae, have scales that protect them because they overlap each other. Other unique features of fish make them easy to identify. The longnose gar has a beak-like mouth full of teeth. Catfish have long thin whiskers on their chins. Sticklebacks are fish that have long spines on their back. The information given in the Fish Taxonomy section helps us figure out what family a fish belongs to. Finding out which species a fish belongs to, especially if it's from a large fish family, takes a lot of careful attention and effort. You can

use features like the number of spines and fin rays, patterns and numbers of scales, shape of the jaw, and colors and pigmentation on the body to help identify something.

CONCLUSION

Finally, Applied Ichthyology is a critical subject at the interface of science and practical application, providing critical insights and solutions for the management, conservation, and sustainable exploitation of aquatic resources. This short overview has revealed the fundamental aspects of this discipline, emphasizing its importance in solving critical global concerns. We've looked at how ichthyology, or the systematic study of fish, may help us understand the intricacies of aquatic ecosystems. Understanding fish biology, behaviour, and ecology is essential for appropriate fisheries management and aquaculture techniques, as well as for biodiversity conservation. Applied Ichthyology covers a broad range of subjects, from fish anatomy and physiology to categorization and interactions within ecosystems. The methods and techniques used in this discipline allow for the assessment of fish populations, tracking of their migrations, and elucidation of genetic diversity all of which are necessary components for making educated decisions. Furthermore, this introduction has highlighted the larger significance of fish in human communities, such as their critical role in nutrition, livelihoods, and economics across the globe. It has underlined the need of sustainable fisheries management in order to guarantee that fish populations continue to support current and future generations. As we progress in the subject of Applied Ichthyology, we will be able to dive further into the complexities of this multidimensional discipline, developing novel solutions and methods to solve the complex difficulties that our aquatic habitats confront. Applied Ichthyology, by integrating scientific knowledge with practical application, gives promise for a future in which the world's aquatic resources are not only maintained but also sustainably used for the benefit of everyone.

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CHAPTER 2

TAXONOMY AND CLASSIFICATION OF FISH SPECIES

Raj Kumar, Assistant Professor
Department of uGDX, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- raj.kumar@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

The way we organize and group different types of fish is important for studying and learning about the many different kinds of fish that live in water. This chapter explores the complicatedness and importance of organizing fish into categories, explaining the ways, rules, and uses that support this scientific field. This chapter talks about how taxonomy is important for organizing different fish species into a clear and understandable system. Taxonomy helps identify species and also supports research, conservation, and fisheries management. This chapter is about how fish are sorted into different groups based on their similarities. It explains that fish are organized in a hierarchy, starting with big groups and going down to smaller groups of species. This text examines how scientists determine what makes a species unique. They look at things like physical characteristics, genetic information, and how the species interacts with its environment. However, there are still difficulties in determining exact classifications for some species. Moreover, this chapter discusses how the classification of fish species is always changing and improving as scientists learn more and develop new methods. Moreover, we explore how fish classification is useful in various areas like protecting different species, farming fish, and managing fishing activities. It is very important to correctly identify species in order to use resources in a sustainable way and protect species that are in danger and their habitats. In simple words, this chapter explains the different types of fish species and why they are important for both scientists and people who work with fish. This shows that this field is always changing and plays an important role in helping us learn and take care of the diverse and important life in our oceans.

KEYWORDS:

Fish, Family, Group, Tail Fin, Species.

INTRODUCTION

Fish, which is a type of animal, belongs to the Animalia Kingdom and is further divided into the Phylum Chordata and the Vertebrata Subphylum. Fish have certain characteristics that make them part of the Chordata group. These include having a long spine, a tube-like nerve that runs down their back, paired gills to breathe, segmented body parts, a tail after the anus, a heart on the underside, and an internal skeleton. In order for something to be a vertebrate, it needs to have a backbone. This backbone helps support and keep the spinal cord safe. Agnatha are fish that do not have jaws. Chondrichthyes refers to a group of fish with skeletons made of cartilage, instead of bones. Osteichthyes are a type of fish that have bones. A type of fish with flat and bony fins is called a ray-finned group. Group of fish with lobed fins. There are around 50 types of Agnatha fish, 600 types of Chondrichthyes fish, and 30,000 types of Osteichthyes fish that exist worldwide. Many of the fish in the bony group are part of the ray finned group. The scientist says that there are around 70 groups of fish in the world.

Sharks and rays; sturgeon and gars; fish that resemble herring; trout and salmon; eels, minnows, suckers, and catfish; flying fish and their relatives; fish that are similar to cod; flatfish; seahorses and their relatives; mullets, silversides, and barracuda; and mackerels and tunas are the main types of fishes. The group that contains animals with a backbone: chordate. Vertebrates are a subgroup of animals that have a backbone. Agnathans are fish that do not have jaws and have no paired fins. They don't have bones inside their bodies. They have a round, toothed mouth that they use to bore into their victim's body and suck their blood. These can be divided into two major groups. These are names of two types of fish called Hagfish and Lampreys. Agnatha are a type of fish that have some distinct features. They do not have any jaws, which are the bony structures found in the mouths of most animals. Instead, they have a round mouth with no teeth. Additionally, they do not have any paired fins. Instead, they have a single fin along the length of their body. Agnatha also have a cartilaginous skeleton, meaning their skeletons are made of a flexible material called cartilage rather than hard bone. These characteristics set Agnatha apart from other types of fish. There are no jaws. There are no paired fins. The ancient species had hard scales and plates on their skin but the current species does not have them. They have at least seven pockets or bags. The digestive system does not have a stomach. Chondrichthyes are a group of fish that have skeletons made of cartilage instead of bone. Vertebrata is a subcategory within the animal kingdom that includes animals with backbones [1], [2].

The Chondrichthyes group includes scary hunters and harmless creatures that eat mollusks. The cartilaginous fish has some bones and some of its skeleton is made of cartilage. Usually, only the teeth of this type of animal are hardened, and sometimes the bones are also hardened. Sharks, Skates, and Rays are all part of a group of fish called chondrichthyes. Osteichthyes are a type of fish. There are about 30000 different types of bony fish in this group. The fish from this species have a shape that is long and skinny like a spindle, with a rounded body and flat sides. The outer coverings of animals, called skins, have a special layer of hard scales that help keep them safe from harm. Some fish in this group have lungs to breathe with and very good eyesight. These fish have a special chamber filled with gas called an airbladder. It's located below their skeleton and helps them float in the water. Another adaptation is the operculum, which is a bone located on the sides of the fish. Its purpose is to protect the chambers where the gills are found. Bony fish can be divided into two groups: ray finned and lobe finned fish. Ray finned fish have long, thin, and flexible bones called rays in their skeleton. Lobe-finned fish are fish that have strong fins made of bones. Bony fish can reproduce by either fertilizing eggs inside their body or outside in the water. Bony fish lay two different kinds of eggs. These are the eggs that go up in water and the eggs that go down in water [3], [4].

Fish can be divided into two main groups: cartilaginous fish, like sharks and stingrays, and bony fish. Pet or display fish are usually in one of two subcategories called Ostariophysi or Neoteleostei. To learn about common parasitic and viral diseases that affect aquarium fish, check out the tables that list these diseases by fish orders and families. Fish in this group are called basal fish; this doesn't mean they are old-fashioned or outdated. They have a special chemical alarm system on their skin. If the top layer of skin is injured, special cells in that layer called club cells release a substance called schreckstoff. It causes nearby fish to feel scared and want to swim away. These fish have a type of bone that is good for fixing broken bones. Ostariophysans have a special connecting tube that joins their gas bladder to their esophagus. The family Cyprinidae has the most species of freshwater fish compared to other families. Many of these fish are liked and kept as pets. Cyprinids are fish that can be found in many places, like Asia and North America. Some types of fish that belong to the cyprinid family are goldfish, koi fish, barbs, danios, certain freshwater sharks, and rasboras. The main

things that make this family different from others are that they don't have a stomach and they have a gas bladder with two parts[5], [6].

They also usually have a spread out liver and pancreas, and the kidney in the back is usually located between the two parts of the gas bladder. If someone doesn't have a stomach, they need to be careful about how they eat. Some medicines taken by mouth may not work as well. Cyprinids get better when they eat multiple times throughout the day. When it comes to eating, fancy goldfish like orandas and ryukins often struggle with controlling their level in the water. This is because they tend to swallow too much air, which makes it hard for them to stay in the right position. This problem can be prevented by using feeds that sink in the water. Zebrafish and other similar fish can often get sick from a disease called mycobacteriosis. Columnaris disease is a common and deadly illness that affects koi fish and other fishes. It is caused by a bacteria called *Flavobacterium columnare*. *Edwardsiella ictaluri* is also an issue in zebrafish. *Erysipelothrix* sp is a common bacterial infection that often leads to mouth inflammation in certain types of fish called cyprinids. Characiformes is a group of fish that have many families. People often keep these fish in aquariums or display them in public. The main members of this group are the tetras, like the neon and cardinal fish. Characins have a stomach and pyloric caeca, unlike the cyprinids. They usually have a gas bladder with only one chamber. Even though they look like smaller cyprinids on the outside, most fish in the Characiformes group have a small adipose fin[7], [8].

This family of fish comes from South America. It includes the armored catfish, also known as plecos, and the small *Otocinclus* fish that are often kept in planted tanks. Their scales have changed into hard plate-like shields. They usually have a mouth located on their underside. Many animals eat both plants and animals, but some only eat plants. Some plecos, like *Panaque*, are believed to only eat wood according to hobby books, but there are sources that say this is not true. Therefore, these fish have a lengthy tube in their body for digesting food. Most plecos can get oxygen by swallowing air from the water surface and storing it in their stomach. The *Callichthyidae* Family is a group of fish that are commonly kept in aquariums. Another type of well-liked catfish that has a hard covering, like armor, is called *Corydoras*. They are part of the same family as the other catfish mentioned. These fish have scales that are changed to look like armor. They have tiny whiskers on both sides of the mouth. Axillary glands are glands that are found under the skin of the shoulder. These glands produce venom that makes the punctures caused by their pectoral fins hurt. These fish often go up to the surface of the water to take in air. They absorb the oxygen through their intestines. This group of fish families includes the more evolved fish. Unlike the ostariophysans, the members of this superorder don't have alarm signal cells in their skin. Also, neoteleostans have bones that do not have cells and they do not have the Weberian apparatus. Most fish have a gas bladder that is like a single room and is not connected to their throat, except for when they are born.

The *Cichlidae* is a big group of fish that includes a lot of well-liked fish for fish tanks, like the freshwater angelfish, discus, and oscar. Many cichlid fish come from Central or South America or Africa. These fish are usually very bright and have lots of colors, especially the ones that come from the African Rift Lakes. Some types of cichlid fish are mean and protective of their space. They need lots of hiding places to avoid getting hurt in fights with other kinds of fish. Wild-caught Amazonian cichlids, such as freshwater angelfish and discus, like to live in soft water and slightly acidic environments. On the other hand, most African Rift Lake species, prefer hard water and slightly alkaline conditions. Cichlids have a small gas bladder, especially in African river species. Cichlids are strong and can live well in fish tanks. Lots of different animals can get sick from a tiny organism called *Spironucleus* that lives

inside their intestines. African cichlids can get sick with a parasite called *Cryptobiaiubilans*. This parasite causes a type of stomach inflammation called granulomatous gastritis. Some infected fish become very thin and weak. Monogeneans are often found on the gills of discus fish raised in tanks.

The Poeciliidae family is a group of fish that can be kept in aquariums. The Poeciliidae family is well-liked by aquarium owners and includes popular fish like guppies, swordtails, platies, and mollies. Some fish, like the guppy and the molly, can live in both saltwater and freshwater. However, the swordtail and platy fish can only live in freshwater. These fish are designed to mainly eat at the top of the water. The Osphronemidae family includes gourami, paradise fish, and bettas. They are very good at living in shallow water that doesn't move much. This group of fish has a special way of breathing air. They have an organ called a labyrinth that has plates covered in special cells for breathing. It is found above the gills in the part of the fish's body for breathing. It is intentionally filled with air when these fish come up to the surface of the water. Most of the oxygen that fish need is taken in through their labyrinth organ. If these fish are unable to reach the surface of the water to breathe air, they will suffocate and die.

DISCUSSION

Taxonomy is the process of grouping organisms together based on their similarities. Virginia has 217 different kinds of fish, which belong to 24 different families. You can use a picture-based guide to recognize and classify different types of fish based on their families. Lampreys are a type of fish that are considered primitive because they don't have paired fins and jaws. Instead, they have seven gill openings on the outside of their body. All other kinds of fish have at least one pair of fins and one opening for gills on each side of their body. The Petromyzontidae family has 6 types of lampreys in Virginia. Some of them are parasites, like the sea lamprey, while others are not parasites, like the American brook lamprey. Caudal fin type is a way to categorize different fish families. Paddlefish and sturgeons have a unique type of tail fin called a heterocercal caudal fin. The paddlefish, called *Polyodon spathula*, can be found in the Clinch and Powell River areas in Virginia. It can be recognized by its big, shovel-shaped nose and long, flappy part on its side. The Acipenseridae family is known for having big hard plates along their bodies. Other important features of this are a mouth on the bottom and small fleshy growths underneath the front of the face. The Atlantic sturgeon is a type of fish that lives in many rivers in Virginia.

The shortnose sturgeon, which is very rare, has only been found in the Potomac River. Two types of fish with a short, uneven tail fin are the gars and the bowfin. The Lepisosteidae family has long, beak-shaped jaws with sharp teeth. Their back fin is toward the back of their body and their body is covered with thick hard scales. The Longnose gar, which can be found in big rivers and a few reservoirs, is the only type of gar fish in Virginia. The Amiidae family has the bowfin fish (*Amia calva*) in it. Bowfins have a long, wavy fin on their back and normal-sized jaws. The bowfin has a body covered in smooth scales and a hard plate under its jaw. Bowfins are fish that naturally live in the Coastal Plain and the lower Piedmont. They have been brought to the Roanoke and New River areas. The next way animals can be different from each other is whether they have pelvic fins or not. Eels and cavefishes do not have pelvic fins. The American eel belongs to a family called Anguillidae. This fish has a long, slender body shape with fins along its back, tail, and bottom. In Virginia, there is only one type of fish called the swampfish. It belongs to the Amblyopsidae family. The swampfish is different from the American eel because its back, tail, and bottom fins are not connected.

Swampfish are a type of small fish that can be found in the backwaters of the Nottoway and Blackwater Rivers. They are about 1 to 2 inches long and are active during the nighttime. The next way organisms are categorized is by whether or not they have an adipose fin. There are three families of fish that have a small fatty fin on their back. These families are bullhead catfish, salmon and trout, and trout perches. Some families of fish do not have a fat fin. The Ictaluridae family includes fish that have whiskers above and below their mouth and no hard covering on their body. In Virginia, there are 15 different kinds of catfish, which belong to four groups. In the group called Ictalurus, there are two kinds of forktail catfish the blue catfish and the channel catfish. The flathead catfish is a type of fish called *Pylodictis olivaris*. *Ameiurus*, a kind of catfish with big heads, has six different types. The group of small catfish called madtoms, scientifically known as *Noturus*, consists of six different species found in Virginia. Species in the *Noturus* group have a small fin on their back with the back part connected to the tail fin.

The Salmonidae family has smooth scales on their body and fins without any sharp points. There are three kinds of fish called brook trout, brown trout, and rainbow trout. These fish are found in streams and some reservoirs in the western part of the state. They are really popular with people who like to go fishing. The brook trout is the only fish from this family that naturally belongs in Virginia. The Percopsidae family has only one type of fish called the eastern trout perch. This type of animal used to live only in the upper Potomac River area, but now it is no longer found in Virginia. The eastern trout perch has two small spines in the back fin, one small spine in the lower fins, a big back fin, and a head without scales. The Clupeidae family has a flat body with sharp, overlapping scales.

American shad, hickory shad, alewife, and blueback herring are types of fish that live in Virginia's rivers near the coast. Gizzard shad can be found in many big rivers and lakes. Threadfin shad, a type of fish called *Dorosomapeitenense*, have been put into certain Virginia reservoirs to be eaten by other fish. However, because our winters can be very cold, the shad often die from being suddenly exposed to extreme temperatures. The other types of fish families have bodies that are different and not like a keel. If the nose looks like the bill of a duck, then the animal is part of the Esocidae group. The chain pickerel is the most common kind of fish in this group. Redfin pickerel, which is the smallest Esocid fish, lives in small streams in the Coastal Plain. Northern pike are not native to Virginia and have been introduced to a few reservoirs here. They are unable to reproduce on their own in these reservoirs. The muskellunge also known as *Esox masquinongy* is a highly sought-after fish that is considered a prized catch by anglers. This fish that is not native to the area is put into many rivers and lakes so people can catch big fish. Some groups of living things are having babies and increasing their numbers in places where they were released before. Families without a duckbilled snout can be identified by where their anus is located. If the fish's anus is right behind its head and in front of its pelvic fin base, it is a member of the Aphredoderidae family, also known as pirate perches[9], [10].

The pirate perch is the only type of fish in its family. It lives in water that is darkly colored. If the hole where waste comes out is found in front of the anal fin, behind the pelvic fin, then it is part of one of the 12 other fish families in Virginia. There are five groups of fish that have one fin on their back and less than four spines on that fin. These five families are known for having different shapes of their tail fin. A forked tail describes fish species from the Minnow and Sucker families. The Cyprinidae family is the biggest family of animals with backbones. It is also the biggest group of fish in Virginia, having 67 different species. Some of these species are in danger of disappearing in the state. Carp, shiners, chubs, and goldfish belong to the same family. Cyprinids are fish with certain characteristics like having a back fin with

nine or less rays, a tail fin with 17 branch-like rays, and mouth parts with six or less teeth. There are 18 different types of fish in Virginia that belong to the Catostomidae family. The fish has fins on its back with 10 or more thin and long parts, its tail has 16 branches, and its mouth has 10 or more teeth. Catostomids live in many rivers in the state.

The creek chubsucker and northern hogsucker are two types of fish that are very common. The other three families from the group mentioned earlier have one dorsal fin and a round tail fin. These are three types of families of fishes. One is called mudminnow, another is killifishes, and the last one is livebearers. The Umbridae family only has one type of fish called the eastern mudminnow. These fish live in the lower Piedmont and Coastal Plain areas. A mudminnow is a type of fish that has a special feature - it does not have a mouth that can stick out. The top part of the mouth is connected to the snout by a wide piece of tissue called the frenum. The Fundulidae and Poeciliidae families look similar and both can stretch their mouths. The Fundulidae family has a special third anal ray that splits into multiple branches. This ray looks the same in males and females. Five types of small fish called killifish have been found in Virginia. The banded killifish is found a lot in river systems by the coast and only a few are found in streams up in the mountains. The Poeciliidae family has a third ray in its anal fin that is straight and not split into branches. Males have a special fin ray that helps them with reproduction. This fin is called an anal fin and it is modified to be used during mating by livebearing fish.

One family member, called the eastern mosquitofish, lives in many different bodies of water throughout the state. It was brought there to help control mosquitoes. The final group of fish families is identified by having two fins on their back. The stickleback family, known as Gasterosteidae, has a pelvic fin with one big spine and the first dorsal fin has widely spaced spines with a separate layer of skin for each spine. There are three types of sticklebacks in Virginia. The pelvic spine is not found in any other fish families in Virginia. Fish that have fins on their lower body and have two separate fins on their backs are part of the Atherinidae family, also known as silversides. The brook silverside is a type of fish that lives in the Clinch and Powell rivers in Virginia. It is the only species of its kind in Virginia. Members of the Cottidae family, known as sculpins, have three to four thin projections in their fins near their chest, and their body does not have scales. There are nine different types of sculpins in Virginia, and they mostly live in streams located in the western mountains. The mottled sculpin is a common type of fish in Virginia. The rest of the fish families have bodies covered in scales and fins near their bellies with at least five long and skinny parts called rays. The main thing that tells these families apart is the number of spines they have in their rear end.

The Moronidae family, which includes striped bass, and the Centrarchidae family, which includes sunfish and bass, both have anal fins that have three or more spines. The Moronidae family has two dorsal fins that are either close together or a bit joined. They also have pseudobranchiae. There are four types of fish that belong to the Moronidae family and they live in both fresh water and salt water. People like to catch these fish for sport. Three types of animals live in Virginia. Striped bass (a type of fish) live in rivers near the coast and sometimes in reservoirs. In some reservoirs, they are put there regularly to keep the population steady. Virginia is one of the few states that has naturally breeding striped bass in Kerr Reservoir, which is also called Bugg's Island Lake. White perch, also known as *Morone americana*, can be found in rivers near the ocean and in certain reservoirs. They are able to live in different types of environments. White bass are found in bigger numbers in rivers in southwestern Virginia. However, there are also a few groups of white bass in reservoirs in Virginia, such as Kerr, Claytor, and Holston.

The Centrarchidae family has their first and second fins on their back joined together a little or a lot, and they don't have a certain part called pseudobranchiae. There are nineteen types of fish from the Centrarchid family that live in Virginia waters. This big family has lots of different kinds of fish that people like to catch for sports. The Ambloplites family includes the rock bass fish. The longear sunfish and the Roanoke bass are types of fish. The type of fish called Pomoxis includes the well-known sport fish called black crappie. Nigromaculatus and white crappie, P. blacknose crappie and white crappie. The group called Enneacanthus, which includes banded sunfishes, has three different kinds of fish. One of these is the blackbanded sunfish, which is a species in danger of disappearing and is found in certain ponds in southeastern Virginia. The group of fish known as black basses, which includes largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted bass, belongs to the genus Micropterus. The genus Lepomis has seven types of sunfish. The bluegill is one of the most popular species of fish for sport fishing in this group. The Percidae family, which includes perches, and the Sciaenidae family, which includes drums, both have fins on their backsides called anal fins. These fins can have either one or two spines.

The Percidae family is a big group, with 176 different types all over the world. Most of them, 92 percent, can be found in North America. Virginia has a lot of Percid family fish, and there are 45 different kinds of them here. The type of fish called yellow perch belongs to the Perca genus. The flavescens fish, which can be found in rivers near the coast and certain reservoirs in Virginia. The group Sander has two types of fish, one called walleye which is well-known and can be found in many rivers and reservoirs in Virginia, and another one called sauger which is not as famous. These fish called the Clinch dace and the Powell dace are only found in the Clinch and Powell rivers in southwest Virginia. The type of fish called Percina has 15 different species in Virginia. One of these species, called the Roanoke logperch, is in danger of becoming extinct. The Etheostoma group consists of 26 kinds of darters. Some of these darters are in danger of being harmed or disappearing entirely. The western sand darter is a type of fish called Ammocrypta that is in danger of becoming extinct. Clara is a person who lives in the upper Tennessee River area. The Sciaenidae family has a special feature which is a large and long second spine near the anus, and there is also a line on the side of their body that goes all the way to the tail fin. Male animals can make a drumming noise to find a partner. In Virginia waters, the only type of fish that lives in this family is the freshwater drum fish. Their main area is focused in the Clinch and Powell rivers, and there are also some of them in Kerr Reservoir because they were put there.

CONCLUSION

In simple words, the study of different types of fish and how they are grouped together is important in the study of biology. It helps us understand and organize the many different kinds of fish that live in water. This chapter explained the complicated ways fish are classified and why it is important. It also discussed important things to remember from the chapter. Firstly, taxonomy helps organize many different kinds of fish into a logical system. This organized arrangement helps to identify different species and is important for scientific activities like studying the environment, protecting different forms of life, and managing fishing resources. The principles of fish classification help us organize and understand different types of fish. They start with broader categories and go down to specific species. This helps us see how different fish species are related to each other. However, it is important to understand that taxonomy is always changing and being improved as new facts and methods are discovered. Additionally, there are many different ways that people can use the study of fish types in practical, real-life situations. It is important to correctly identify different species of aquatic animals in order to use them sustainably, manage fishing, and

protect endangered species and their homes. It also has an important role in helping aquaculture practices develop and keeping different genes preserved. As we learn more about classifying fish, we realize how important it is for understanding aquatic ecosystems. This text highlights the importance of continuously studying, working together, and being able to adjust to address the constantly changing knowledge about different types of fish and how it affects efforts to protect and manage water environments in a sustainable way.

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CHAPTER 3

FISH ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY: A REVIEW

Ashwini Malviya, Associate Professor
 Department of uGDX, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
 Email Id- ashwini.malviya@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

To understand fish better, we need to study their body structure and how their bodies work. This will help us figure out how they live and adapt to their environment. This chapter gives a detailed explanation of how fish are built and how they work. It talks about the amazing body parts and functions that help fish survive in different types of water. The chapter starts by talking about the outside and inside parts of fish, like their scales, fins, and gills. It also explains how their blood, breathing, and digestion work. This explores how different species adapt to their environment and have different roles in nature. Furthermore, this chapter explores the inner workings of fish, explaining how they control important functions like balancing salt and water levels, maintaining body temperature, and producing offspring. It shows how fish are really good at adjusting to all kinds of different places to live, like lakes and really salty oceans. In simpler terms, we are talking about the importance of the senses in fish behavior, navigation, and communication. This includes vision, hearing, and a system called the lateral line. Furthermore, this chapter discusses how things like pollution, climate change, and habitat damage can harm fish. It shows that fish are easily affected by these environmental factors. Basically, this chapter explores the structure and function of fish, explaining how they have evolved to survive in different water environments. This knowledge is really important for managing fisheries, aquaculture, and protecting fish species in tough environmental conditions.

KEYWORDS:

Body, Fish, Gills, Live, Water.

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this session is to point out the most important physical and biological differences between fish patients and the land and bird patients usually treated by exotic veterinarians. Many doctors are afraid to start treating fish because their bodies and how they work are different from animals that live on land. Fish are becoming really popular as pets and the demand for medical care for them is increasing rapidly. This lecture is for clinicians who want to start treating fish as patients. It will give them the basic knowledge they need in these areas. There are about 20,000 different types of fish that scientists know about. Each species of fish has different body structures and ways of functioning. The tiniest fish ever found is only 10 mm, which is equal to 0.4 inches. On the other hand, the biggest fish, known as the whale shark, has a size of 14 m, around 45 ft. The fish liver is a very similar organ to the liver of mammals or birds. However, fish do not have some organs that mammals have, such as the pancreas, distinct adrenal glands, lymph nodes, lungs, bone marrow, and parathyroids. Other body parts may be there, but they look and work very differently from the ones that mammals have, like kidneys, reproductive organs, skin, and the heart. Furthermore, fish have certain body parts that are not found in mammals or birds. These things are fins, the lateral line organ, swim bladder, and gills [1], [2].

Fin

Fins are a part of a fish's body that helps them swim and move in the water. They are usually flat and thin, and can be found on both sides of the fish's body. Fins are used to steer, balance, and propel the fish through the water. They are important for the fish's survival and ability to catch food and escape from predators. The fins on a fish are very noticeable and do more than just help them swim. They have many different jobs to do. The dorsal fin is usually used to help with balance while swimming, but it can also be used for showing off and protecting oneself. Many animals have pointy parts sticking out from their backs, and it's important to keep them safe when handling them and to make sure they don't hurt the person handling them. The side fins help slow down and stop while swimming. The pelvic fins and anal fins help keep the body stable. In males, the anal fin can develop into a male sex organ called the gonopodium. This body part can be easily seen in many animals that give birth to live babies, such as guppies, mollies, and swordfish.

Integument

Fish have similar skin to animals that live on land, but there are some important ways in which their skin is different. Just like how the skin is considered an organ in mammals, it also serves many other purposes in fish. In fish with bones, the scales are made in the skin and are made of layers of bone that overlap. The outer layer of skin cells are on top of these hard, plate-like structures. The outer layer of skin is made up of about 6-8 layers of cells. The top layer of these cells has tiny raised lines that we don't know what they do. Some species, like the glass fish, have collagen arranged in a uniform way. This makes them see-through, like the eye's cornea. The slimy layer on our skin is made by special glands and helps to protect us. It can fight against bacteria and fungi and helps protect against different types of germs. The skin of a fish can release important substances for the baby fish and can also create a covering to sleep in. So, when dealing with fish, it is extremely important to keep this important protective layer safe. For the doctor, if there is too much slime on the fish, it could mean that the fish is under some kind of stress. Some fish have special cells in their skin, like alarm cells for sending signals and taste buds[3], [4].

Circulatory system

The circulatory system is the system in our body that helps to move blood around. The heart, blood vessels, and blood all work together in the circulatory system to deliver oxygen and nutrients to our body's cells, and to remove waste products, like carbon dioxide. The blood-making part of fish is mainly found in the kidney, but it is also found in the spleen and liver. The blood cells in fish are similar to the blood cells in reptiles or birds. Many fish species do not have the usual measurements for their blood cells, but luckily, more and more information is being shared. We cannot use land animal models to figure out what is normal for fish because what might be considered normal for fish, like having only 10% leukocyte count, may not be the same as what is normal for land animals. Some fish do not have hemoglobin in their blood, so it looks white. They also do not have separate lymph nodes, but they do have lymph vessels. The heart is located below and in front of the gills. These rooms are organized in a straight line and blood flows through a single pathway. We can access the heart for phlebotomy, but it is best to use the caudal vein[5], [6].

Urinary System

The urinary system is a part of our body that helps us get rid of waste and excess water. It includes the kidneys, bladder, and urethra. The kidneys filter the blood and make urine, which is stored in the bladder until it is released through the urethra when we go to the

bathroom. The gills and the kidney are important organs in fish that help them get rid of waste from their bodies. The final result of how fish's body processes nitrogen is ammonia. The gills can remove and get rid of up to 75% of the ammonia in the body. Some fish have a bladder for pee. We will talk more about the gills and kidney in the physiology section of this lecture.

Gastrointestinal System

The GI system refers to the gastrointestinal system, which is the collection of organs and processes that help our bodies digest and absorb nutrients from the food we eat. Many fish, like koi, have barbels that serve two purposes. They are an organ that can feel things and taste things. Fish do not have a strong tongue, but they may still have teeth and taste buds in their mouths. The size of the mouth determines how much food can be eaten. This makes it very hard to force feed certain animals, such as seahorses. The structure of the stomach is different in different animals. Some animals, like koi fish, don't even have a separate stomach. It is crucial to remember that when giving food to a sick fish, you should only provide a tiny amount because these species require very little food during each feeding. Furthermore, some fish have a stomach that works properly, but there are others where the stomach doesn't have different types of tissues and only serves as a place to store food. Typically, plant-eating fish have longer digestive tracts than meat-eating fish. Because fish are cold-blooded, their digestion relies heavily on the temperature of their surroundings, specifically the water temperature.

Physiology

In this lecture, we will talk about only two body processes - breathing and getting rid of waste. It is very important to learn about these two processes to understand how fish bodies work. In fish, breathing and getting rid of waste are closely connected and the gills play a big role in both of these processes.

Breathing

In fish, just like in land animals, the most important part of breathing is getting oxygen into their bodies. Getting oxygen from water is harder than getting oxygen from the air. Two big reasons are responsible for this. Water is 800 times heavier than air and has only 3% oxygen. Air typically has around 20% oxygen. Breathing uses a lot of energy, so fish need to be in good shape and have enough oxygen in their surroundings for their breathing system to function properly. Also, the gills have a surface area that is only about 6-10 times bigger than the surface area of the whole body. This difference is quite small when compared to how big the lung is.

On the other hand, the lungs of mammals are generally 100 times larger than their overall body surface. Gas is exchanged in the gills' secondary lamellae, which works really well. This efficiency is achieved when water and blood flow in opposite directions. The blood with less oxygen moves in a direction opposite to the flow of water with more oxygen. In this process, water needs to keep moving over the gills all the time to ensure that breathing works properly. About 80% of the oxygen in the environment is taken away when we breathe. In humans, only a small amount, about 25%, of the oxygen in the air is typically taken in during respiration. Fish are put to sleep using these principles. The medicine used to numb the fish is mixed with water. The medicine keeps working by continuously flowing through the fish's gills, even if the rest of its body is not in water. The gills are very good at exchanging gases, but this also means they can easily be harmed by toxic substances. Harmful things can build up in a fish's body to be a million times more concentrated than in the water.

Excretion

The freshwater fish has more salt inside its body than the water around it. Because of this, water is always going into the fish's body through the gills and making the blood less concentrated. So, in fish that live in fresh water, the kidneys mainly get rid of extra water from their bodies. In addition, we must keep electrolytes safe when they're being removed from the body. Freshwater fish have big filtration units called glomeruli in their kidneys. Marine fish have the opposite situation. The saltwater fish has less salt than the ocean it lives in. Fish in the ocean always need to drink water because they keep losing water from their gills into the surrounding environment. The main job of the kidney is to save water and remove electrolytes. Because of this, some marine fish have kidneys that do not form urine. Fish can seem tricky and unfamiliar to take care of at first, but this lecture explains that if you know a little bit about how fish bodies work, it becomes easier for doctors to understand how to treat them. Once you understand the basics, fish medicine can help you become more knowledgeable in treating animals.

DISCUSSION

Fish have different ways that they can change their bodies and behaviors to help them live in certain places and be good at competing with other fish. Body shape can give us a lot of information about where and how a fish lives. Fast-swimming fishes that live in open water have a streamlined and oval shape. A type of fish called the brook trout, which is shaped like a spindle, can be found in Virginia. Fishes that do not move all the time, but can swim quickly for short periods are flatter from side to side and are called compressiform. A great example of a fish with a compressiform shape is the sunfish from the Centrarchidae family. Fish that have a flat shape, like skates, are called depressiform. This shape helps them live on the bottom of the ocean. Other types of fish, like sculpins and catfish, also live on the bottom of the water and are flattened on their belly side. Fins, along with the shape of their body, are different depending on how fish live. The tail is very informative. Fish that swim fast and are always moving around usually have a tail fin that looks like a fork or a crescent. Some animals with flat or rounded tails can swim well but not as fast as those with split tails. Fish that have small tails or tails that are connected to their dorsal fin are not very good at swimming and usually stay close to the bottom. Fish that live in the bottom of the ocean have other helpful changes[7], [8].

For instance, sculpins and darters have fins that are located in pairs, one pair near their chest and the other near their bottom. These fins have a rough surface that creates friction, which helps these fish stay in place among rocks. The fatty, soft fin doesn't do much, but it can be found on trout, trout perch, and catfish. The shape and position of a fish's mouth can tell us how it eats and what it eats. Surface feeders like topminnows have a better mouth, while bottom feeders like suckers and some darters have their mouth pointing downwards. Big predators usually have mouths at the end of their bodies that have lots of teeth in rows. Subterminal mouths are designed for digging through the bottom surface to find food. Many predatory fish, like the largemouth bass, have teeth in their mouth and on their throat bones. These teeth help them catch and grip prey, and help with swallowing. The central stoneroller is a type of fish that eats algae. It has a hard part on its bottom jaw that it uses to scrape algae off rocks. Plant-eating or waste-eating fishes have very long, twisted intestines, which are often several times longer than their bodies. Carnivorous fishes usually have short stomachs, while omnivorous fishes have stomachs of medium length.

A longer gut means a bigger area for absorbing nutrients and more time for absorbing them. Coloration is when a fish changes its color to blend in with its surroundings. Fish that live on

sand, like the western sand darter, have a light see-through color. Fish that live on rocky surfaces can either be dark in color or have bold patterns on their skin. This helps them to camouflage and blend in with their surroundings. The mottled sculpin is a great example. Fish that live in places with a lot of plants, like the chain pickerel, usually have stripes or big, round patches of color. Fish, especially the ones that live in open water, have dark color on their upper side and light color on their lower side to blend in with their surroundings and not be seen from above or below. Some fish change their color to match their surroundings. They become lighter when they are in a light-colored area and darker when they are in a dark-colored area. This change happens within two to three minutes. Fish are known for their ability to swim. It is not clear how it swims in water so easily. Aristotle was the first person to ask this question, but we only got good answers when high-speed film was invented. The basic story is that the fish moves its body in a wavy shape to push against the water and move forward. Some fish, like eels, use their whole body when swimming, while others, like tuna, only use their tail.

The movement of a fish's body is made possible by a group of muscles called myomeres. These muscles are found in lines running up and down the fish's body. When you use a fork to break apart a fish fillet, you are separating its muscle segments. The muscles in the body squeeze one after another from the head to the tail. It's a really good way to move in water. A big tuna fish can swim really fast, up to 50 miles per hour. A type of trout fish called steelhead can jump really high, more than 15 feet up in the air from the water. In many fish, the fins are not used to swim fast, but instead help the fish stay balanced, change direction, and slow down. The body makes the object move fast, and the fins help it turn or change direction. If you look closely at a fish, you will notice that it can move each of its fins with great accuracy. This control happens because of rays and spines. Every fish has rays in their fins, and the more evolved ones also have spines. Fish move their fins up and down by using their rays or spines. Each ray or spine is attached to a bone called a pterygiophore, which is inside the myomeres but not connected to the rest of the skeleton. The fish can move its fins by flexing its muscles. This special mechanism helps the fish move its fins separately and control its movement very accurately [9], [10]. A fish is able to swim well because it can stay in the water without sinking or floating. In order to do this, a fish needs to have the same density as the water around it. The problem is that water gets thicker deeper down and hotter, so the fish needs to be able to change its body's thickness very carefully and all the time. How Most fish have a special organ called the swim bladder. This bladder is filled with gas and is at the top of the body cavity. A fish can fill it with gas or release gas from it to change its body weight, similar to how scuba divers change their weight using a device that controls buoyancy.

When a fish works together, its body, fins, and swim bladder help it move fast and with precision through water, which is much denser than air. Fish that can breathe underwater use a special body part called gills to get oxygen from the water and get rid of carbon dioxide. In olden times, fish like lampreys had seven openings on each side of their body. Each of these openings went into a sac that couldn't see (called the gill chamber). The sac was covered with gill tissue. The muscles around each gill squeeze out water and then relax to let new water come in. As fish developed better ways to breathe, they also achieved two important improvements. The initial system was called the "flow through" system. All fish that are more advanced than lampreys, like sharks and tuna, use their mouths to take in water and then push it out through their gills.

This prevents the fish from needing to move water in and out of its gills, which makes it use less energy for breathing. The second big improvement was that they needed less openings.

Some sharks that lived a long time ago have seven slits on their gills, similar to the lamprey. However, most sharks today only have five gill slits. Fish like trout, minnows, and bass have a special flap called the operculum that covers their gill opening on each side. Inside the operculum, there are four hard bony arches that hold a bunch of thin gill structures. You can see the white parts inside a fish's throat and the red parts when you open its gills. The gill filaments are red because they have blood filled with oxygen, which is moved through the body by the heart. The gill arches sometimes have pointy parts called gill rakers to stop food from getting out of the gills. Fish have a special way of keeping the right amount of water and salt in their bodies, which is called osmoregulation. This is important because the salt concentration inside a fish is usually not the same as the water it lives in.

So the fish needs to make sure it doesn't get too much or too little water. The liquid inside the bodies of freshwater fish has more salt than the water they swim in, while marine fish have body liquid that is less salty than the ocean water around them. Osmoregulation is the process in which the body maintains the proper balance of water and salts. This is done by the kidneys, gills, certain organs, and also to some extent by the body's coverings like the skin and scales, which act as barriers. Some fish, like shad or American eels, need to adapt their osmoregulatory mechanisms because they live in both freshwater and saltwater at different times in their lives. Aquatic animals have to focus more on controlling their salt levels in their bodies compared to land animals. This is because salt is always moving in and out of their bodies through the water they live in, which can throw off their salt balance. Freshwater and saltwater fish have opposite problems when it comes to maintaining the right balance of water and salt in their bodies. Freshwater fish have a higher salt concentration in their bodies compared to the water they live in. Substances, like salt, always move from areas with a lot of them to areas with less. So, our bodies are always getting rid of salt and trying to take in water. This is especially true for the gills because the tissues there need to be very thin so that oxygen can pass through easily. Freshwater fish keep a balance in their bodies in two ways. First, they make a lot of pee that is not very strong, so they have big, efficient kidneys. Secondly, they have special cells in their gills called chloride cells that can push salt into their bodies even when there is more salt outside. Saltwater fish face a different issue. They don't have much salt as the water around them, so salt is always trying to go into their body and water is always trying to go out. Saltwater fish and freshwater fish use similar processes to maintain balance within their bodies, but saltwater fish do it differently. Their kidneys make a small amount of strong pee, and their chloride cells remove salt from their body. Imagine if all of the hard work our bodies do to regulate water levels wasn't difficult enough. Now think about the extra difficulties that certain species, like striped bass, face when they move between freshwater and saltwater as part of their life cycle. When fish move from saltwater to fresh to lay their eggs, they need to completely change their osmoregulatory system.

They have to do this again when they go back to the ocean. This is especially hard for baby fish who are going to the sea for the first time after they were born. One reason why estuaries, like Chesapeake Bay, are important for migrating fish is because they provide a gentle change from freshwater to saltwater. This helps the fish's body adapt to the new surroundings. Fish have the same abilities to see, hear, touch, smell, and taste things as humans do. Fishermen usually know a lot about how fish sense things, but it can be confusing to people who aren't familiar with fishing. Can fish see colors. Why do catfish have whiskers. How do schooling fish swim together. Let's explore how freshwater fish find food, avoid danger, and reproduce. Fish species typically have different roles in nature based on how well they can see. For example, big predators like muskellunge, striped bass, and brown trout have big, well-grown eyes. They can see all around, except directly downward and backward. Because their eyes are positioned towards the front of their bodies, they are in an ideal

position for hunting. Fish can see brightness and color because they have special cells called rods and cones in their eyes[11], [12].

Fish that live in shallow water can see colors very well, but they can't see all the colors that humans can. Water removes color, which means that as you go deeper, you will see less red, followed by yellow, and then blue. Some fish, like bullhead catfish, have small eyes and not very good eyesight. Bullheads like to hang out in the deeper parts of ponds, lakes, and rivers that aren't very clear. They use their other senses to find their next meal. Did you know that sound travels faster in water compared to air. This means that fish, who live in water, have really good hearing abilities because of this. Fish cannot hear like humans do because they do not have ears. However, they can still hear by picking up sound through the bones in their head. The fish's balance is kept steady by the inner ear. This part of the ear has small crystals and other sensors that help with balance. Some types of fish, like minnows, catfish, and suckers, have small bones that connect the air bladder to the inner ear. This is called the Weberian apparatus and its purpose is to use sound to show changes in pressure in the air bladder. Fish have a special way of feeling things called the lateral line system. It is very special and different from other animals. The lateral line system is like a tube underneath the fish's scales that goes from the head to the tail on each side of its body, about halfway down. There is a special row of scales that covers the side of the fish. These scales have small openings connected to a canal by a tube. If you examine a fish carefully, you can see small holes that make a line of white dots on each side. These tiny holes link the canal of the lateral line to the outside. The lateral line detects pressure waves from nearby objects and sends a signal to the brain. One amazing way that fish in schools coordinate their movements is by using their lateral line. If you pay close attention to a group of fish, you will be surprised at how well they move together. This is because of the lateral line. Fish are easily affected by even small changes in water temperature. Many fish are very gentle when touching soft plastic baits, which suggests that their sense of touch is much better than what we currently understand. Smell: People who fish know about homemade and store-bought smelly baits that are meant to help them catch more fish. Stinkbaits are effective because fish have a strong sense of smell. Pacific salmon start their lives in streams in the mountains of western North America.

After a year of growing, they go to live in the ocean for many years. When they become adults, they come back to the same stream where they were born to lay their own eggs. Pacific salmon are able to find the stream they were born in by using their amazing sense of smell. Sunfish that have been moved from their home area can return there by using their sense of smell. Minnows release smells that tell other fish in their group to scatter. Female fish release scents that males can smell when they want to reproduce. If you've ever watched fish in a fish tank, you may have noticed that they quickly reject food they don't like. Brook trout will try to catch anything in the water, whether it's a floating needle from a hemlock tree or a handmade fly. They quickly refuse to eat the hemlock debris, which shows that they also have a refined sense of taste.

CONCLUSION

Finally, research into fish anatomy and physiology exposes the amazing adaptations and processes that support these aquatic species' life. This chapter has offered a thorough review of these complex issues, including significant insights and conclusions. Fish anatomy includes everything from their outward scales and fins to the interior complexities of their circulatory, respiratory, and digestive systems. The great variety in these anatomical features reflects fish species' adaptation to varied settings, making them an intriguing topic of research. Furthermore, fish physiology sheds light on the systems that regulate critical life

activities such as osmoregulation, thermoregulation, and reproduction. Fish's exceptional capacity to adapt to a wide range of environmental situations demonstrates its resilience and ecological value. Sensory systems are important in fish behaviour and survival, with sensory organs including vision, hearing, and the lateral line system influencing how they interact with the aquatic environment. Fish physiology, on the other hand, is not immune to the effects of environmental variables like as pollution, climate change, and habitat deterioration. These factors represent considerable challenges to fish populations and ecosystems, highlighting the need of strong conservation efforts and long-term management approaches. Understanding fish anatomy and physiology is essential for fisheries management, aquaculture, and species conservation. It provides us with the information we need to make educated choices regarding the long-term use of aquatic resources and to solve the complex issues that fish populations and aquatic ecosystems face. We get significant insights into the long-term health and sustainability of our aquatic habitats as we continue to research and grasp the complexities of fish biology.

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CHAPTER 4

AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTS AND HABITATS: THE DIVERSE WORLDS OF AQUATIC LIFE

Rajesh Kumar Samala, Assistant Professor
Department of ISME, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- rajesh.samala@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

The Differing Universes of Oceanic Life may be a comprehensive investigation of the tremendous and changed environments that make up Earth's sea-going domain. This chapter serves as an early on portal into the captivating and frequently puzzling universes found underneath the water's surface. The chapter starts by emphasizing the basic part that oceanic situations play on a worldwide scale, contributing altogether to the planet's biodiversity and environmental adjust. It underscores the interconnecting of these biological systems with earthbound situations and the significance of understanding their complexities. The talk at that point digs into the major sorts of sea-going situations, enveloping freshwater frameworks like waterways, lakes, and wetlands, as well as marine biological systems, counting coral reefs, estuaries, and the open sea. Each biological system is characterized by its one of a kind physical and chemical traits, as well as the differing cluster of species that have adjusted to these environments. Besides, the chapter investigates the energetic nature of sea-going living spaces, considering the affect of common and human-induced changes, such as climate alter, contamination, and environment annihilation. It underscores the helplessness of sea-going situations and the critical require for preservation endeavors to ensure these crucial environments. The Assorted Universes of Sea-going Life gives an locks in presentation to the heap sea-going environments that make up our planet. It emphasizes the biological noteworthiness of these environments, their interconnecting with earthly frameworks, and the challenges they confront in an ever-changing world. This chapter sets the arrange for a more profound investigation of the assorted and captivating universes that lie underneath the water's surface.

KEYWORDS:

Biological System, Eggs, Fish, Freshwater, Species.

INTRODUCTION

Sea-going situations create complex blends of physicochemical prompts that must be translated by angles, with significant signals confined and recognized from foundation commotion. Person angles transduce the abiotic and biotic boosts into data upon which behavioral choices are based. These person choices in this way emphasize to ended up the ecologies of whole populaces. Worldwide anthropogenic changes are, be that as it may, quickly adjusting the tangible scene by presenting novel signals, expanding foundation clamor, and changing the biochemical cascades that are dependable for transmission and translation of basic characteristic signals. Anticipating the populace level impacts of these fast changes happening within the Anthropocene's sea-going situations, coupled with expanding collect of the ocean's biomass and environment misfortune, requires robotic understanding of how angle populaces respond to their always changing environment.

Understanding the impacts of anthropogenic changes on organismal tactile science is, in turn, basic to compelling fisheries administration and overall asset preservation because it gives instruments essential to translate behavioral reactions both at the person and populace levels, propose approaches to adjust behaviors most pertinent to controlling the spread of obtrusive species, as well as lessening both bycatch and screen impingement, and eventually anticipate populace level statistic forms related with common and anthropogenically-induced natural changes. Such an approach, be that as it may, requires an understanding of neurosensory instruments, tangible systems' capabilities, and their intelligent with biotic and abiotic boosts. A unthinking understanding of the behavioral reactions of angles to tangible boosts moreover considers the taking after self-evident principles anatomical structures transducing tangible jolts connected as it were with the quick environment and people can as it were respond to an environmental variable they can sense. In expansion, understanding and foreseeing the impacts of anthropogenic changes requires knowing which jolts are accessible to tactile frameworks, how the jolts connected with the morphological structure of significant neurosensory organs, and how physiological execution of a particular neurosensory framework transduces the boosts into noteworthy data [1], [2].

The Baltic Sea is not very deep compared to how big it is, and the area near the coast is a big and ecologically important part of it. The condition of many coastal areas in the Baltic Sea has gotten worse in recent years. This is partly because there is more eutrophication, which is when too many nutrients cause algal blooms, but also because of climate change, building near the coast, and the introduction of non-native species. The living conditions in shallow coastal areas are also influenced by non-native species, especially in areas closer to land. These species were brought there by ships originally. Furthermore, there is increasing evidence that trophic cascades are happening in the coastal system. In places where there aren't many predator fish like perch and pike, there are a lot of smaller predator fish called three-spined stickleback. A study was done by Byström and others. In 2015, These medium-sized predators can greatly affect the community of small animals that eat plants, decreasing their population and the amount of plants they eat. This can cause problems in the environment, like excessive nutrients in the water and changes in the habitat, with an increase in short-lived stringy algae.

Sticklebacks can also harm the eggs and young stages of many kinds of fish that eat other animals, making this issue even more important. A management plan that considers both fish and their preferred habitats is very important for preventing eutrophication impacts in coastal areas. Given how important and delicate coastal areas are, it is crucial to prioritize managing these parts of the Baltic Sea ecosystem. This is essential for ensuring the sea area can continue to provide valuable resources and services in the future. To stop the worsening of the Baltic Sea and improve its ecosystem, we need to do more than just reduce the amount of nutrients going into it. We need to take additional steps to effectively manage the situation and make things better. To help with the same management actions, we must understand why ecosystems change and how different factors affect each other. We also need to keep track of and evaluate important parts of the ecosystem, like the fish's homes in coastal areas. EFH is the places where fish need to live at any stage of their life. We can figure out how important these places are by looking at how changes in the amount or quality of these habitats affect fish populations or groups of fish over time or in different areas.

Coastal habitats are also used by fish species like herring and flatfish for laying eggs and raising their young. Sundblad and colleagues In 2014, researchers in the Baltic Sea were some of the first to show that the number of suitable places where baby fish grow had a big effect on how many adult fish there were. In the study, they found that about half of the

difference in the number of adult animals was because of how much important habitats there were by the coast. The protection of EFH is not very good. EFH, which stands for essential fish habitat, are typically found in areas along the coast where lots of human activities occur at the same time. These areas are heavily used for the spawning and nurturing of fish that live near the coast. So, it's really important to pay attention to the role and protection of EFH or whatever that is, and to understand what causes them to change. It seems that there is an important need for managing different sectors together when it comes to EFH. In other words, there is a need to coordinate and work across different areas in EFH. Fisheries management should think about taking care of the environment and habitats, and the other way around. Even though there has been more focus on studying, mapping, and monitoring coastal habitats in the Baltic Sea, we still don't have enough information to know how much these habitats limit the growth and production of fish for most species. What we need right now is to look back at what we have done so far and talk about what went well and what methods we used. This lack of information makes it hard to compare the results and make overall conclusions about the role of EFH. Because of this, it is challenging to figure out what research is most important to move the work forward[3], [4].

DISCUSSION

The majority of animals reach adulthood and then cease growing. Fish, on the other hand, continue to grow bigger and larger throughout their lifetimes, provided there is adequate food and room. Indeterminate growth has a significant impact on all aspects of a fish's life cycle, particularly reproduction. To understand why, you must first comprehend how fish utilise the energy obtained from their meal. A fish's feeding energy must be split and utilised for growth, reproduction, and metabolism. This is true for all species, but since fish grow indefinitely, they have an advantage. Should they focus their efforts on growing or reproducing? Assume for the time being that they have no option but to devote a certain amount of energy to metabolism. Other animals do not have to make this decision once they reach maturity since they no longer develop and can devote all of their energy to metabolism and reproduction. The decision between growing and reproducing is compounded further by the fact that the two are linked. In fish, larger females may produce more eggs, while bigger males attract more partners. So it stands to reason that the fish desires to grow in size in order to have a better chance of reproducing. However, as we have seen, becoming larger diverts energy away from reproduction[5], [6].

Fish must make a difficult decision grow large now and reproduce later, or reproduce now but remain little. diverse reproductive techniques or breeding habits are examples of fish adaptations to diverse settings. Most freshwater fish in Virginia may be divided into two groups: nonguarders and guarders. Fish that lay pelagic, or floating, eggs are examples of nonguarders. Shad eggs sink and get trapped in the sediment as they migrate downstream. Nonguarders may lay their eggs in natural or man-made hiding places or nests. *Campostoma anomalum*, the male central stoneroller, transports stones away from the mating region, making a hole in which the eggs are placed. Males of various chub species carry stones in their jaws to build a big rock pile nest. The female of various darter species shuffles into the gravel and buries eggs. The loose gravel in gravel spawning lets water to flow through, delivering oxygen to the hidden eggs. Variation exists among nest-guarding fishes as well. Female sculpins attach adhesive eggs to the bottom of a flat rock after an elaborate courting, which is subsequently guarded by the male. Sunfishes and bass build nests in gravel or plants, which the male guards. Some catfishes seek find cavities to deposit their eggs in order to shelter them from predators.

One benefit of defending a nest is that it minimizes the likelihood of eggs being eaten before hatching, boosting the chances of the offspring's survival. Male Nocomis chubs carry stones in their mouths to form spawning mounds. The difficult decision between development and reproduction has resulted in some highly fascinating life histories in fish. A life history strategy is a series of behaviours used to perform critical life cycle tasks such as locating a spouse, raising offspring, and acquiring food. Striped bass, shad, and herring, for example, have all developed anadromous migratory strategies in which they are born in freshwater, migrate to saltwater as juveniles, grow to maturity in saltwater, and then return to freshwater to breed (and in many instances die). Why would a fish go through such an arduous life cycle? Wouldn't it be preferable to spend the whole time in freshwater? After all, if you're born there and will ultimately spawn there, why leave? The solution seems to be linked to resolving the "grow or spawn" dilemma. The fish must be as huge as possible to be an effective spawner. And it turns out that the ocean has a lot more food than freshwater.

If you want to become huge, you must eat near the ocean. So the fish has devised a complex strategy: it is born in freshwater, migrates to saltwater to develop, and then returns to freshwater to breed. And just when you think everything is making sense, consider the American eel. It migrates in a catadromous fashion. The American eel is born in saltwater the Sargasso Sea off the coast of Bermuda, migrates to freshwater, matures, and then returns to the Sargasso to reproduce and die. Why do striped bass and eels move in opposite directions to get food if fish go to where the food is? After all, both species may be found in the same rivers in Virginia and travel to the same ocean, although in separate paths. The explanation is a little more involved, and it has to do with the two species' evolutionary histories. Striped bass developed in freshwater, thus that is where today's striped bass must spawn. Eels' ancestors originated in saltwater, thus they must spawn there. The reason they each opted to travel to another area for food seems to be linked to where their ancestors first originated. Striped bass developed in temperate zones, where the ocean produces more than freshwater, but eels evolved in tropical zones, when the opposite is true. Striped bass had to go to the ocean to get the greatest food, while eels had to travel to rivers. Then, when eels increased their habitat northward beyond the tropics, they kept their migratory patterns, even though they no longer seem to make any evolutionary sense. As one would expect, new research suggests that eels in the north where the ocean is more productive than freshwater are not all moving to freshwater [7], [8].

There seems to be a population of northern ocean eels that live in the ocean where there is plenty of food. Eels and striped bass are only two of Virginia's more than 200 freshwater fish species, but they teach us something important: fish life cycles are very adaptable. Because fish exhibit such a diverse range of life cycle methods, broad generalizations are impossible. Even within a species, there are significant variances. Rainbow trout, which spend their whole lives in Virginia's rivers, are the same species as steelhead trout, which grow to over 20 pounds in the Pacific Northwest and conduct anadromous migrations to the ocean and back. The issue is that if you confidently declare, This is how this species completes its life cycle, you will almost certainly be correct for certain rivers and lakes but incorrect for others. Your task as a naturalist is to find out how your river's fish behave. This is both the difficulty and the appeal of studying fish: they are marvellously, maddeningly, convoluted. Fishing Threats and Issues in Virginia In the United States, freshwater species are disappearing at a rate two to five times faster than native land animals, a rate comparable to tropical rain forest fauna. Human activities are the most significant source of dangers and concerns for Virginia fishes and their habitats.

Land use and channel changes, pollution, and the introduction of invasive species are examples of such activities, which result in habitat loss and degradation, which is the major cause of fish and aquatic resource extinction. Human activities disrupt aquatic ecosystems and their ecological integrity, resulting in fish kills and other consequences, some of which are not evident to the casual observer. Understanding the cumulative consequences and potential risks to Virginia fishes as a result of human population increase, climate change, and emerging toxins is a problem for fisheries and water resource management. This chapter focuses on silt and its effects on fisheries. The chapter on Aquatic Ecology and Management goes into great detail on the effects of pollution on aquatic ecosystems. Waterway sediment and pollution are often caused by upstream land-use activities that have an influence on both the local and downstream areas. According to a recent evaluation of freshwater fauna concerns, increased sediment loads and nitrogen inputs from agricultural and urban nonpoint source pollution are the major hazards in the eastern United States. Sediment is the most common source of water quality degradation in American waterways, including the Chesapeake Bay. Early research on the influence of silt on fish focused on the mortality of salmonid eggs and juveniles. Many fish species, including salmon, spawn in nests made of coarse substrate, such as gravel[9], [10].

The eggs and fry rely on water flow via clean interstitial gaps between the stones for oxygenation and waste disposal. When these spaces get blocked with fine debris and silt, death ensues. High amounts of deposited silt may result in a loss of habitat quality and quantity, as well as extensive stretches of stream devoid of fish. Suspended silt and turbidity may affect the feeding abilities of sight feeder fish, resulting in slower development rates and poor health. Fine sediment may also obstruct fish gills, causing decreased breathing. Overall, too much sediment may cause physiological stress and a lower tolerance to illness and toxics. For the last 300 years, woods in Virginia, like much of the eastern United States, have been cut for timber or cleared for farming. Forested and agricultural lands are now being turned into residential, industrial, and commercial sectors over most of the Commonwealth. Land use and channel changes have a wide range of effects on the aquatic ecology. Individual fish, fish populations, and fish communities, as well as their environment, may all be endangered. Excessive sedimentation from land and channel conversion may be caused by the following factors. Logging and forest road building diminish canopy cover, change flow regimes, and increase organics and sediment input to neighbouring streams. Poor farming practices that result in riparian and floodplain vegetation destruction, increased chemical application near streams, and enable animals direct access to waterbodies. Construction of roads and bridges alters stream banks and channel features, increases silt loading, and degrades water quality.

Development that increases impervious surfaces inside watersheds, increasing surface runoff, sediment loads and temperatures in streams, and pollution loading to streams and shallow groundwaters. Sand and gravel mining in streams and rivers alters the bottom composition and stability, causing channel shape to shift. Channel expansion, realignment, and straightening; removal of instream or stream-bank vegetation and woody debris; and bank stabilization using riprap or concrete, all of which enhance water velocity and soil erosion. Exotic Animals After habitat fragmentation and degradation, the introduction and transfer of exotic species or the movement of nonnative species to new places pose the biggest risks to Virginia's ecosystems. Exotic animals often lack natural predators. They may have an influence on local fishes by increasing predation, transferring illnesses and parasites, and competing for food and space. Exotic species may mate with native fish, resulting in hybridization and genetic purity loss.

Two more invasive species, the rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*) and the Southern White River crayfish (*Procambarus zonangulus*), have been introduced to river drainages in neighbouring states and may become more common in Virginia in the near future. All of these invasions have the potential to have an influence on native species via direct competition and food-chain disruption. According to the United States Geological Survey's 2004 Summary Report on Nonindigenous Aquatic Species in US Fish and Wildlife Service Region 5, Virginia has approximately 100 invasive fish species. Stocking is the most common method of introducing fish into Region 5, accounting for approximately half of the species. Bait release is the second most prevalent channel, followed by aquarium releases or escapes from tropical fish farms. Many fish species have been transplanted into drainages beyond their natural area by people and government organizations, and many have adapted well to their new surroundings. Smallmouth bass, for example, is native to the Tennessee River but is now found in most of Virginia's rivers. Population Growth, Climate Change, and Emerging Contaminants are all Uncertain Threats.

Virginia had an estimated population of 7.6 million people in 2005. The commonwealth is predicted to have 9.3 million inhabitants by 2030, a 22% growth in 25 years. As Virginia's population grows, so will the need for water resources. Land use changes will become more prevalent as the population grows. The employment of low-impact and smart growth development approaches might help Virginia's fisheries. We should predict drought effects with growing water demand regardless of the extent of change in climatic occurrences in Virginia. In other words, the next long-term drought is not a "if," but rather a "when" situation. Managers of fisheries and water resources must assess how demographic and socioeconomic changes influence Virginia's susceptibility to extreme weather events, particularly the effects on water resources and aquatic wildlife. Emerging pollutants such as medicines, plastics, personal care and home items, and pathogenic microbes are released into our rivers alongside municipal wastewater and other human and animal waste streams. Despite their modest levels of discharge, several of these substances are persistent in the environment and may bioaccumulate in long-lived species. These emerging chemicals may have an effect on fish reproductive, fetal and nervous system development, and illness susceptibility.

CONCLUSION

The Different Universes of Sea-going Life has enlightened the multifaceted nature of Earth's oceanic environments, advertising a see into their imperative part in forming our planet's biodiversity and environmental harmony. The chapter has emphasized that sea-going situations are not disconnected substances but are unpredictably associated to earthbound frameworks. They serve as the backbone of our planet, supporting a wealthy embroidered artwork of species and contributing to worldwide environmental forms, counting supplement cycling and climate direction. Our travel through different oceanic territories, from freshwater biological systems like streams and lakes to energetic marine situations such as coral reefs and estuaries, has showcased the unimaginable differences of life that has adjusted to flourish in these interesting settings. Each territory comes with its claim set of challenges and openings, and the complicated web of life inside them proceeds to shock researchers and nature devotees alike. In any case, the chapter has moreover underscored the helplessness of these sea-going situations within the confront of various dangers, extending from climate alter and contamination to environment pulverization. The criticalness of preservation endeavors to secure these environments cannot be exaggerated, as their wellbeing is interwoven with the well-being of both sea-going and earthbound life. As we conclude our investigation of oceanic situations and territories, we are reminded of the basic require for

dependable stewardship of these valuable assets. By understanding, increasing in value, and effectively defending these diverse oceanic universes, able to contribute to the conservation of Earth's biodiversity and guarantee a maintainable future for our planet and eras to come.

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CHAPTER 5

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION: HARVESTING FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Thiruchitrabalam, Professor
Department of ISME, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- thiru.chitrabalam@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

Fisheries management and conservation are critical components of long-term aquatic resource use. This abstract delves into the fundamental ideas and tactics of this discipline. Effective fisheries management includes a variety of techniques aimed at sustaining fish populations, protecting ecosystems, and assuring fishing communities' livelihoods. A key component of this endeavour is the establishment of sustainable catch limits based on scientific evaluations. Implementing and implementing policies to avoid overfishing is critical, since overfishing may deplete fish populations and cause irreparable ecological harm. Conservation efforts go beyond catch restrictions. Protecting essential habitats, such as spawning sites and nurseries, is vital for the long-term viability of fish populations. Furthermore, limiting bycatch, or the unintended capture of non-target species, reduces ecological damage. Community participation and stakeholder engagement are critical components of effective fisheries management. Collaborative decision-making that incorporates traditional wisdom and current science aids in balancing economic and ecological objectives. Giving local people the ability to manage their fisheries in a sustainable manner develops a feeling of ownership and responsibility. Satellite monitoring and data-driven evaluations, for example, are improving the accuracy and efficiency of fisheries management. International collaboration via agreements and organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) aids in the protection of migratory species and the appropriate use of shared resources. Finally, fisheries management and conservation are diverse endeavours that need a comprehensive strategy that integrates research, policy, and community participation. To conserve aquatic ecosystems and provide a secure food supply for current and future generations, sustainable practices are required.

KEYWORDS:

Dams, Fish, Management, Species, Water.

INTRODUCTION

Dams separate groups of fish, mussels, crayfish, snails, and other water animals that live in the areas above and below the dam. Additionally, they change the quality and movement of water, turning rivers into reservoirs and areas where sediment collects. This makes it impossible for native stream life to survive. Therefore, important water resources are becoming more vulnerable to both expected and human-caused changes in the environment. The way people have developed and changed aquatic landscapes has caused a big decrease in the variety of species that live in water. Some fish, snails, mussels, crayfish, and other water creatures have vanished. Some groups of people or things have become fewer and fewer over time. Fish species are considered a sign of how healthy the water is. Aquatic habitats are places where water plants and animals live and get what they need to survive and grow like a home, water, nutrients, and food. The main reason why there are fewer different types of

water-loving plants and animals is because their natural homes are being destroyed. A lot of the places where water creatures live were destroyed when the first settlers cleared the land, got rid of the wet areas, and cut down the trees near streams. Therefore, it is important to have a plan to keep water life safe and preserve it for the future, so that nature stays in balance and resources are still there for the next generations. The Lakhwar Dam may have an effect on the fish population in the Yamuna and its tributaries[1], [2].

Currently, the environment there is favorable for fish. The quality of the water is good for fish to grow. The little streams flowing into the river create a good place for fishes like Snow trout and 'Mahseer' to lay eggs and reproduce. The building of a series of dams along the Yamuna river after the proposed Lakhwar Dam has already affected the movement of fish that swim from downstream to upstream in the river and its smaller rivers that flow into it. Furthermore, building the Lakhwar dam will also impact the water and animals living in the areas both before and after the dam. Building a really tall dam made of concrete across the Yamuna river will prevent fish from swimming upstream. So, it would become hard for fish like Mahseer and Snow trout to travel and lay their eggs. After the dam is built, a new type of environment will be created in the reservoir. This environment will be home to different kinds of fish, but some fish that usually live in moving water at the bottom of rivers may not be able to survive in this new environment. This could lead to the reservoir becoming very polluted. These changes are bound to happen, so a plan has been suggested to manage the fish population and make sure they can survive and increase in the new Lakhwar hydroelectric project reservoir[3], [4].

Plan for Managing and Protecting

Fish in the River Yamuna and its Tributaries While studying, we discovered that the river Yamuna and its smaller rivers have two main kinds of fish called Mahseer and Snow trout. Because of the building of Lakhwar dam, which is very tall at 204 meters, these two types of animals may act differently. Building a dam would break up the natural living spaces for plants and animals. The populations of these species that live further upstream and downstream are expected to look for new places to breed. The plan to protect and manage the fisheries by UJVN Ltd. The EIA EMP Report of Lakhwar Multipurpose Project suggests that since the spawning grounds for fish are being reduced, it is important to protect these two fish species by creating fish farms and hatcheries. Fisheries experts from the Department of fisheries in Uttarakhand visited the project area and gave suggestions on how to protect and manage the fish in that area.

They noticed that the fish ladder was not suitable because the proposed dam is 204 meters high. So, fish experts found a good place along the river Yamuna and its tributary to build two units to raise baby fish. The fisheries department suggested building a hatchery and rearing unit near Lohari village, close to where the dam will be built. The purpose of this facility is to collect, breed, and rear local fish species. Similarly, a plan was made to build a hatchery near Chamiya village along the Aglar river to protect and increase the population of Mahseer fish. You can get the brooders for hatching from nearby places and then raise them in the hatchery for a certain amount of time. The baby fish can be put back in the fish ponds, reservoir, or some can be released into the Yamuna and Aglar rivers. Farmers in the area should be encouraged to have fish farms on their land to make extra money. They can get free help and baby fish to start their farms. Baby fish that are hatched in a special place can also be put into the Yamuna river and other smaller rivers nearby to increase their population.

The Uttarakhand State Fishery Department knows how to manage the hatchery for fish breeding. They can help with this task and receive financial support from the Lakhwar

Multipurpose Project. It is recommended to have fish farms and seed collection units for Snow Trout in the Himalayan region, where they can be collected and bred. There is not much information available about how to breed Himalayan trout using certain methods. One big problem with growing this fish is getting the young ones. However, the small fish that are used to raise more fish in the fish farm can be easily taken from the river. During the breeding season, the fish known as *Schizothorax* sp. move to higher areas in the river. This makes it easy to collect the adult fish that will lay eggs. Because the dam will block their path, the group of adult fish will gather near the dam where they can be easily caught and used for artificial breeding by removing their eggs. The fish with stripes can go back to where they live in nature and the baby fish can be taken care of in a special place made for them. The baby Snow Trout in fish farms can be grown in lakes and other bodies of water. *Schizothorax richardsonii* is a type of fish that lives in the Yamuna river [5], [6].

It is called Aglar. During the beginning of the rainy season, fish move to higher streams to reproduce. So, when people kill fish like this, it's a big problem for fish that travel long distances. In addition, this fishing celebration doesn't just harm different types of fish, it also harms many small creatures like bugs, insects, butterflies, grasshoppers, spiders, snakes, and amphibians. To protect fish homes and different types of fish in the area, it is important to have activities that help people understand the problems of harming the environment during the fair. One such activity is spreading knowledge about the importance of fish and other underwater life, as well as the negative effects of fish festivals and illegal fishing on natural resources. Instead of harming biodiversity with harmful chemicals in fishing, we should celebrate it in a sustainable way by raising awareness about our traditions and culture. We should also celebrate it while thinking about taking care of the environment and protecting it. This fair plays a significant role in the religious, cultural, and historical aspects. It helps in promoting ecotourism and sharing information about their cultural traditions such as folk songs, dance, and food.

DISCUSSION

As mentioned before, Virginia has many different kinds of fish. A lot of these animals need particular homes, like fast-moving areas in rivers, certain types of ground, or really cold water. The living environment can change when people use the land differently or when the climate changes. The impact of these changes depends on whether the animal is able to adapt to different environments or only survive in specific ones. Some types of animals can handle big changes to their habitat better than others. Many fish species in Virginia are in danger of becoming extinct or disappearing. You can find a list of these species on the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries website. When state and federal agencies make a list of animals, it helps to keep them safe from buildings and changes to the land they live on. Uncommon and special types of animals or plants often need very specific types of environments to live in, which makes it more difficult to take care of them. The brook trout is a type of fish that needs to be managed carefully because they can't tolerate certain environments and have specific needs for their homes. Brook trout used to live in many mountain areas of the state. But in the last 100 years, their population has decreased because other types of fish were brought in and their habitat has been changed. Brook trout need clean, chilly water to survive well [7], [8].

These fish are seriously affected by higher water temperatures and the increase of dirt in the water, which usually happens because of building, farming, or cutting down trees. A lot of brook trout groups have been forced to live in the upper parts of streams because of these problems. People know more about what habitats are necessary for certain streams in Virginia. This has stopped people from logging and building in those areas, which is bad for

the streams. The Roanoke logperch, also known as *Percina rex*, is a type of fish that is at risk of disappearing. The reasons for this are that there is too much dirt and debris in the water, which comes from activities that cause the ground to erode and lose its soil. The government is concerned about this and has put laws and regulations in place to try and protect it. The Roanoke logperch (*Percina rex*) is a type of fish that is in danger of becoming extinct. It can only be found in the Roanoke and Chowan rivers. This unusual fish uses its long snout to flip rocks and eat the small critters hiding under them. Because of how the Roanoke logperch feeds, it is easily affected by sediment that fills up where it eats. Developers and construction firms must use strong erosion and sediment controls in areas with the species in order to protect the environment.

Young logperch like to live in calm, shallow areas of the water, while adult logperch prefer to live in fast-moving areas. To make sure they can survive for a long time, we need to provide different types of habitats for both young and adult logperch. The striped bass is a type of fish that lives in both fresh water and saltwater at different times of its life. Each year in the spring, striped bass come back to the Chesapeake Bay and its smaller rivers to lay their eggs. The species cannot lay their eggs in many rivers because there are dams blocking the way. Dams create two issues for striped bass. First, they prevent fish from swimming upstream to lay their eggs. Second, they change how the water flows in the stream. The first problem is quite easy to understand, but the second problem may be more difficult. Striped bass eggs are light enough to float a little in the water and they need to stay in the water without sinking to grow correctly. The eggs can die if they fall out of the water and there's not enough water movement. When the amount of water changes, either because of natural events like rainfall or because of dams, it greatly affects how likely it is that eggs will hatch successfully. The striped bass sometimes has trouble reproducing because it needs specific places to live, which are not always available. It is crucial to know how certain places where fish live affects their lives.

Different types of fish need different places to live. If we destroy or damage different types of habitats, we will also harm many different kinds of fish in Virginia. Some species that are in danger of disappearing need a specific kind of place to live. Having many different types of habitats and fish in a stream helps to make the stream healthy and strong for a long time. When there is a decrease in the number of different species, populations become more susceptible to environmental changes. Understanding different types of fish and the places they live will help us keep our streams healthy and safe. Ways to Study Fish The fish in the United States are resources that belong to the public and are managed to benefit American citizens. Management is a duty that the federal government, state governments, and Indian tribes all have a part in. Fisheries biologists try to keep enough fish alive by making sure they are not hunted too much and have a good place to live[9], [10].

To properly take care of fish populations, we need to gather a lot of information. We need to know important things like how many people there are, how fast the population is growing, how big it is when it starts reproducing, how much is being caught, how healthy the environment is, and what people want. Fisheries managers have the task of collecting and studying information, and making sure the wants of society are met while also taking care of the resources. The number of individuals in a population is usually determined using two methods: marking and recapturing, and depleting sampling. Mark and recapture methods are used to catch fish and put a mark on them, such as a cut on their fin or a tag. Then, they are released back into the population and allowed to mix with the other fish. Afterwards, when collecting fish in the same area, they catch both fish that have been marked and fish that have not been marked. The number of fish in a population is figured out by comparing how many

fish are marked and how many are not marked. Depletion sampling catches fish in an area and takes them away temporarily until there are very few, or none, left in that area. Population size means the total number of fish that have been caught.

The way fish grow can show how good their environment is and how many other fish are living in that environment. To find out how old a fish is, scientists study its scales, spines, or bones. Determining the age of trees by counting their rings is a straightforward way to compare their age visually. However, determining the age and growth of fish is a more complicated process. If a fish's current age, length, and weight are known, a biologist can figure out how big it was when it was younger. Growth rate is a way to measure how healthy a population is by looking at its habitat and other populations. It is necessary to make sure we save enough parents that make babies to keep the population growing or getting bigger sometimes. Biologists catch fish when they are mating to find out how old and big they are. Sometimes, the public needs additional help because there are people who cannot support themselves for different reasons. Fish are caught, given birth to artificially, taken care of in a special place, and later released into a different area. The harvest is split into two parts: commercial harvest and recreational harvest. Fish death is separated into two categories: when fish die naturally and when fish are killed for harvest. Harvest mortality is the number of fish caught in the fishery, either by directly counting them or by estimating the change in population size caused by fishing, which is more than what would happen naturally. Biologists can't study whole populations, so they need to choose a sample group that represents the population in order to gather information and make accurate decisions.

To choose the right fishing equipment, we need to think about the type of fish, the water they live in, and what we want to study. Fish capture gear can be divided into two types: active and passive. Special equipment is used to catch and retrieve fish. Some common tools used for fishing are seine nets, trawl nets, and electrofishing. Seines are often used in calm or gently moving shallow water to catch smaller fish. One side of the fishing net is held on land while the other side is taken into deeper water and then moved in a parallel direction to the shore. Finally, it is pulled back to the land. Trawl nets are large cone-shaped nets that are usually used in big bodies of water. They can be made bigger or smaller to catch different sizes of fish. A trawl is when a net is connected to a boat and dragged through the water fast enough so that the fish cannot get away. The net can be used at different depths depending on where the species live. Electrofishing is done by putting electricity into the water. Fish that are caught in the electric field either cannot move or are pulled towards one of the electrodes and caught in a net. Electrofishing equipment is made to be used on a boat or carried on someone's back. People use boat mounted gear in lakes or big rivers. Backpack electrofishing gear is equipment used to collect samples from small rivers, streams, or shallow water.

A biologist catches fish using electricity, with the help of other people who are also in the water. Passive gear is a type of fishing equipment that uses the movements of fish. It includes trap nets and gill nets. Trap nets work by guiding fish into a specific area using a net that blocks their path. These nets are usually placed at a right angle to the shore. The fish are directed through a series of narrow openings, like funnels, and end up in a designated area where they are held. The fish are caught using a net and taken out of the place where they are kept. Gill nets are fishing nets that hang in the water and trap fish when they try to swim through them. Gill nets and trap nets are usually used in lakes, reservoirs, or slow-moving rivers. You can choose how big the holes in gill and trap nets are so that you can catch the specific size and type of fish that you want. Other equipment that can detect fish without catching them includes radio-tracking devices, cameras, sound machines, and other advanced gadgets. Many of these ways to sample fish require specific training and permits, so they are

not suggested for Master Naturalists to use for studying fish. People known as Master Naturalists can watch fish in streams and rivers by going underwater with snorkeling gear or using other tools to look at them.

The basic principles of fisheries management can have different meanings to different people. For people who own private land, this might mean putting fish into their small ponds. To members of Trout Unlimited, this could mean getting rid of non-native trout species from their beloved brook trout stream. To fishermen who like to catch bass in a Virginia reservoir, this may mean they can only keep certain sizes of fish to help the population grow and have more big fish to catch. To people who care about this issue, it could mean that the government or international organizations would make rules for fishermen to protect and improve the rapidly declining fish population worldwide. All of these people who are interested in a fishery have one thing in common. They all want to see the fishery get better, and they hope that fisheries managers can make that happen. A fishery is a system where people catch and take advantage of aquatic animals for their own benefit. And that leads us to a simple definition for fisheries management: purposely changing fish populations and related factors to produce advantages that are significant to people who rely on them. Fisheries management is about taking care of three important things in fishing: the fish population, the people who use the fish, and the areas where the fish live.

The main focus is on the fish, but it's also important to have people who fish and places where fish can thrive. This could be the usual way people use resources, where the main advantage is catching fish. But people can benefit from fisheries without catching the fish. For example, catch-and-release fishing or being a member of a conservation group can make people feel good knowing our water ecosystems are doing well. Controlling how people use fish populations is a strong and important tool for fishery managers. In simple terms, managing the habitat is very important for sustainable fish populations because they need a suitable place to reproduce, find food, and stay safe from predators. Without the right habitat, it is not possible for fish to survive and reproduce successfully. So, managing the habitat is a crucial part of managing fish populations. Now, we will take a closer look at each of these management areas in the context of usual fishing management programs in Virginia. Changing fish populations to make them better for fishing can happen in many ways. Ever since fish farming started in the U. S. In the 1800s, people believed that adding more fish to water bodies was the most important way for authorities to increase the number of fish. Stocking can be done in three different ways, and each way has its own goals and expenses. Fish stocking is just one small part of good management, and fisheries managers also do many other things to control and enhance fish populations.

Managers can do things to decrease the number of fish species that are not wanted in certain places, like common carp or too many sunfish in ponds, lampreys in the Great Lakes, snakeheads in the Potomac River, or nonnative rainbow and brown trout in brook trout streams. Giving food to fish is a common way to try to make fisheries better in small ponds, but it usually doesn't work very well. When fish are in bad condition, it usually means they were not caught properly. This is the second important thing to consider when managing fisheries. People who use resources directly affect those resources. This is also true for fisheries. Most of the world's fisheries are in bad shape because there are too many people catching too many fish, which is causing the fish populations to struggle to survive. Fish are being caught before they can grow to their best size or before they can reproduce. Freshwater fishing in the United States. The local fisheries are doing much better than most around the world because they have been using programs for many years to control fishing and other activities. Fishery users are usually regulated with rules that restrict their activities.

Regulations are usually made to lessen the negative effects of fishing on fish populations, let more people participate in fishing without harming the environment, or safeguard species that are easily affected.

This provides useful information for managers to make changes in their management plans for different bodies of water. Different types of places where fish live are very important for different parts of their life. Natural stream channels have different types of habitats for fish, like pools, riffles, runs, boulders, and woody debris. However, human activities often change how the stream looks by removing things that slow down the water and making the water flow faster. They do this to prevent flooding in areas where people live. Fisheries managers want to make streams more natural, which helps different types of habitats and makes fish populations and fishing better. Fisheries managers in Virginia have problems with the quality of the environment in still bodies of water. In Virginia, there are only two lakes that occur naturally: Mountain Lake and Lake Drummond. The rest of the lakes in Virginia are man-made reservoirs. Before the water was held back in these reservoirs, the trees and plants that were in the way were cleared out. This means that many reservoirs don't have enough places for fish to live. This is also the case for many small ponds that are often found in grassy fields.

In both of these situations, fish populations can get better from adding things that make their homes better, like basic shelters made from brushes or old Christmas trees. Sometimes, ponds and reservoirs can have too many dense weed beds in the water. These plants can help small fish to survive, but they often result in smaller populations of prey fish and make anglers and other lake users unhappy. Different methods are used to control too many aquatic weeds. These methods include getting rid of them physically, using chemicals, and putting herbivorous fish called grass carp to eat them. The interaction between different factors of managing fisheries in small ponds in Virginia is a good example to understand how fisheries management works. Now, let's consider common situations for small ponds in Virginia. People who own new ponds usually look at guides that help them manage the fish in their ponds.

To start up a new pond, it's usually recommended to put about 500 bluegill or redear sunfish in each acre during the first summer or fall. Then, in the next year, add around 50 young largemouth bass per acre as an introduction. To offer more options for fishing, channel catfish are regularly added to the water (50 per acre, every other year). Many people, especially children, enjoy fishing on small ponds. A pond that is in good condition can handle people fishing in it without any problems, especially if they catch and release largemouth bass. However, it is very simple to catch too many bass from a small area, which leads to an imbalanced fish population, small sunfish, and unhappy people who like fishing. Small ponds usually have about 40 pounds of sunfish and 10 pounds of largemouth bass for every acre of water. If less than half of the bass are big enough to catch, catching just a few nice fish can disrupt a small pond. Usually, the number of bass caught should be similar to the number of sunfish caught. If you take out one pound of bass, you need to take out at least four to five pounds of sunfish so that the number of predators and prey stays balanced. If we don't do this, there will be too many sunfish and they won't grow properly. This will also cause problems for bass reproduction and make the fishing even worse. At that time, the only choice is to either buy expensive bass or kill all the fish and replace them with new ones.

In the end, it is best to keep a balanced pond by releasing the largemouth bass you catch in small ponds. By keeping the bass population in good health, it will also lead to the growth of big sunfish in the pond. This will result in more fun fishing opportunities and the sunfish can be caught without causing any harm to the pond's balance. The main idea is that if we don't

use the resource properly, it can cause ecological problems. To fix these problems, the people in charge need to take direct action on the fish population. In simple words, the main issue with small ponds is having too many plants in the water. This issue usually happens because the pond is not built correctly (the pond is not deep enough, or the sides are not steep enough), or because nutrients from outside sources enter the pond. Too many nutrients can cause problems in ponds, especially if the pond is in an area where farming is done or if lawn fertilizers or sewage get into the pond. The best way to solve the problem is to stop the nutrients from flowing, but this is not always possible. Therefore, people who own ponds have to find different ways to manage annoying underwater plants. Usually, they may use chemicals to treat rooted water plants, but this is quite costly. However, it is a more affordable solution for algae issues like filamentous species. Nevertheless, this method needs to be done again every few years because the unwanted plants come back. To fix issues with lots of underwater plants that have deep roots, you can introduce a particular type of fish called the grass carp. This fish eats the plants and can help control their growth in the long term. When only a few grass carp are released in areas with a lot of vegetation, they can successfully get rid of troublesome plants. But, keep in mind that in Virginia, you can only put in fish called "certified triploid" grass carp. These fish have been changed genetically so they can't have babies. You also need a permit from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Putting grass carp in a body of water can help get rid of too much rooted plants, but it can also cause a new problem of baby fish not being able to hide from predators because they need some kind of cover. In this situation, we can put brush or Christmas trees near the edge of the water to create a good place for young fish to hide.

CONCLUSION

Fisheries management is a discipline that affects everyone who is interested in aquatic ecosystems, not just fishermen. To be successful, effective fisheries managers must understand all three elements of a fishery (the fish population, the resource users, and the value of crucial habitat). When most people think of fisheries management, they think of fish, but in reality, it is the resource users that have the biggest influence on the character and success of a fishery. We must keep in mind that without the resource consumers, there would be no fishery or need for fisheries management. To summarize, good fisheries management and conservation are required for the long-term utilization of our aquatic resources. We can conserve fish populations and ecosystems by imposing scientifically based fishing limits, safeguarding critical habitats, and eliminating bycatch. Involving local communities in decision-making processes, as well as using technology for improved monitoring and evaluation, are key steps toward accomplishing these objectives. International cooperation is also essential in addressing the transboundary character of many fisheries, and organizations such as the FAO play an important role in developing international cooperation. Finally, proper management of our seas and freshwater bodies not only protects biodiversity but also assures the long-term viability of fishing communities and a stable food supply for our globe. Fisheries management and conservation are not just an environmental need; they are also critical for the long-term viability of natural ecosystems and human livelihoods. We can strive toward a more secure and prosperous future for everybody by adopting these values and practices.

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CHAPTER 6

AQUACULTURE TECHNIQUES AND PRACTICES: A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Jayashree Balasubramanian, Associate Professor
Department of ISME, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- jayashree.balasubramanian@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

Aquaculture is a way of farming fish, shellfish, and aquatic plants instead of catching them from the wild. It is becoming more important as it helps meet the growing demand for seafood and lessens the strain on natural fish populations. This summary gives a general idea about important methods and practices used in aquaculture. Aquaculture methods change depending on the type of fish being raised, the environment it's in, and what buyers want. The main ways to grow fish include using ponds, cages, and recirculating systems. Pond culture is a popular method of farming for fish like tilapia and shrimp. It involves making man-made ponds where farmers can control the water quality and feed the fish. Cage culture is when fish are raised in cages that are underwater in natural bodies of water. On the other hand, RAS systems are systems that continuously clean and reuse water to create the best conditions for fish to grow. Taking care of the water in aquaculture is really important. It is very important to keep the right temperature, oxygen levels, and water quality good for the health and growth of animals and plants that live in water. It is very important to watch and take care of water to prevent diseases and parasites. The way we feed fish in aquaculture has changed over time as we have developed healthier and more sustainable fish food. Many farms now use special pellets that help the environment and make plants grow faster. New ways of making food for fish are being developed, so we don't have to rely as much on catching fish from the wild to make their food. The environment is becoming a bigger worry in fish farming. More and more people are starting to use a farming method called integrated multitrophic aquaculture (IMTA). IMTA is when you grow different kinds of fish together to make better use of resources. Furthermore, there are attempts being made to decrease the amount of waste and lower the use of antibiotics and chemicals in aquaculture operations.

KEYWORDS:

Aquaculture, Animals, Enviroment, Food, Farming, Water.

INTRODUCTION

Aquaculture is the same thing as fish farming. It can happen in lakes, the ocean, or on land. Aquaculture is becoming the biggest industry for seafood, growing faster than any other type of seafood production. People think it can both save and harm the oceans. Aquaculture technologies have various effects on the environment, so it's crucial to understand how fish are raised. Some aquaculture methods are used more often than others. These methods have advantages and disadvantages. Aquaculture methods mean ways of raising and farming aquatic plants and animals. Open aquaculture systems refer to a type of farm where aquatic animals, like fish, are raised in large cages in the sea. These animals are given food regularly to help them grow. Open aquaculture systems use methods such as sticks, ropes, racks, and cages to passively provide food for the fish. Closed aquaculture systems are environments where fish and other aquatic animals are raised in a controlled and enclosed environment,

rather than in open bodies of water like lakes or oceans. A sea-cage is a type of open aquaculture system where fish are kept in nets in the ocean. In this system, the fish are fed regularly[1].

Open Sea-Cage Aquaculture

Open sea-cage aquaculture refers to the raising of aquatic animals in special nets or cages placed in natural bodies of water. In different places like rivers, estuaries, and coastal areas, people are putting in open systems. The floating mesh cages come in different sizes, which depend on how much is being grown and the type of species. Young fish are taken from either fish farms or natural bodies of water and kept in enclosed areas until they are big enough to be sold. Fish raised in open areas mostly eat other fish, specifically small fish that are turned into pellets. Some fish that grow quickly in open water include yellowtail kingfish, southern bluefin tuna, Atlantic salmon, trout, and barramundi. The expansion of open sea-cage aquaculture has caused many problems. One of the main problems is that there is a strong need for fishmeal to feed animals that eat meat. Sometimes, it takes more than 5 kilograms of fishmeal to make only 1 kilogram of fish that can be sold.

Other things to worry about include more diseases and parasites spreading because there are a lot of fish in one place, the chance that the fish might get out and mate with wild fish, and the water getting dirty because of all the poop building up. An open aquaculture system is a method of farming that uses things like sticks, ropes, racks, and cages for feeding fish. Many different types of shellfish are farmed in systems that are connected to natural streams. Baby bugs or small creatures can be discovered in nature or made in special places called hatcheries. These things are then put into the water using different methods like tying them to sticks or ropes or putting them in cages. Mussels and oysters are the most common types of animals that are raised using these methods. These animals can get their food from the water without eating other fish. Raising mussels, oysters, and other filter feeders in water is good for the environment. If there is enough water, it does not affect the plants and animals in the water or the cleanliness of the water. In certain areas, getting rid of sticks and racks might be a problem[2], [3].

Semi-Closed Aquaculture System

Semi-closed aquaculture is a method where a species is raised on land and water is moved back and forth between the farm and a nearby river. Fresh water is added to the farm, and any dirty water is let out into the nearby canal. Prawn farming is a very common type of fish farming in Australia and it mainly uses pond systems. The black tiger prawn is the most commonly raised kind, but banana, kuruma, and brown tiger prawns are also grown for the seafood industry. Vannamei prawns, which come from Southeast Asia, are now easier to find in markets and are a cheaper choice. Semi-closed fish farming can greatly affect the environment near the coast. Ponds are often seen close to rivers when we use coastal wetlands and mangroves for building, because they need a lot of water flow. This could lead to a big problem because it means that many young animals won't have a place to live. If water keeps coming out without control, it can make the water in nearby places become worse. Fishmeal, which is made from small fish, is given to prawns at a rate of 1-3 kilograms of feed for every 1 kilogram of prawns. This can harm the fish population in the wild[4], [5].

Closed Aquaculture System

Closed system aquaculture means raising aquatic species like fish and shrimp on land in controlled environments like raceways, tanks, and ponds. Water is passed through filters and then sent back into the aquaculture system using recirculation technology. This method helps

to keep the water clean and reduces the need to interact with natural streams. The types of fish and shellfish that are commonly sold are silver perch, barramundi, yabbies, and marron. These are all raised in closed aquaculture systems. The main types of fish that are raised in closed systems are blacklip and greenlip abalone. These fish are becoming more popular in Asian markets, so their production is increasing. Closed system aquaculture is considered a very eco-friendly way of raising aquatic animals. Fishmeal, which is made from small fish that swim together in groups, can be used as food for meat-eating fish raised in aquaculture. This is a problem because it puts pressure on the number of wild fish available. Because wastewater is tightly controlled and fish escape is prevented, there is very little connection with rivers[6], [7].

DISCUSSION

Aquaculture has been done for a long time, but it has grown slowly because people didn't know much about the environment and the needs of aquatic animals. Since the second part of the 1900s, more and more people have been wanting to have salmon, prawns, eels, and bass. Aquaculture has helped to slowly decrease the need for catching fish in the wild. Now, it makes up half of the world's production of fish, shellfish, crabs, and seaweed that is used for food. Aquaculture systems can help reduce hunger in the world, especially as the population is expected to reach over 9 billion by 2050. They also help protect fisheries and the overall natural environment. To make this happen, we need to change the way we farm to be more responsible and sustainable, working together with nature. The benefits and challenges of specific ways of fish farming. A lot of fish farming in ponds is mainly done to raise freshwater species, especially common carp. Ponds are taken care of to create a suitable environment for fish to live in. This environment has everything the fish need to survive and find food naturally. This kind of farming doesn't harm the environment much and helps maintain a variety of living things. It also helps with growing different types of plants and raising animals when combined with farming or raising animals on a farm.

Intensive freshwater aquaculture means building reservoirs of water and connecting them to nearby rivers, either through a raceway or a closed system that recirculates the water. Fish like trout, eel, sturgeon, and tilapia live in reservoirs until they become large enough to be sold. In a track for races, water from a river moves along in the same direction through a bunch of small bodies of water. The closed system uses the same water over and over again by cleaning it and putting it back into the ponds. Raceways are a good way to save energy, but they may not make much money because the water's temperature, cleanliness, and oxygen levels can change and make the fish farm less profitable. There is also the danger of predators being introduced by mistake. Recirculation systems use a lot of energy but allow farmers to have complete control. The fish there mainly eat fake food.

Salty water is good for semi-large-scale farming, which is in between fishing and large-scale farming. In Italy, there is an ancient practice called valliculture. It uses the natural behaviors of certain species to its advantage. This involves closing off the ways out of a lagoon and raising the fish caught inside until they are ready to be eaten. To make this practice better, we can add baby fish from a hatchery and give them extra food that is meant for the specific type of fish being raised. This can include things like common sole, prawns, red mullet, molluscs, and sturgeon. This farming method only uses local plants and animals that can grow together, so it doesn't harm the environment much and helps keep the variety of life in the lagoons. Marine fish can be raised either on land in man-made ponds or in the ocean using net pens. Ponds that have man-made salty water are good for flat fish like sole. They use a recirculation system to keep the environment just right for producing healthy fish.

Aquaculture in net pens is a way to raise and farm fish like salmon. The net is held on the surface by a frame with floats and is kept in place by weights and anchors on the sea bed. We need to put a net over the floating frame to keep birds away from the fish and to prevent the salmon from jumping out and escaping. Fish nets are inspected, washed, and changed as the fish get bigger. The size of the netting is increased to ensure that there is enough oxygen for the fish and prevent waste from causing harm to the living conditions of the fish. This includes things like fish poop, dead fish, and leftover food. Eutrophication, which is harmful to the fish, is one example of the negative effects that waste can cause. Too many nutrients can be bad because they make invasive plants and tiny algae grow too much, which can suffocate the water.

Fish are given food using their hands. The food goes with the flow of the water. The food is usually made by factories and is made specially for the kind of fish being grown. This kind of place is cheap but there is a chance of things being stolen and it can be affected by the weather, so it needs to be watched and taken care of all the time. Shellfish farming, also known as mollusc farming, involves capturing baby shellfish that stick themselves to objects like sticks, cups, and ropes. These baby shellfish are then moved to different farming areas near the coast. Bivalves eat tiny plants and waste in the water, helping to clean it and stop too many nutrients from building up [8].

Traditional Methods

First, let's talk about regular farming. In regular trout farming, we take water from a river or spring. After the water loses its oxygen, we give it back to the river or stream. All the waste, TAN, and CO₂ are released without being cleaned or treated. This is a simple way of farming that uses natural resources. There are changes in the weather throughout the year that cause the water temperature to fluctuate, which makes it hard for plants to grow for a long time. Additionally, it can be difficult to find enough water during the summer. Risk of getting sick from diseases carried by wild fish and birds.

Expenses are not high and neither is the amount of work done, which is around 200 kilograms per liter per second on average. Usually, low energy diets are used because they are inexpensive and effective in different situations. In this case, the amount of oxygen in the water is the factor that limits something.

Semi-intensive Methods

By adding air to the water when it comes in, we can make sure there is 100% oxygen in it. This can be achieved using wheels or waterfalls. It allows us to have more fish in one area and produce more fish every year. On average, the amount of work that can be done can be increased by 50% to 300 kilograms per liter per second per year. The chance of something bad happening is still small because we don't need pumps and if the power goes out, the biomass will not die right away.

Medium energy feeds are often used because they help animals grow better and produce more efficiently than low energy diets. This means that when costs are increased, there can be enough benefits to make up for the extra expenses. The main thing that limits growth is still the amount of oxygen. However, during the summer when there is less water and lots of plants, carbon dioxide and ammonium can also become not enough and limit growth. The farm at the bottom gets its water from a natural spring. This is good because the water does not have any harmful germs or diseases in it. You need to be cautious when purchasing eggs and fingerlings in order to keep them free from diseases [9], [10].

Intensive Methods

Another way to produce a lot of trout is by farming them intensively. Intensive trout farming refers to a method of raising trout where liquid oxygen is used and the oxygen levels in the water are much higher than 100% at the input. We always keep a certain amount of oxygen in the outflow that is higher than what is necessary. Now we can put more trout in the fish farm because there is more oxygen for them. The expenses go up, but the amount of work done also goes up. Now we can make about 900-1000 kilograms per liter per second per year. For these situations, it is necessary to have diets that are high in energy because they promote quick growth and have a low food conversion ratio. Trout growth depends on the amount of food they eat. Even though the food that helps them grow more can be pricier, the benefits are worth it. The farm relies on energy, and if there's a power outage, generators are used as a backup. Currently, the water we have is being used to its fullest capacity for oxygen purposes. CO₂ and ammonium are now the main things that are stopping or limiting something from happening.

High risk System

Open-net: Open-net pens are like cages that are placed in places like oceans, coasts, or lakes. They are used for aquaculture, which is the farming of fish or other aquatic animals. However, they are considered risky because they allow the animals in the pens to freely interact with the environment around them. This is how people usually raise salmon. Open-net pens let waste, chemicals, parasites, and diseases move freely. Farmed fish can sometimes get away. Farms can also bring in predators like sea animals that might get caught in the nets surrounding fish farms and die.

Ponds: Ponds are small or large bodies of water that can be partially or completely surrounded by land. Tilapia and shrimp are usually raised in this manner. The waste that is let go must be separated and cleaned to be seen as a less dangerous way. Pond farms that are considered high-risk release dirty water into the environment, causing pollution. They can also destroy habitats severely. For instance, shrimp farms are a main reason why mangroves are being destroyed.

Low Risk System

Closed systems: Closed systems, also known as closed containment farming methods, use a barrier to control the movement between farms and the natural environment. This helps prevent pollution, fish escaping, harm to wildlife, and the spread of parasites and diseases from fish farms to oceans and freshwater systems. The most commonly seen closed systems are raceways and recirculating systems.

Raceways: Raceways are channels where water is taken away from rivers or wells. Raceways are often used to raise rainbow trout. In order for waste to be considered safe, it needs to be treated properly and measures must be taken to prevent fish from escaping.

Re-circulation systems: Re-circulation systems are a way of treating and reusing water instead of getting rid of it as waste. You can raise almost any kind of fish in recirculating systems. Some types of fish that are often raised in fish farms are Arctic char, striped bass, barramundi, sturgeon, and salmon is becoming more common. These systems are made to clean wastewater before it goes into rivers, lakes, or oceans. This helps to decrease pollution and prevent the spread of diseases and parasites. It is very difficult for fish to escape because the facilities have barriers that prevent them from getting out.

Suspended aquaculture: Suspended aquaculture means that farmers grow shellfish either on beaches or by hanging them in water using ropes, plastic trays, or mesh bags. The shellfish that are farmed using these methods are creatures that eat by filtering water and they only need clean water to grow well. Oysters, scallops, mussels, and clams are grown using hanging systems. Farming shellfish in suspended-aquaculture is usually safe and not risky, as long as the species being farmed is already found in that area, and the farm has enough water flow to avoid waste buildup.

CONCLUSION

Farmers grow shellfish in water, using plastic trays, ropes, or mesh bags. The shellfish grown this way are filter feeders, which means they only require clean water to grow. Suspension systems are used to grow oysters, scallops, mussels, and clams. If the type of shellfish being farmed is commonly found in the area and there is enough water flow to prevent trash from building up, then shellfish farming in suspended aquaculture usually carries a low risk. In simple terms, aquaculture is an important and changing area that helps provide enough seafood to meet the world's needs. The fish farming industry is trying to be responsible and reliable by using different methods to take care of the water quality, feed the fish in a sustainable way, and protect the environment. They want to reduce the negative impact they have on the environment. To sum up, aquaculture techniques and practices are important for meeting the increasing need for seafood without harming natural aquatic ecosystems. There are many different ways to grow different types of water animals, like fish and plants. This lets farmers choose the best method for their market and the environment. Good water quality management is crucial for successful aquaculture because it keeps the farmed species healthy and productive. The development of fish food that is both healthy and sustainable is an important achievement. It means that fish farmers can rely less on catching fish from the wild and help fish grow faster. Aquaculture is a great solution to meet the world's need for protein and protect marine ecosystems. By focusing on doing things responsibly and in a way that protects the environment, the fish farming industry can help provide enough food for the world and also reduce harm to the oceans and other aquatic environments. Aquaculture is helping shape our future food production by using new techniques and sustainable practices.

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CHAPTER 7

FISH HEALTH AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT: AQUATIC LIFE PROTECTION

Suresh Kawitkar, Professor
Department of ISME, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- suresh.kawitkar@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

Taking care of fish health and preventing diseases is really important for fish farming and fishing in the wild. This summary talks about important things to think about and ways to keep fish healthy and prevent diseases. Making sure that fish populations are healthy is very important for the long-term success and sustainability of fish farming and fishing industries. Disease outbreaks can cause a lot of money to be lost and can harm the environment. Therefore, it is very important to actively manage and prevent problems. Following strict rules to protect against diseases is the first way to prevent them. This means making sure we don't add too many new fish to existing groups, following careful steps to prevent spreading diseases, and being careful when moving fish from one place to another. It is important to teach fish farmers and fisheries managers how to prevent and manage diseases in fish. Knowledge dissemination means sharing information and spreading good methods for how things should be done in every part of the industry. Taking care of the environment and managing waste properly can help keep water environments healthy and prevent diseases. Avoiding overcrowding is also important. In simple terms, taking care of the health of fish and managing their diseases is really important for keeping aquaculture and fisheries successful and sustainable. It is important to use different strategies such as protecting against diseases, giving vaccines, finding diseases early and treating them responsibly to minimize their harm on fish populations. By following the best methods and doing research continuously, the aquaculture and fisheries industries can get better at keeping aquatic species healthy and safe.

KEYWORDS:

Disease, Fish, Health, Prevent, Virus.

INTRODUCTION

Taking care of hatchery fish is important. This means having a plan to manage them well and paying close attention to even the small things. In simpler terms, disease is when the body is not in its normal or healthy state. Fish can get sick from things that can pass on and things that are not contagious. Therefore, the best way to keep fish healthy is to raise them in a good place, provide them with good food, minimize their stress, and keep them away from things that can make them sick. We should try our best to prevent infectious diseases by keeping the fish away from any pathogens whenever we can. The best way to do this is to have clean water, use approved and clean supplies, and be very careful about cleanliness. The main reasons why we control infectious diseases in hatcheries are to avoid losing a lot of production, to avoid bringing diseases to new facilities when we move eggs, young fish, or breeding fish there, to stop diseases from spreading to wild fish through the water that comes out of the hatchery or when we release or put hatchery fish in the wild, and to stop diseases from getting worse if they are already found in the area where the hatchery is located. Some

fish diseases can affect humans, but it's only a small number. However, certain ways of raising fish can be dangerous if harmful chemicals are used or if the fish are contaminated with drugs or chemicals before being sold as food. If there is a disease outbreak, we should try really hard to get rid of the germ causing it from the place or fix what caused the disease, instead of just treating it often to prevent more outbreaks[1], [2].

This includes improving the system for diagnosing fish diseases, finding new diseases that affect fish, learning more about the diseases that are already known, making rules about how drugs and chemicals can be used in fish farming, using advanced methods to diagnose diseases better, understanding how diseases spread among fish, creating new rules to stop diseases from spreading, and finding new ways to treat diseases, like vaccines. This new chapter covers these topics. In simple terms, it is helpful to think of disease or health as a way for the body, the germs, and the surroundings to interact with each other. Host factors refer to characteristics of the fish that affect its ability to resist diseases. These characteristics can include the type of fish, how big or old it is, its genetic makeup, immune system strength, and overall health. The factors that affect how harmful a germ is include how many germs are present, what kind of germ it is, and how strong it is. The key to recognizing good health versus illness usually comes down to the relationship between harmful microorganisms and the person they infect. This relationship is strongly influenced by environmental conditions like temperature and water quality. For instance, when it's very hot, a germ can multiply more quickly and make the body weaker, leading to reduced ability to fight off sickness. Stress is a big factor in how likely fish are to get sick. Wild fish are usually balanced with the harmful germs that are common in a specific area. Usually, there aren't many cases of sickness unless there are big changes in the environment[3].

But, fish that are raised in close quarters often struggle with things like changes in temperature or water quality, as well as how they are taken care of, which can cause them a lot of stress and make it harder for their bodies to protect themselves. Some fish diseases are very strong and can make fish sick even in a well-run place. But many diseases are made worse by stress. For instance, there are many types of harmful bacteria in hatchery water, but fish usually don't get sick unless the environment is bad or their defense systems are weak. The best way to prevent these diseases is by managing the hatchery well. To keep the environment clean and prevent diseases, it's important to have good quality water, fewer fish in one area, and provide them with good food. Fish culturists need to be aware of two additional types of diseases, apart from those caused by harmful organisms. The first type is related to food and is typically caused by not eating enough or keeping food stored improperly. The second is caused by things in the environment, like not taking care of the eggs properly and having dirty water. Both of these types of illnesses can cause big problems if they are really bad or not treated for a long time. Although we discuss these diseases in other sections of this book, it's crucial to remember that these noninfectious diseases can work together with infectious agents to cause very large amounts of damage[4], [5].

DISCUSSION

There are many types of viruses, bacteria, fungi, small living organisms, and larger living organisms that can make fish sick. Usually, they can be put into two groups: pathogens or parasites, but sometimes it's difficult to tell them apart. Viruses are extremely small agents that need living cells to make more of themselves. They usually need a specific host and certain parts of that host to survive and replicate. Viruses need a host to survive and can only exist in a non-replicating form when they are not inside a host. Bacteria that cannot survive without a host are called obligate pathogens. On the other hand, there are bacterial fish pathogens that can live freely in nature and only cause problems for fish when they get a

chance. Protozoa and metazoans are types of parasites that can live either inside or on the outside of another living creature. Germs or bugs in fish don't always make them sick, but they might still be in their bodies without showing any symptoms.

Disease Recognition

Only a small number of fish diseases have symptoms or actions that are unique to that particular disease. However, if you pay close attention to the behaviors of the fish, you can usually determine the specific cause of the disease. Some signs that fish with a disease show are: not wanting to eat; swimming in strange places like at the top of the water, by the sides of the tank, or in calm areas, or bunching together at certain spots; rapidly moving, rubbing against the bottom or sides of their enclosure, quickly turning or spinning, or having trouble staying upright; and being weak, lacking energy, and not being able to handle being handled, sorted, caught, loaded, or moved around easily. Apart from changes in behavior, illness can cause physical signs, like visible sores or marks on the body. These disgusting signs can be on the outside, inside, or both.

Visible signs of disease include dark or discolored spots on the body, open wounds or sores on the body or fins, abnormal growths or swelling on the body or gills, bulging eyes, and bleeding, particularly around the head and fins. Gross internal signs of disease are when the color of organs or tissues changes like getting lighter or more red there are bleeds in organs or tissues; the texture or size of organs or tissues change; there is a build-up of fluid in body spaces; and there are cysts, tumors, or wounds. In addition to changes in how the fish act and look, information about the history of the disease at the place where they live, where they are located, the type of fish they are, how old they are, the temperature of the water they live in, and what time of year it is can help in making a preliminary diagnosis. If you think your fish is very sick, you should contact a fish doctor right away. They can help figure out what is making your fish sick and come up with a plan to make them feel better and prevent further harm[6], [7].

Defence Mechanisms

Just like other living things, fish need to stop too many tiny organisms from growing on their bodies and invading their tissues in order to stay healthy. Microorganisms invading the body are stopped by physical barriers, and their growth is controlled by the body's natural and acquired defense systems. Physical barriers are things that can protect and defend us. Fish eggs are kept safe by a strong outer layer called the chorion, which can withstand physical damage and chemical substances. However, while the egg is developing, it can get infected or contaminated by viruses or bacteria that are in the female body. Once the baby fish have hatched, they are very likely to get sick. In simple terms, when infectious germs are passed from a parent to their baby through the egg, it is called vertical transmission. Fish have natural defense systems like mucus, scales, and skin that help keep them safe from harm and diseases. For instance, the skin prevents germs from sticking to it by making and shedding mucus. This makes it so that harmful bugs can only stay on the skin for a short time.

Immune system

Mucus can have substances that fight against germs, like antibodies or other germ-killing things. It can also have antibodies made after getting sick or getting a vaccine. The gill tissue also has mucus cells that do the same thing as the cells in the skin. But, things that cause irritation can make mucus build up on the gills and make it hard for an animal to breathe, which can be deadly. This is an example of a way the body protects itself from harm that can also harm the body. The fish's immune system has two types of defense mechanisms. The

first type, called nonspecific defense mechanisms or natural immunity, can fight against many different organisms. The second type, called specific defense mechanisms, is developed after the fish has recovered from an infection or has been given a vaccine for a specific pathogen. Also, defense mechanisms that are not specific to a certain infection and those that are specific can be either naturally present or caused by getting infected or vaccinated. One of the main ways our bodies protect themselves is through inflammation in our blood vessels. This happens when harmful things try to invade our body. The widening of small blood vessels helps to bring more infection-fighting substances to the area of the body that is infected[8], [9].

The body's inflammatory response works to weaken, target, eliminate, and get rid of the substance that caused the response. Fish have defense mechanisms called phagocytes in their lymphatic and circulatory systems. These phagocytes protect the fish from harm. Phagocytes are cells that can eat bacteria, foreign particles, and infected cells. Fish have their own built-in defenses against diseases. They have special cells called natural killer cells and natural antibodies that help fight off infections. These defenses are unique to each species and each individual fish. One example is when the body makes interferon to fight off a virus. This response helps protect against different types of viruses, including the one that caused it. These defenses could explain why some fish species and strains are better at fighting off certain diseases than others. Some variations in how fish resist diseases can be passed down from parents to offspring because of their genes. Fish have a good immune system that can make antibodies and respond to foreign substances in different ways. The immune system has two parts: humoral and cellular. Both parts help fight viruses, bacteria, parasites, and fungi, but they are different in how much they are needed to fight each type of pathogen.

The fish's immune system has an increase in certain cells that help fight off infections, and can remember past infections to some extent. These vaccines can be used to protect fish from diseases by stimulating their specific, adaptive immune responses. Cold-blooded animals rely on the temperature of their surroundings to activate their immune system. When the water temperature gets too cold for a fish, it can make the fish's immune system not work as well or take longer to start working. Other things in the environment that bother the fish, along with certain physical conditions like spawning, can make the immune response of the fish weaker or less effective. Age is a significant thing to consider. The fish's special defense system starts to form after it hatches from its egg. However, it may take a few months for the defense system to work fully. This depends on the type of fish and the temperature around it.

Genetic resistance

Research has found that certain traits related to resisting fish diseases are strongly influenced by genetic factors. In easy words: sicknesses, and, in a controlled environment, some got worse. A managed breeding program can help protect against a disease. However, it can be tough to choose plants that are resistant to many diseases, unless the diseases are closely related to each other. Disease resistance has been boosted in hatcheries, either on purpose or by accident. By using survivors of outbreaks as parent fish over and over again. Potential means the possibility or chance that something could happen or become true. There are methods to choose and breed fish with better genetics to improve their chances of survival. However, there are also potential dangers that need to be considered when undertaking large-scale breeding projects. This program may go against programs that are meant to protect the genes of wild populations. The traits of a population over time. An increase in one trait can result in a decrease in another trait that is also wanted, such as growth or reproduction.

Fecundity means the ability of something to produce many offspring or reproduce. their organization in order to fit their own personal interests and agendas. This can include making decisions that may benefit themselves personally, but harm the overall health and success of the organization. Selective breeding programs can sometimes cause negative changes in the stock that are not desirable. In any group of fish, there may be individual fish that are more or less able to fight off the common diseases. animals, there exists a phenomenon called natural selection. This means that individuals with certain traits that are advantageous for their survival and reproduction are more likely to pass on their genes to the next generation. Over time, this leads to a gradual change in the characteristics of the population, as those advantageous traits become more common. Fish, the differences in genes among individuals are important. Make sure that not all fish in the group are equally likely to get sick during this time. When the environment or the amount and kinds of harmful germs change. Variations are kept the same. If there's no good reason not to, any program that makes more of something should make sure it doesn't end up being different [10], [11].

Fish Disease

Fish can be used as an ingredient in food. Since fish health is a new field, there aren't many books or references that the hatchery manager could use. Furthermore, the resources and support for managing fish health in hatcheries were inadequate in several places. In the past 20 years, a lot more information about fish diseases has been discovered and many good resources are now available to learn about the signs, diagnosis, and treatment of these diseases. In addition, the number of diseases that are affecting farmed fish has been increasing because new types of fish are being raised or because existing types of fish are being farmed in new places. In simple words: The group of fish health experts has gotten better and many organizations have made books with standard ways to figure out what diseases fish have. This new edition will only give a brief overview of the most important diseases that affect fish species in North America. The information in the following sections is based on references listed at the end of this chapter. To get more information, you should look at these references. It is believed that a good hatchery manager should have a collection of these references in their library and a good connection with a fish health expert who can give them advice on how to diagnose and treat fish diseases. Fish viral diseases are significant because they can cause huge, uncontrollable losses and are regulated by authorities at different levels.

Because fish viral diseases cannot be treated and there aren't many vaccines to prevent them, the best option to control them is to avoid getting infected with the pathogen. The best way to do this is by raising fish in water that doesn't have any viruses, using only fish that have been certified as virus-free, being very careful about cleanliness, and following strict rules for quarantine. It is easier to prevent getting sick from viruses than dealing with the consequences or trying to remove them from a place once they are there, even though it takes some effort. Viral diseases can be a big problem for hatcheries that have open water supplies and are in an area where the disease is common. For instance, before they found ways to prevent the spread of a harmful virus called infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV), it was difficult to raise sockeye salmon in Alaskan hatcheries with open water sources. This was because the virus was found in almost all wild adult salmon that were reproducing in different areas. The original version of this book included pictures and detailed explanations of a lot of the main diseases that affected young fish at the time. The text is saying that the treatment suggestions included the use of drugs or chemicals that were not officially allowed.

Also, it mentioned that fish viruses can infect different species of fish. Some viruses can infect many different types of species, while others can only infect certain tissues within one

type of species. Likewise, different types of fish viruses can have big genetic differences, which can make them either more or less harmful or make them react differently to tests that check for the viruses. Many types of viruses exist in specific areas. It is necessary to keep them within their original location. The diagnosis of viral diseases has traditionally been done by growing the virus in cells and identifying it using different methods such as neutralization, fluorescent antibody, and enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays. These methods take a lot of time, require a lot of effort, and need specific training and equipment. In the last few years, molecular biology has developed new tools for diagnosing illnesses. These tools are very fast and accurate. Some new methods being used to identify a viral pathogen are monoclonal antibodies, DNA probes, and the polymerase chain reaction (PCR). However, many of the necessary certification exams still use cell culture methods because they are considered reliable or standard tests. Sometimes, scientists have created ways to not kill fish when studying diseases. One way is by finding certain antibodies in the fish's body, and another way is by using a special technique called PCR to look for the virus in samples like blood or mucus without hurting the fish.

Although it is easy to identify a viral disease, it is more difficult to understand how it should be treated. Fish viral diseases can be caused by different strains of the virus, which can have differences in how they affect the fish, how they react to tests, or how they grow. Because of this, it may be necessary to study the virus more before we can decide what to do with the affected fish. For instance, if a fish has a small amount of IHNV, it should not be taken to other places with fish infected with IHNV, unless it is confirmed that the same type of virus is present there. Similarly, if a different type of virus appears or is brought into a hatchery, it should be treated carefully and with concern. Since the first version of this book, there have been a lot more fish viruses discovered. We will only discuss a few of these viruses in this text. Other diseases that spread easily may also be important in the local area. It is important for fish hatchery managers to know about these diseases that could affect the species of fish they are breeding in their facility and are common in that specific area. A lot of viral diseases that affect fish are listed by the Office International des Epizooties. Some are labeled as "Notifiable" or "Other Significant Diseases," while a few others are mentioned because they are important for aquaculture.

Necrosis Infectious hematopoietic necrosis (IHN) is a serious disease that affects rainbow or steelhead trout, Pacific salmon (such as chinook, sockeye, chum, cherry), and Atlantic salmon. In the past, IHN only affected the western parts of North America. However, the disease, which is caused by a virus called IHNV, has now spread to continental Europe and the Far East because infected fish and eggs have been brought there. IHN is worrying because it affects both the health and money of trout and salmon farms, as well as the wellbeing of wild fish populations. Infection can be deadly because it affects the balance of fluids in the body. It often leads to swelling and bleeding. The virus multiplies in certain cells found in blood vessels, tissues related to blood production, and cells in the kidneys. This is what causes the symptoms people experience. Infected young fish release a lot of virus into their surroundings. Older fish are getting better at fighting off infections, but adult fish that are ready to reproduce can still spread viruses through their reproductive materials. People who have survived IHNV infection have a strong immunity because their body makes antibodies against the virus.

Some people may also have a hidden carrier state where they still have the virus in their body but don't show symptoms. Different levels of how harmful IHNV strains are have been observed in both real cases of disease and in tests. The sources of IHNV are fish that show signs of infection and fish that carry the virus without showing any signs. These fish can be

found in fish farms, in the wild, or among feral fish. The virus comes out of the body through poop, pee, sex fluids, and snot. During an infection, the virus is mostly found in the kidney, spleen, brain, and digestive tract. IHNV mainly spreads from fish to fish in a horizontal way. Sometimes, it can also be passed from parents to their eggs, which is known as vertical or "egg-associated" transmission. Horizontal transmission usually happens when individuals come into direct contact with each other. However, some experts suggest that certain small animals without backbones could also help spread diseases in some situations. Egg-associated transmission of IHN, a fish disease, is greatly reduced when eggs are disinfected with iodophor solution.

However, egg-associated transmission is the only way the disease can spread to new areas if the eggs were hatched in virus-free water. When IHNV spreads to fish farms or water systems, the disease can stay in fish that carry it. Among different types of fish, each fish species has a lot of differences in how easily they can get sick from IHNV. The age of the fish seems to be really important. Younger fish are more likely to get sick. Just like with VHSV, if fish are healthy overall, they are less likely to get sick with IHN. However, if they are stressed or handled incorrectly, they may develop IHN even if they don't show obvious signs of the disease. The main thing that affects IHN is how hot or cold the water is. Disease can happen naturally when the temperature is between 8°C and 15°C. Ways to control IHN currently depend on staying away from the virus by following strict rules and being clean and healthy. To prevent IHNV in a specific fish farm, it is crucial to thoroughly clean fertilized eggs and ensure that the eggs and young fish are kept in virus-free water. Currently, vaccination is being tested to see if it works. Some new vaccines have shown great potential in both lab tests and real-world trials.

Bacterial diseases are typically diagnosed by using a light microscope to look at bacteria samples and by growing the bacteria on specific lab media. After that, they are identified by conducting tests on their biochemical or serological properties. In recent times, methods in molecular biology like PCR have given us quick and sensitive options. Many diseases in fish caused by bacteria can be treated with drugs or chemicals. However, the use of these compounds is worrying because it has become more widespread. This has led to stricter rules being enforced in North America and Europe. These rules have greatly reduced the amount of substances that can be used and the specific ways they can be used within the law. Furthermore, it is important to follow the designated waiting period for using fish as food after applying a medication to ensure safety. Good news! There are now effective vaccines that you can buy to help prevent important bacterial diseases in fish. Even more vaccines are expected to be available soon. As mentioned before, stress makes fish more likely to get sick. This is because stress helps harmful bacteria in the water cause diseases. Taking care of the hatcheries in the right way can make a big difference for preventing diseases and keeping the fish healthy. Here are some examples of sickness caused by bacteria in fish farms. The list does not have everything, so the hatchery manager should get advice from a fish health expert. They should learn about bacterial diseases that affect the types of fish they are raising in their area. The expert will know the approved ways to prevent or treat these diseases.

CONCLUSION

Finding solutions to health issues in aquaculture production and trade is now a big priority. It involves both actively making plans and taking preventive measures. The current plan in the Asia-Pacific region focuses on taking care of health responsibly to reduce the chances of diseases spreading. This is particularly important because of the movement of live underwater animals and their products. If we don't take the right steps to manage health risks, the agriculture sector will be in danger from serious diseases and new illnesses. This will

cause both the government and the private sector to suffer financial losses and require more work. Prevent and get rid of diseases, money that could have been used more effectively to stop diseases from entering the system. It may be more important to focus on how to prevent fish from getting sick, using better ways to take care of them, and keeping them healthy, rather than worrying about the reasons behind their sickness. Taking care of health is a responsibility for everyone, and each person involved plays a vital role in managing health.

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CHAPTER 8

NUTRITION AND FEEDING IN AQUACULTURE: KEY OF SUCCESSFUL AQUACULTURE

Kshipra Jain, Assistant Professor
Department of ISME, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- kshipra.jain@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

The food and nutrients given to aquatic animals in aquaculture are really important. They have a big impact on the animals' growth, health, and ability to survive in the long term. This summary talks about important things to think about and ways to feed fish in fish farming. Creating well-balanced diets is crucial for the success of aquaculture. Feed formulations are designed to give animals the important things they need to stay healthy, like proteins, fats, vitamins, and minerals. The feed is made specifically for each type of animal and their different stages of life. Finding and using ingredients for animal feed in a way that is not harmful to the environment is becoming more and more important. Using other sources of protein and fat, like plants, insects, and algae, instead of traditional fishmeal and fish oil can help the industry depend less on catching fish from the wild. Taking care of how you feed is really important for helping things grow well and not wasting anything. Automatic feeders and feeding schedules help make sure fish get the correct amount of food without giving them too much. Giving fish too much food can cause problems with the water quality. Feed Conversion Ratios are important in aquaculture. We need to monitor and improve them to measure how efficiently we use feed. Lower FCR values mean that animals are using their feed more efficiently, which saves money and has a smaller impact on the environment. Certain types of animals need certain kinds of food or have certain types of food they like. Some fish like to eat plants while others like to eat meat.

KEYWORDS:

Aquaculture, Energy, Food, Feed, Water.

INTRODUCTION

Aquaculture feeds are made up of many ingredients. These ingredients are given to the animal to provide the nutrients it needs to stay healthy and perform its regular body functions. This includes having a strong immune system, growing, and reproducing. To make sure that the body gets enough nutrients from food, different types of non-nutritive additives are added to food for aquatic animals. These additives help the body break down and absorb the nutrients and then transport them to the cells. There are many different kinds of additives used in fish food. Some substances are added to animal feed to improve its quality, such as pellet binders, substances that prevent it from falling apart, antioxidants, substances that prevent it from spoiling, and preservatives that help prevent mold and bacteria growth. Enzymes are used to make certain nutrients easier to get or to get rid of certain substances that make nutrients less effective phytase, nonstarch polysaccharides NSP enzymes. Other substances are added to help the animals do better and stay healthy. Functional aquafeeds are a new way of making food for fish and crustaceans. The process of turning food into the body's growth starts in the animal's digestion system [1], [2].

Therefore, the overall health and functioning ability of the farmer's farm has a direct impact on their economic outcomes. We know from studying mammals that the digestive system is affected by many different stressors. Some common symptoms include deterioration of the lining of the intestines and disruption of its ability to protect and absorb nutrients. The health of our gut is closely related to having a balanced mix of good bacteria in our intestines. These bacteria help with digestion, absorption, and also keep us safe from harmful pathogens. Some research has found that what animals eat and changes in their diet can affect their gut structure and balance of bacteria, which can impact how well they digest and absorb nutrients. Changing the makeup of microorganisms in the intestines and reducing the number of helpful ones may cause problems in the gut. Taking care of the bacteria in the digestive system is very important for animals to have good digestion, growth, and overall health. Different methods have been used to fight against bacterial and viral problems. The most common way is through chemotherapy, which uses a lot of antibiotics and chemicals to help. These days, we have better ways to take care of the bacteria in fish's stomachs and help them perform better [3], [4].

We can add special food supplements to their meals that can help make them healthier and perform better. There are different ways to control and take care of the inside of a fish's body. This includes using helpful bacteria, natural substances, and acids made from plants. The energy needed to produce food for fish farming comes from activities like farming and fishing to get the materials to make the fish food. These materials are then processed and turned into feed, which is then ground up. Of course, we need energy to transport ingredients and feeds. Researchers analyzed the life cycles of various aquaculture species to figure out how much energy they use. However, they couldn't determine exactly how much energy is used for feeding from these studies. On average, the energy used for each species in the LCA studies was about 26 gigajoules per ton of live fish produced. In 2010, the world produced 59.88 million tons of fish and other aquatic goods through farming. This calculation mainly looked at the energy used to make and transport the fish feed. If we look at the production in 2010, this value would be about 0.45 EJ which means 28.8% of the total energy used in aquaculture, according to the LCA studies talked about before. Of course, a large portion of aquaculture production is done without using any feed. Feeds contribute more to the total energy used in feed-based aquaculture compared to the average estimated value mentioned earlier. For instance, a recent study looked at how catfish are farmed in ponds in the southern United States. According to Boyd's research that has not been published yet, about 60% of the energy used in the production process, including building ponds and delivering the fish, was used for feeding [5].

Balanced fish farming food production is a complex process that includes many factors: the ingredients used, the mix of nutrients, how it's delivered, how well it sells, and even how the weather affects the farming practices and the availability and cost of leftovers from other industries. But, the most important thing is how the feed mill works. Feed mill operations are always changing and active. All parts of the system work together to make sure the feed is safe and balanced. Some things that can change how things work might be very complicated, like rules for how the market works. Other things might be very simple, like tightening a screw. However, the aquaculture industry is looking for more affordable and effective feeds that help animals grow and survive. These feeds often contain important ingredients and compounds. Also, more and more people are starting to use proteins from plants instead of proteins from animals. Producing the best animal feed with the best conversion of food to weight depends mostly on the quality of the ingredients and the availability of nutrients for the specific animal species. Finding out how well a living thing's body can use the important parts of food is an important part of understanding how good the food is for that living thing.

Measuring how easily animals can digest protein is very important for feeding high-value animals in aquaculture[6], [7].

DISCUSSION

In animal production systems, good nutrition is critical to the economical production of a healthy, high-quality output. Nutrition is crucial in fish farming aquaculture since feed accounts for almost half of the variable production cost. In recent years, fish nutrition has evolved substantially with the introduction of new, balanced commercial diets that support optimum fish growth and health. The creation of novel species-specific diet formulations aids the aquaculture industry's expansion in order to meet rising demand for economical, safe, high-quality fish and seafood. Prepared or artificial meals may be either comprehensive or supplementary in nature. Complete diets include all of the components protein, carbs, lipids, vitamins, and minerals required for the fish's optimum development and health. Most fish farms employ complete diets, which generally include the following components and percentage ranges: protein 18-50%, lipids 10-25%, carbohydrate 15-20%, and ash raceways. Supplemental diets do not provide a complete range of vitamins and minerals, but are often used to supplement the naturally available diet with additional protein, carbohydrate, and/or fats.

Protein

Because protein is the most costly component of fish feed, determining the protein needs for each species and life stage farmed is critical. Individual amino acid connections combine to produce proteins. Although there are about 200 amino acids found in nature, only roughly 20 are commonly used. Ten of these are essential amino acids that fish cannot produce. Methionine, arginine, threonine, tryptophan, histidine, isoleucine, lysine, leucine, valine, and phenylalanine are the ten essential amino acids that must be obtained via the food. Lysine and methionine are often the initial limiting amino acids. Fish meals made from plant protein for example, soybean meal are often low in methionine. Meanwhile, fish diets made from bacterial or yeast proteins are often low in methionine and lysine. As a result, when these protein sources are utilized to replace fishmeal, these amino acids must be provided in the diet. To maintain optimum development and health, it is critical to understand and meet each fish species' dietary protein and particular amino acid needs. In general, protein levels in aquaculture feeds range from 30 to 35 percent for shrimp, 28-32 percent for catfish, 35-40 percent for tilapia, 38-42 percent for hybrid striped bass, and 40-45 percent for trout and other marine finfish[8], [9].

In general, herbivorous plant-eating and omnivorous plant and animal eaters fish have lower protein needs than carnivorous flesh-eating fish. Protein needs are greater in high-density systems e.g., recirculating aquaculture than in low-density systems e.g., ponds. Protein needs are often greater for smaller and younger fish. Protein needs of fish often decrease as they become bigger. Protein needs vary depending on the rearing environment, water temperature, and water quality, as well as the fish's genetic makeup and feeding rates. Protein is needed for fish development if the food contains enough lipids and carbs energy. If this is not the case, the more costly protein may be utilized for energy and survival rather than growth. Proteins are made up of 50% carbon, 16% nitrogen, 21.5 percent oxygen, 6.5 percent hydrogen, and 6.0 percent other elements. Fish may consume a high-protein diet, but up to 65 percent of the protein can be lost to the environment. The majority of nitrogen is expelled as ammonia NH_3 from fish gills, with just 10% discharged as solid waste. Surface water eutrophication nutrient enrichment caused by excess nitrogen from fish farm effluents may be a serious water quality

hazard for fish farmers. To preserve downstream water quality, appropriate feeds, feeding procedures, and waste management practices are required.

Lipids

Lipids are high-energy nutrients that may be used to supplement replace protein in aquaculture diets. Proteins and carbs have about double the energy density of lipids. Lipids make up roughly 7-15 percent of fish diets, provide vital fatty acids, and act as fat-soluble vitamin transporters. Higher quantities of lipids in the diet are a recent trend in fish feeds. While increasing dietary lipids may assist lower feed costs by partly saving protein in the feed, issues such as excessive fat deposition in the liver can compromise fish health, quality, and shelf life. Fatty acids and triacylglycerols are examples of simple lipids. Fish normally need omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids n-3 and n-6. Saturated fatty acids no double bonds, polyunsaturated fatty acids >2 double bonds, and highly unsaturated fatty acids >4 double bonds are the three types of fatty acids. Marine fish and algal oils are naturally abundant in omega-3 highly unsaturated fatty acids >30% and are good lipid sources for the production of fish meals. These lipids may be deposited in the muscle of fish.

People who eat these fillets may benefit from the health advantages of omega-3 fatty acid-rich meals, such as decreased feelings of depression and enhanced cardiovascular health. For optimum development and health, marine fish need omega-3 fatty acids in amounts ranging from 0.5 to 2.0 percent of the dry diet. This group's two main essential fatty acids are eicosapentaenoic acid EPA: 20:5n-3 and docosahexaenoic acid DHA: 22:6n-3. Freshwater fish do not need long-chain highly unsaturated fatty acids, but they do require linolenic acid 18:3-n-3, an 18-carbon n-3 fatty acid, in amounts ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 percent of dry food. Freshwater fish cannot manufacture this fatty acid, thus it must be obtained via the food. Many freshwater fish may use enzyme systems to elongate and desaturate linolenic acid, resulting in the longer-chain omega-3 fatty acids EPA and DHA, which are required for various metabolic processes and as cellular membrane components. Because marine fish lack these elongation and desaturation enzyme systems, they must consume longchain omega-3 fatty acids. Other fish species, such as tilapia, need n-6 fatty acids, while catfish requires a mix of n-3 and n-6 fatty acids[10], [11].

Carbohydrates

Carbohydrates starches and sugars are the cheapest energy sources for fish diets. Carbohydrates, although not required, are used in aquaculture diets to minimize feed costs and for their binding activity during feed manufacture. Dietary starches may be used in the extrusion of floating feeds. Cooking starch during the extrusion process increases its bioavailability to fish. Carbohydrates are stored in fish as glycogen, which may be mobilized to meet energy needs. They are an important source of energy for mammals but are inefficiently utilised by fish. Mammals, for example, can extract around 4 calories of energy from one gram of carbohydrate, but fish can only take approximately 1.6 calories from the same quantity of carbohydrate. Fish may consume up to 20% of their dietary carbs. Vitamins are chemical components that are required in the diet to ensure appropriate fish development and health. They are often not generated by fish and must be consumed. Water-soluble vitamins and fat-soluble vitamins are the two types of vitamins. B vitamins thiamine, riboflavin, niacin, pantothenic acid, pyridoxine, biotin, folic acid, and cobalamins, inositol, choline, and vitamin C ascorbic acid are all water-soluble. Vitamin C is perhaps the most significant of them since it is a potent antioxidant and improves the immune system of fish and shrimp. Vitamins A retinol, betacarotene, D cholecalciferol, E tocopherols, and K phyloquinone are all fat-soluble. Vitamin E is the most well-known of them due to its crucial

function as an antioxidant. Vitamins E and C, when included in feed, also aid to prolong shelf life by inhibiting dietary lipid oxidation. Each vitamin deficit has its own set of symptoms, but the most frequent indication of any vitamin deficiency is stunted development. Scoliosis bent backbone symptom and dark pigmentation may be caused by ascorbic acid and folic acid deficits, respectively.

Minerals

Minerals are inorganic elements that must be consumed in order for the body to operate normally. They are classified as macrominerals or microminerals depending on the amount necessary in the diet and the amount found in fish. Many minerals may be absorbed directly from the water by fish through their gills and skin, enabling them to compensate for mineral shortages in their diet to some degree. Calcium, sodium, chloride, potassium, chlorine, sulphur, phosphorus, and magnesium are common dietary macrominerals. These minerals help in bone development and integrity by regulating osmotic equilibrium. Iron, copper, chromium, iodine, manganese, zinc, and selenium are examples of common microminerals. These trace minerals are needed in minute quantities as components of enzyme and hormone systems.

Protein and energy

Dietary nutrients are required for the development of living tissues. They also provide energy for fish digestion, absorption, growth, reproduction, and other life functions. The nutritional value of a food element is determined in part by its capacity to provide energy. In prepared diets, physiological fuel values are employed to determine and balance available energy values. Protein, carbohydrate, and fat generally provide 4, 4, and 9 calories per gram, respectively. To produce an optimal diet, the protein-to-energy ratio for each fish species must be evaluated individually.

Excess energy in the diet compared to protein content may result in increased lipid accumulation. Because fish eat to satisfy their energy needs, diets high in energy may result in decreased feed intake and weight increase. Similarly, a diet with insufficient energy content might result in decreased weight increase because the fish are unable to consume enough feed to meet their energy needs for development. The energy-to-protein ratio in properly designed prepared diets is nicely balanced.

Types of Feed

Extruded floating or buoyant or pressure-pelleted sinking feeds are used in commercial fish diets. Both floating and sinking feed may generate sufficient development, however some fish prefer floating feed while others prefer sinking feed. Although shrimp will not eat floating feed, most fish species may be taught to accept floating pellets. Because of the greater production expenses, extruded feeds are more costly. eating a floating extruded feed is usually beneficial since the farmer can immediately watch the eating intensity of his fish and modify feeding rates appropriately. It is critical to determine if feeding rates are either low or too high in order to maximize fish development and feed utilization efficiency. Feed comes in a range of sizes, from tiny crumbles for little fish to huge 1/2-inch or larger pellets. The pellet size should be around 20-30% the size of the fish's mouth gape. Feeding a pellet that is too tiny leads in inefficient feeding since more energy is used in locating and consuming additional pellets. Pellets that are overly big, on the other hand, can reduce eating and, in severe cases, can induce choking. Choose the maximum size of feed that the fish will actively consume. Feed pellet size recommendations for various species and life stages are often provided by feed suppliers.

Feeding Frequency, Rate, and Timing

Feeding rates and frequencies are affected by fish size. Small larval fish and fry need a high-protein diet on a regular and typically excessive basis. Small fish have a high energy need and must eat virtually constantly and be fed almost hourly. Overfeeding little fish is not as bad as overfeeding bigger fish since small fish need a modest quantity of feed in relation to the volume of water in the culture system. Feeding rates, frequency, and feed protein concentration should be lowered as fish develop. Feeding less, rather than transitioning to a reduced protein diet, may enable the grower to utilize the same feed protein content throughout the grow-out stage, simplifying feed inventory and storage. Fish feeding is time-consuming and costly. The frequency of feeding is determined by labour availability, farm size, production technique, and fish species and sizes produced. Due to time and labour constraints, large catfish farms with several ponds often feed just once each day, but smaller farms may feed twice every day. In general, feeding frequency increases growth and feed conversion.

Fish in indoor, intensive fish culture systems may be fed up to five times per day to enhance development at optimal temperatures. Many variables influence fish feeding rates. Life stage, time of day, season, water temperature, dissolved oxygen levels, and other water quality factors are examples of these. Feeding fish reared in ponds, for example, is not recommended early in the morning when the dissolved oxygen levels are lowest. In contrast, fish may be fed at almost any time in recirculating aquaculture systems where oxygen is continually provided. Feeding rates of warm-water fish in ponds diminish and should decrease accordingly over the winter and at low water temperatures. The components and feed quality influence feed acceptability, palatability, and digestibility. Feed activity is closely monitored by fish farms to assist assess feed acceptance, compute feed conversion ratios and feed efficiency, monitor feed costs, and track feed demand throughout the year. Feeding rate tables for the most widely cultivated fish species are provided. Farmers may compute optimal feeding rates based on the average length or weight of the fish as well as the quantity of fish in the tank, raceway, or pond New, 1987. Farmed fish are routinely fed 1 to 5% of their body weight every day.

Feeders that work automatically

Hand feeding, automated feeding, and demand feeding are all options for feeding fish. Many fish farmers like to hand-feed their fish every day to ensure that they are healthy, actively eating, and not displaying any abnormalities. Large catfish farms often use feed trucks equipped with compressed air blowers to evenly disperse toss feed around the pond. Automatic timed feeders range in design from belt feeders that use wind-up springs to electric vibrating feeders to timed feeders that may be set to feed hourly or for prolonged periods of time. Electricity or batteries are not required for demand feeders. They are often hung above fish tanks and raceways, and they function by enabling the fish to initiate feed release by contacting a moving rod that extends into the water. A little quantity of feed is delivered into the tank whenever a fish contacts the trigger. Automatic and demand feeders save time, labour, and money, but they do so at the price of the attentiveness required for hand-feeding. Some growers employ night lights and bug zappers to attract and kill flying insects and bugs, providing a natural food supply for their fish.

Feed Maintenance and Storage

Large farms often buy commercial fish feed in bulk in truckloads and store it outdoors in bins. Smaller farms often purchase prepackaged feed in 50-pound sacks. Bagged feed should be kept as cold as possible and away of direct sunlight. Vitamins, proteins, and lipids are

particularly heat-sensitive, and high storage temperatures may easily denature them. Mould development and feed degradation are accelerated by high moisture levels. Avoid undue handling and damage to the feed bags, which might shatter the pellets and produce fines powder that the fish will not ingest. Feed should not be kept for more than 90 to 100 days and should be inventoried on a regular basis. Bags should not be piled higher than 10 high since the weight of the top bags may crush pellets in lower bags, resulting in extra fines dust. Older feed should be utilized first, and all feed should be examined for mould on a regular basis before feeding. Mouldy feed should be dumped right away. Mice, rats, roaches, and other pests should be properly managed in the feed storage area because they eat, contaminate, and spread illnesses.

Medicated Animal Feeds

When fish diminish or cease eating, it is a warning that there is a problem. Off-feed behaviour is the earliest symptom of difficulty in the fish growth system, such as illness or decrease in water quality. The United States has authorized a small number of medicinal medications for fish. However, certain medicinal diets for ill fish are available, according to the Food and Drug Administration. Although medicated feeds are one of the simplest methods to treat fish, they must be given rapidly and early since sick fish usually stop eating. Medicated feeds need a veterinarian's prescription and should only be used as directed. Any remaining medicated feed should be disposed of carefully.

Waste Management for Fish

Overfeeding is the most essential guideline in fish nutrition. Overfeeding wastes valuable feed. Water contamination, low dissolved oxygen levels, higher biological oxygen demand, and increased bacterial loads are other consequences. Fish should typically be given simply the quantity of food that they can take fast in less than five to ten minutes. A decent general rule of thumb is to feed the fish around 80% of the quantity of feed they want satiation. In this method, you feed for one day as much as the fish would ingest on a regular basis, possibly twice a month. Then, for the following three weeks, feed about 80% of that ration and repeat. Many growers employ floating extruded feeds to monitor feeding activities and determine if more or less feed should be provided. Even with meticulous administration, some feed is wasted. For example, 40 to 50 percent of the feed provided to fish is squandered: zero to five units of feed are uneaten wasted, while fish create 10 to 15 units of solid waste and 30 to 35 units of liquid waste. About 25 units of the leftover feed are utilized for growth, and another 25 units are used for metabolism heat energy for living functions. These figures may vary substantially depending on species, size, activity, water temperature, and other environmental factors.

CONCLUSION

Finally, nutrition and feeding techniques in aquaculture are critical components that affect the industry's performance, sustainability, and environmental effect. The capacity of aquaculture to generate healthy and marketable aquatic creatures is based on the design of well-balanced meals customized to the individual demands of various species and life stages. The industry's dedication to minimizing its dependence on wild-caught fish sources and addressing environmental problems is shown by the transition toward sustainable components such as alternative proteins and lipids. Monitoring and increasing feed conversion ratios demonstrates that efficient feeding management not only improves growth but also reduces resource waste and nutrient outflow. Recognizing and modifying diets to the particular nutritional needs of distinct species is critical for improving production efficiency and reducing health concerns. Furthermore, nutrient enrichment and new feeding methods are improving the nutritional

value and health consequences of farmed aquatic creatures. The ultimate objective of aquaculture nutrition and feeding is to offer a stable and sustainable supply of fish for the world's rising population while minimizing environmental impact. This objective requires continual study and a dedication to implementing cutting-edge methods that correspond with environmental stewardship and resource efficiency ideals. Aquaculture can contribute to food security and responsible resource management by progressing in these areas, while also protecting aquatic environments for future generations.

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CHAPTER 9

BREEDING AND GENETICS IN FISH FARMING: SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS

Shashikant Patil, Professor
Department of uGDX, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- shashikant.patil@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

Fish genetic breeding is a way to change inherited traits in fish to get new and better types. To make living things better, scientists can choose genetic traits that they like, combine traits from different individuals, or change the natural genetic traits of a species. These better types of fish or sea creatures have made it easier to grow them in farms because they are cheaper and produce more and better food. In this chapter we discuss different methods used in fish breeding. We summarize the biological foundations and uses of selection breeding technologies including traditional selective breeding, molecular marker-assisted breeding, genome-wide selective breeding, and breeding by controlling single-sex groups. We also look at integration breeding technologies such as cross breeding, nuclear transplantation, germline stem cells and germ cells transplantation, artificial gynogenesis, artificial androgenesis, and polyploid breeding. Finally, we explore modification breeding technologies, specifically transgenic breeding. Also, we talk about the progress our lab has made in breeding fish with different numbers of chromosomes, including breeding fish that are a mix of different species, breeding fish without fertilization from a male, and breeding fish from male cells only. Finally, we organize and explain the current research findings and the issues that are known to be connected with each technology.

KEYWORDS:

Aquaculture, Breeding, Fish, Genetic, Species.

INTRODUCTION

Fish is abundant in protein, unsaturated fatty acids, vitamins, and microelements, making it a vital part of a low-calorie, high-protein diet. Recent outbreaks of mad cow disease, foot-and-mouth disease, and avian flu indicate that fish is one of the less dangerous animal-based meals for human consumption. Unfortunately, rising demand for fish has led in fast depletion of fish supplies worldwide. At the same time, water supplies are growing limited. Given these tendencies, there is an urgent need to enhance the aquaculture industry's efficiency and sustainability. To solve this, scientists have utilized a range of techniques to create new types with desired characteristics like as quick growth, good meat quality, and stress tolerance. There are three techniques to genetic enhancement. They are selective breeding, integration breeding, and modification breeding. Selective breeding entails selecting and breeding individuals with desired qualities from a population. Integration breeding is combining two or more groups in order to acquire a mix of desired features from the donors. The process of creating new genetic features is known as modification breeding. Traditional selective breeding and molecular marker-assisted selective breeding are two types of selective breeding [1], [2].

The conventional strategy to selective breeding is to choose and breed only individuals that demonstrate desirable features for one or more attributes, such as growth rate, meat quality,

and stress tolerance. This category also includes methods to produce all-female and all-male groups by the use of hormones, temperature, or other variables. Molecular marker-assisted selection refers to the study and use of molecular markers linked with functional genes in genetic breeding. The goal of integration breeding is to create people with genetic components that differ from those of the parents. To produce hybrid or polyploid individuals, hybridization, hydrostatic pressure, colchicine therapy, and other biological, physical, or chemical procedures are utilized. Chromosome ploidy is reflected in gametes and zygotes throughout the processes of distant hybridization, gynogenesis, and androgenesis. The use of nucleus transplantation and stem cell transplantation (SCT) results in genetic material recombination, and these approaches are classified as integration breeding. It is worth mentioning that distant hybridization may result not only in heterosis in new varieties, but also in the development of diploid or tetraploid hybrid strains with viable females and males.

It is feasible to generate a new species under these circumstances. The process of creating transgenic fish by transferring genetic material from a donor to a recipient by micromanipulation is known as modification breeding. Integration and modification breeding are used to change the genotype and phenotype of progeny. Following integration or modification breeding, selection breeding may be employed to guarantee the persistence and emphasis of desired hereditary features. Trait directional filtering is an essential and necessary phase in genetic breeding systems. Recently, research has concentrated on approaches for screening for crucial economic features quickly and effectively. Advances in genetics, molecular biology, and other biological approaches have led to a change away from single conventional selective breeding procedures and toward more varied selective breeding strategies. The following discussion divides selective breeding into classical selective breeding, marker-assisted selection, genomic technology breeding, and monosex breeding.

Traditional selective breeding methods

Conventional selective breeding is the conventional technique of genetic breeding in fish. The main goal is to screen and select individuals or groups for desired genetic features. Traditional selective breeding techniques often used include population selective breeding, pedigree selective breeding, parental selected breeding, and integrated selective breeding. Furthermore, best linear unbiased prediction (BLUP) has been utilized for rainbow trout, coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), and other species. Selective breeding has been used effectively to improve desirable features in a variety of species, including rainbow trout, silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*) and others. Embury and Hyford employed selective breeding in early 1919 to raise survival from 2% to 69% in furunculosis-infected brook trout. Similarly, a variety of rainbow trout variants have been developed for desirable characteristics such as rapid growth, greater fecundity, and early spawning. Traditional selective breeding is widely used in freshwater fish breeding in China. Purple red carp were chosen using a mix of population and family selection approaches. Molong carp were acquired using a mix of comprehensive and directed selection [3], [4].

A variety of methods for obtaining molecular markers have been developed, including Variable Number of Tandem Repeats (VNTR), Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPD), DNA Amplification Fingerprinting (DAF), Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNP), Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism (AFLP), Inter-simple Sequence Repeat (ISSR), Simple Sequence Repeat (SSR), Single-strand Conformation Polymorphism. The introduction of molecular markers has increased the precision and efficiency of trait selection. As a consequence, molecular-assisted breeding methods are becoming more used in aquaculture. For example, genetic linkage maps for zebrafish, medaka, pufferfish, swordtail fish, three thorns fish, rainbow trout, Nile tilapia, and other commercially

significant fish species have been created. These genetic linkage maps have guided selective breeding for a variety of phenotypes. Using a BAC library, researchers in China completed genome sequencing in common carp and then generated genetic linkage maps to discover quantitative trait loci (QTLs), including those connected to muscle fibre related characteristics and cold resistance.

BAC libraries have been created for grass carp, blunt snout bream, silver crucian carp, half smooth tongue sole, and other species. These BAC libraries serve as the basis for physical map construction and genomic sequencing. Technology for genome-wide selective breeding. Recently, researchers have decoded the genome of several fish species, including zebrafish, medaka, pufferfish, green pufferfish, Nile tilapia, channel catfish, rainbow trout, Atlantic salmon, bass, and Atlantic cod. The availability of this genetic data has created several possibilities for fundamental study and the development of commercial applications. Genetic linkage maps and molecular genetic marker approaches, for example, have been used to investigate the location of genes linked to growth, sex choice, illness resistance, and other attributes. Quantitative trait loci are also utilized to provide DNA markers for assisted breeding technologies. Whole genome sequences of half smooth tongue sole, Pacific oysters, giant yellow croaker, *epinephelusbleekeri*, common carp, and bastard halibut were acquired in 2010.

In 2011, researchers at the Chinese Academy of Sciences Institute of Aquatic Organisms and other research institutions began whole genome sequencing of bighead carp, grass carp, and silver carp, three of China's four famous fish. Furthermore, our group has almost finished the whole genome sequencing of red crucian carp. This latter effort's findings will be vital in enhancing our knowledge of allotetraploid heredity, as well as providing significant insights on how to develop molecular genetic breeding in cyprinidae. Simultaneously, our team has begun whole genome sequencing of *Erythroculterilishaeformis*, one of the original parents of a new kind of hybrid bream developed by our lab and certified by the National Certification Committee for Aquatic Varieties. The genome sequencing of *Erythroculterilishaeformis* is useful for elucidating the molecular process of heterosis and other characteristics of this novel hybrid bream. To summarize, genomic information enables a more quick and full knowledge of economically significant performance attributes and serves as a foundation for the creation of novel aquaculture types. Our research has recently employed next-generation sequencing (NGS) to gather transcriptome data from various tissues in red crucian carp, common carp, blunt snout bream, and *Xenocypris. davidibleeker*, grass carp, and a few hybrid fish[5], [6].

These transcriptome data are critical for complete assessments of cyprinid fish genetic traits and may also be utilized to produce SSR and SNP markers, which are useful for identifying particular molecular markers for selective breeding. Controlling single-sex groups for breeding. In animals, morphological and physiological distinctions between sexes are rather prevalent. Male and female individuals of various fish species, for example, have different development rates, maturation ages, reproductive patterns, body colour, and body size. Aquaculturists may take advantage of these variations by reversing the sex of fry to undertake monosex culture. In fish, there are two kinds of sex determination mechanisms: chromosomal and environmental. The sex of an embryo is determined by its allosome makeup or other sex-specific genes in chromosomal sex determination. Environmental sex determination considers how extrinsic elements such as temperature, humidity, and pH affect sex. Several species, including *Oryziaslatipes*, *Carassiusauratusauratus*, *Carassiusaruatus*, *Cyprinuscaurio*, *Brachydanioreio*, *Onchorhynchus mykiss*, *Salmo salar*, *Oncorhynchuskisutch*, *O. tshawytscha*, *Oreochromismossambicus*, *Epinephelusakaara*, The mechanism of action and

effectiveness of these medicines differs depending on the sex hormone. 17-methyltestosterone is the most often utilized androgen because it may be simply administered to feed.

DISCUSSION

Although genetic improvement in common carp is thought to have begun several thousand years ago, the application of genetic principles to most aquaculture species is a comparatively new phenomena. As a result, the majority of farm-raised aquatic animals and plants resemble their wild counterparts. Genetic improvement programs are being applied to a growing number of aquatic species, however when compared to livestock and crop domestication levels, the aquatic sector lags considerably behind. Only six species, principally shellfish and a few mullet, were reported to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1984; cultivation of seabream and seabass was just being started. Today, data are available for between 20 and 30 Mediterranean farmed species; many key species produced in the area are high-value marine species. As husbandry for more and more species improves, so will the use of genetic enhancement technology. Prices for several aquaculture goods have fallen as output has increased.

As a result, higher production efficiency and product diversity will be required to maintain the sector economically viable. Genetic technologies are one method for increasing efficiency and encouraging variety. Concerns have been raised about the aquaculture sector's impact on the environment and native species as a result of large-scale release or escape of farmed animals and their subsequent breeding with, competition with, or predation on local species; farmed aquatic animals may also serve as a vector for disease transmission to wild stocks. Aquaculture has been identified as the principal cause for the intentional transfer of aquatic species, and past experience has demonstrated that cultivated species often escape into the wild. Hatchery or farmed fish are thought to pose a danger to the natural gene pool by introducing maladapted genes, i.e. genes adapted to the farm rather than the wild. However, concrete proof for negative impacts from mixing hatchery and wild populations is difficult to come by. As genetic methods become more widely used and modify phenotypes, there may be more worry about environmental biosafety. According to Article 9.3, "States should conserve genetic diversity and maintain the integrity of aquatic communities and ecosystems through appropriate management. General technical recommendations have been prepared to assist in the implementation of the Article, which include broodstock selection and management, the release of genetically modified organisms, the interaction of wild and farmed animals, and the use of imported species. The goal of this study is to provide some exemplary instances of genetic technology used in aquaculture, as well as to outline some significant challenges for sustainable aquaculture development[7], [8].

Genetic Enhancements

Genetic technology may be used in aquaculture for a number of purposes other than increasing productivity. Marketability, cultivability, and natural resource conservation may all be improved with the right genetic technology. Genetic enhancement programs might deliver short-term or long-term benefits. Short-term benefits are often quick, occurring within two generations, and are not cumulative unless supplemented with other long-term programs, while long-term programs, such as selective breeding, yield minor improvements that compound with each generation. Genetic improvement methods have not been used to marine species as extensively as they have to freshwater and anadromous species. As more marine species are farmed, genetic enhancement will play an increasingly essential role in enhancing output.

Long-term approaches

Domestication and the full potential of aquatic genetic resources will surely be reached only via long-term breeding programs exploiting additive genetic variation. The Atlantic salmon breeding program in Norway is an example of a long-term approach to breed improvement that has been copied in other parts of the world, such as the Philippines for tilapia improvement and Chile for coho salmon. Selective breeding for accelerated growth in red sea bream has been continuing in Japan for more than 30 years, resulting in a shorter period necessary to produce a market-sized fish. The traits under consideration for development should be economically beneficial to the aquaculture business. Although growth rate is the most often improved characteristic in selective breeding programs, additional variables with additive genetic variation have been found to be susceptible to improvement. Disease resistance is an extremely important trait for some aquacultured species, but improving this trait through specific selective breeding programs may be problematic, due more to experimental design problems are fish that do not get a disease resistant or have they simply not encountered the disease? than to problems with additive variance for the trait disease resistance.

Resistance to contaminated waterways is also advantageous in certain areas, such as heavy metal tolerance in tilapia, but this should not be used to justify not restoring damaged habitats. Because of the high costs that high-quality goods command in the market, the industry has recently begun to examine additional characteristics, such as flesh quality. If the fraction of additive genetic variation attributable to a locus or loci exceeds the heritability of a trait, selection efficiency may be improved by selecting for specific gene loci, a method known as marker aided selection. However, identifying relevant loci in aquatic species remains problematic. Micro-satellites probes display significant levels of genetic diversity and may aid in the identification of valuable loci as well as the establishment of pedigrees in mixed family groupings. As a result, marker assisted selection may be feasible for commercial or small-scale farms because no special rearing facilities are required, the daily routine of fish farming is not disrupted, and fish do not need to be marked; genetic analysis could be performed on small tissue sections or fin clips, which would not detract from the fish's marketability. When establishing and executing selective breeding programs in aquaculture, care must be given to avoid the detrimental impact of inbreeding, and genetic markers like as micro-satellites may assist identify family links.

Because of the time necessary to select a beneficial gene and its promoter, introduce them into the host animal, and then undertake the screening required to establish the stable inheritance of the transgene, the production of transgenic fish is regarded a long-term breed improvement method here. Genes from other species have been transferred to many economically significant species. Coho salmon with a growth hormone gene and promoter from sockeye salmon, for example, developed 11 times faster than non-transgenics. At an inland aquaculture plant in Scotland, private sector is promoting transgenic fish and testing transgenic Atlantic salmon that develop 400% quicker than normal. Long-term breed improvement tactics need the collecting of long-term data, record keeping, broodstock management, and monitoring. Specialized rearing facilities may be necessary, for example, during the early phases of a gene-transfer program or to keep track of a not all farms or areas would have the ability, resources, or willingness to start on such programs.

Strategies for the short term

Short-term genetic enhancement programs may not need the same amount of record keeping or administration as long-term efforts, but they may provide considerable advances in a short

period of time using basic technology. That is not to mean that everyone will see the technologies as simple, or that good broodstock management and precise record keeping will be unnecessary; they will be required to maintain healthy and genetically acceptable stocks for manipulation. Hybridization has been performed in order to combine advantageous features from two genetically distinct groups and to benefit from hybrid vigour. Interspecific hybridization may potentially yield sterile or non-reproducing groups, however viable hybrids occur for some aquaculture species. Because aquaculturists are usually primarily interested in the generation, the breeding facility must preserve and manage the pure parental lines. Several important aquaculture families, such as salmonids and penaeid shrimp, do not generate effective hybrids. As more marine hybrids are created, their cultural performance is being and should be studied. *Acanthopagus latus* X *Sparidentex hasta*, a hybrid bream developed by the Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research, is now being studied. It looks to be productive and has high development and body quality[9].

The relevance of the sex of interspecific crosses should be noted in the evaluation. In hybrid striped bass, the Sunshine bass, a cross between male *Morone saxatilis* and female *Morone chrysops*, outperforms the Palmetto bass, the reciprocal hybrid. Approximately 80% of *Clarius* catfish cultivation in Thailand includes a *Clarius macrocephalus* and *C. batrachus* hybrid, with the Thai catfish, *Clarius macrocephalus*, as the favoured female. Many viable aquatic hybrids may be bred together or backcrossed to parental lines. Backcrossing hybrid red tilapia to ancestral lines is being done in Venezuela to increase growth and body form. Many aquatic animals have had their chromosomal sets manipulated by applying heat and chemical shocks to developing embryos. Triploid creatures are especially intriguing since they should be sterile, allowing them to devote more energy to development rather than maturation and reproduction. However, this assumption does not apply to all species, as triploids differ from diploids in terms of reproductive activity and growth. The performance of triploids in culture in comparison to diploids seems to be species dependent. Triploids have shown inconsistent performance in rainbow trout and Atlantic salmon, with coho salmon triploids showing worse development and survival. Triploidization enhanced oyster growth and marketability, and the procedure is popular in Pacific oyster farming in the United States. Triploid oysters formed by mating tetraploids with diploids had greater survival and growth than chemical shock triploids and were bigger than diploid controls[10].

Combining methods

Several strategies may be employed to exploit various types of genetic variation. Gene transfer and selective breeding may be coupled since the transmitted gene may enhance just one attribute and selective breeding may fill out the improvement by raising the amount of domestication. However, care must be taken not to lose the transgene during the selective breeding phase. Although many diploid salmonid hybrids are unsuitable for aquaculture, triploidization of the hybrids may boost their viability. The use of hybridization and polyploidization in tandem has been proven to promote developmental homeostasis in Atlantic salmon X European trout hybrids. Triploidization of Atlantic salmon X European trout, fruita hybrids enhanced their survival and development rate to that of Atlantic salmon. Triploid Pacific salmon hybrids acclimated to saltwater faster. Rainbow trout X char triploids enhanced disease resistance, whereas rainbow trout X coho salmon triploid hybrids exhibited higher resistance to IHN but developed more slowly. In fishery management, genetic stock identification methods are used to analyze stocking operations, identify mixing of aquaculture and wild stocks, and to aid in defining the composition of mixed stock fisheries. mDNA variation in brown trout, looked at isozymes to determine that Atlantic populations of brown trout stocked into rivers of the Orb River basin draining into the Mediterranean in southern

France were not interbreeding with natural stocks, possibly because the Atlantic populations were not maturing. Although there has been no direct genetic improvement in marine ranching, Atlantic salmon ranching in Iceland has been selecting for growth and return.

Conservation and genetic engineering

Aquaculture's growth, like that of other agricultural industries, has not been without controversy and expense. Aquaculture has been cited by many organisations as a substantial danger to natural ecosystems and aquatic biological diversity due to the discharge of contaminants feeds, medications, etc. and interactions, such as interbreeding, of farmed species with native species. Specific genetic technologies, such as transgenics, have also been identified as potentially dangerous. The danger in the production of transgenics is not the technology itself, but the uncertainty that may surround the functioning of the new gene construct in a new host and whether or not the new gene can be passed on to other organisms. There is also ambiguity about the reproductive capability of many hybrids and triploid creatures, as well as the survivability of selectively bred fish in nature, although the use of these genetically modified animals has not sparked the same level of controversy as transgenics. Some conservation challenges may be addressed with genetic technology in aquaculture. Interbreeding of wild and hatchery populations is a key concern in the salmonid aquaculture sector.

Although some reviews have indicated that this interaction is usually detrimental to native stocks, direct genetic effects on wild stocks are difficult to document and that many of the effects result from inappropriate fishery management or inadequate mitigation measures. Most aquaculture strains are essentially wild or have only recently been removed from the wild, whereas a general perception has emerged in recent years that hatcheries and hatchery fish may negatively affect the genetic constitution of wild populations, according to Campton. Nonetheless, the development of non-reproducing animals might reduce the odds of aquaculture stocks mating with native stocks, thereby responding to requests from various authorities with repercussions in the industrialized world's business. Nonreproducing animals include mono-sex, hybrids, and triploids.

Mono-sex groups, on the other hand, would be non-reproducing only if they were 100% single sex and the other sex was not present in the wild; hybrids and triploids may not be completely sterile, and any non-reproducing group would still have the potential to interact ecologically with native organisms, at least in the short term. The amount of laws involved with the introduction of transgenic organisms is a hotly debated topic, particularly in the plant industry. Until recently, proponents of minimum regulation of transgenic plant usage, i.e., large-scale and commercial field use, stated that adequate testing showed that most transgenic crops presented no serious damage to the environment. However, industry and others now concede that these tests were inaccurate.

In the direction of sustainable aquaculture

More genetically diverse strains for aquaculture will be generated as directed selection programs advance and domesticated selection progresses via the simple process of growing fish in fish farms. The industry will have to figure out how to handle this new diversity. Will a few species diversify into a plethora of races, stocks, or variations, as in agriculture? Or will a wide range of species become domesticated in response to local demands? This problem originated in the northeastern region of North America with Atlantic salmon and winter flounder. Should an AFP antifreeze gene be selectively bred or transferred in order to widen the region where Atlantic salmon may be grown, or should attempts be made to domesticate the winter flounder that can naturally exist in these cold waters? The International Network of

Aquaculture Geneticists reviewed some of these difficulties and created some guiding principles for the creation of a salt-water resistant tilapia that could also be utilized in other contexts. These principles state that decisions will be made based on local circumstances, possibilities, and risks, as well as conservation and development concerns.

One scenario for aquaculture species diversification calls for the use of genotype X environment interaction, different selective pressures associated with different areas and farming systems, to generate on-farm diversity and the creation of locally adapted strains. Interactions between genotype and environment have been described as unimportant in genetic improvement programs, with one often cited example being the development of genetically enhanced tilapia in the Philippines.

It is critical to recognize that the interactions are affected by the variety of settings and genotypes investigated. In the Philippines, genetically modified tilapia represented genotypes from O. If genotypes from additional species as well as brackish or marine settings had been included, genotype X environment interactions would have been far more important. The absence of defined controls with which to compare test findings across a range of culture systems makes it difficult to quantify the progress of many breeding programs.

CONCLUSION

In summary, breeding and genetics are very important for making new and better fish farms. These practices make a big difference in aquaculture by helping fish grow better, have fewer illnesses, and produce more. Selective breeding programs have completely changed how the fish industry works. By carefully choosing which fish to breed, using techniques like managing their parents and using genetic markers, we can now pick exactly what traits we want in the fish, and make them healthier and more productive. We put a lot of effort into making fish strong against diseases. This helps keep them healthy and prevents us from having to use antibiotics and chemicals, which is better for the environment. Genetics, the study of how traits are passed down in living things, is always changing. New technologies, like genomic selection and controlling the sex of offspring, are making advancements happen faster. The fish farming industry has a responsibility to make sure that they look after the genetic diversity of fish and keep them healthy. This is an important ethical concern. Fish farming is using breeding and genetics to produce more fish for people to eat. This helps to meet the growing demand for seafood, but also tries to limit the impact on the environment and make sure it can continue into the future. Fish farming has a bright future because of continuous research, careful breeding practices, and ethical considerations. It is promising for providing enough food and protecting the environment.

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CHAPTER 10

WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT IN AQUACULTURE: A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW

Shefalika Narain, Professor
Department of ISDI, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- shefalika.narain@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

Water quality management is an important part of aquaculture since it influences the health, development, and sustainability of farmed aquatic species. This abstract gives an overview of essential topics and solutions in the field of aquaculture water quality management. Water quality indicators such as temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, ammonia, nitrite, and nitrate levels must be monitored on a regular basis. Continuous evaluation assists in identifying and addressing any concerns before they have an influence on fish health. It is critical to maintain proper oxygen levels in the water. Diffusers and paddlewheels are popular aeration devices used to assure oxygen saturation and avoid hypoxia, which may be fatal to fish. It is critical to keep water temperatures within certain limits for various species. Temperature swings may stress fish and make them more vulnerable to sickness. It is critical to manage nutrient inputs, particularly those from feed and waste, in order to avoid water eutrophication and preserve water quality. Proper feeding and waste collection techniques assist to reduce nutrient accumulation. Clean water is an essential component of illness prevention. Stress caused by poor water quality might impair fish immune systems, leaving them more vulnerable to diseases. Water exchange and mechanical filtration are often required in systems with high stocking densities to remove surplus waste and preserve water quality. Recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS) are intended to reuse and treat water efficiently. In situations of deterioration in water quality, treatment solutions such as chemical additives or biological filters may be used to correct problems and restore ideal conditions. Finally, water quality control is critical to aquaculture's profitability and sustainability. Aquaculturists may build and maintain ideal aquatic habitats by using attentive monitoring, proactive methods, and novel technology, assuring the health and well-being of farmed aquatic species while reducing the industry's ecological imprint. Continuous research and adherence to best practices in water quality management are critical in the pursuit of ecologically responsible aquaculture.

KEYWORDS:

Ammonia, Fish, Oxygen, Pond, Water.

INTRODUCTION

Aquaculture means growing lots of fish, shellfish, and plants in a controlled place. In high-density aquaculture, the number of fish kept in an area is much higher compared to the number of fish living in the wild. Modern fish farmers use different systems to raise fish, such as open and closed systems. Open systems, like the raceways used in hatcheries for fish and shellfish, as well as eel and trout culture, have a lot of water flowing through them quickly. Closed systems are commonly used in ponds for raising fish like carps, catfish, tilapia, sea bass, prawns, and shrimp. Closed aquaculture systems do not have a lot of water movement, which makes it difficult for gases, nutrients, and energy to move around easily.

with the things and environment around. We are worried about this type of aquaculture, which is a closed system that is very intensive and has a high number of fish in a small space. The various types of densely populated fish farming are quite similar because they all follow the same laws of physics and chemistry. These principles are the main content of water chemistry and what it ultimately leads to. The condition of the water. When the water chemistry is not good, the quality of the water becomes worse. This makes the animals or plants that live in the water feel anxious or uncomfortable. For the fish to grow well and be sold easily, the pond system needs to be in balance with nature. So, the most important thing for people who take care of fish is to keep the water chemistry in balance. This will result in good quality water. Water quality for aquaculturists means the condition of the water that allows the desired organisms to grow and reproduce successfully[1], [2].

The type of water needed for growing certain organisms depends on various factors and is made up of many different parts that are connected. Sometimes, one part can be dealt with alone, but because the different parts work together in a complicated way, the whole group must be looked at. The amount of crops or plants that grow and live is determined by many things in nature and how they are taken care of. Having a lot of fish or crustaceans in ponds can make the water dirty and can make the ground at the bottom of the pond get worse. Waste from fish farming sinks to the bottom. This leads to a buildup of organic waste and substances from decomposed organic matter in the sediment and water. Some of the waste is sent away from the ponds right away or after the organic matter has broken down. The farming of penaeid shrimps has become more productive since 1986. In a system for raising *Penaeus monodon*, the main things that changed were the saltiness, acidity, and amount of oxygen in the water. These things changed a lot, with the saltiness going from 19.5 to 275 parts per thousand, the acidity going from 7.4 to 8.2, and the amount of oxygen going from 4.66 to 8.25 milligrams per liter. Furthermore, the amount of ammonia-N increased greatly as the culture period continued, and reached 6.5 milligrams per liter after 75 days of cultivation[3], [4].

This usually happens in the second half of the culture period because there are nutrients available. During the third quarter of the culture period, about 30% of the food is put in the pond. Then, during the last quarter, about 50% of the food is put in the pond. The number of algae and microbes increases until they reach a point where they need something specific to keep growing. Once they don't get enough of that specific thing, there is a sudden drop in their population. This is called a collapse or a die-off. The sudden growth and decrease of certain microscopic organisms in water can cause big changes in its quality, which can affect how things grow. Understanding the importance of water chemistry is crucial, so it is necessary to have a good understanding of a few fundamental ideas. Aquaculture organisms are animals that do not have warm blood and their body temperature depends on the surroundings. In normal conditions, some animals can change their body temperature to match their surroundings. This is different from warm-blooded animals, which can adjust to keep their body temperature just right. For example The best temperature for the Black Tiger shrimp is between 28°C-30°C. When the temperature goes above 30°C, it makes you more active and speeds up your metabolism[5].

This also causes the growth to happen faster. If the temperature keeps getting higher, the shrimp can only handle up to 33°C in bad water or 35°C in good water. After that, it stays still at the bottom of the pond. If the environment doesn't get better, living things may get sick from germs, swim in a confused way to the top, or become tired. When the temperature goes below 28°C, the body slows down and becomes less active. This also affects how fast the body can grow. When the temperature is below 20°C, the shrimp will eat less food. Shrimps

cannot handle or live in temperatures lower than 13 degrees Celsius. In the semi intensive way of raising shrimp, they are more affected by temperature compared to the extensive method. This is because there are more shrimp in a smaller area and less water to help regulate the temperature. During the rainy season, there is a higher chance of thermal, salinity, and oxygen differences occurring in the layers of water in a pond. The depth and amount of water in a pond can impact how much heat it can hold and how much light can get through.

This is about how the amount of planktonic algae and benthic algae goes up and down. This also affects the amount of water in the pond and thus how much oxygen it can hold. This in turn affects how much life the pond can support, including the amount of plants and animals that can grow and how much can be harvested. Saltiness plays a big part in how living things grow by controlling the levels of minerals in their bodies compared to the water around them. For example The best range of saltiness for black tiger shrimp is between 10 and 25 parts per thousand (ppt), but they can tolerate saltiness between 5 and 38 ppt. because it can tolerate a wide range of salt concentrations. When shrimp and prawn are young, they need seawater with a certain amount of salt. However, as they get older, they can live in water that has less salt or even no salt at all. However, in order for the fish to survive and grow well, it is important to keep the saltiness level in the ponds within a certain range. Air contains oxygen, and some of this oxygen can enter the water and mix with it. This process is called dissolving oxygen. The only way oxygen enters the water from the air is through diffusion.

The air around us has a lot of oxygen. Some of this oxygen goes into pond water when the water does not have enough oxygen in it. Similarly, when pond water becomes filled with too much oxygen, the excess oxygen escapes into the atmosphere. The reason oxygen moves between air and water is because there is a difference in how tightly it is held in each one. Once everything becomes balanced. When the amount of oxygen in the air and water is equal, the movement of oxygen stops. Oxygen needs to go in or out of water where it meets the air. The thinner the layer of water touching the air, the quicker oxygen will go in or out, depending on whether there's too little or too much oxygen. The amount of oxygen transferred in water can be affected by changes in oxygen levels, the size of the area where air and water meet, the temperature, and how long the air and water stay in contact.

Oxygen has a big impact on growth and production because it affects how much food is eaten and how the body processes it. It also affects the conditions in the environment. Oxygen has an impact on how well nutrients can dissolve and be used by organisms. Low levels of dissolved oxygen can make substances change from being oxidized to being reduced. When there is not enough oxygen in the water, it can be bad for living things in the water or make harmful substances increase a lot. Currently, in addition to adding air, changing the water is still the best and most commonly used way to keep the water quality good, along with using things like sanitizers and zeolite to improve the water quality. In basic terms, water exchange is used to control salt levels, get rid of waste products, keep algae healthy and producing enough oxygen, and manage the temperature of pond water.

The value of money that you get when you exchange it can be different depending on how long something is being produced, how crowded the space is where it's being made, how much of it there is in total, how much natural resources are available, how clear the water is, and where the water comes from and how much there is. The idea of water exchange is to slowly change the water so that the quality of water changes gradually instead of suddenly. In semi-intensive systems, water is regularly replaced, sometimes even constantly, at a slow speed. Adding a lot of water to small ponds all at once can cause a sudden change in the environment, which can stress the organisms living there. So, it's not a good idea to replace a

lot of water unless something bad happens to the plankton, there is very little oxygen, or chemicals have been used. To fully mix the pond water, it is important to continuously exchange water and also use paddlewheels that are running. If not, there will be big differences in the water quality and uneven distribution of organisms on the pond bottom. It's not a good idea to lower the water level and then add new water, especially in the daytime during the summer[6], [7].

DISCUSSION

Because the aquatic environment regulates fish life, water quality must be acceptable for fish cultivation. When environmental conditions do not adhere to the appropriate range for proper fish development, fish farming may suffer. The primary concerns of the fish culturist should be the factors of water quality that may cause poor development or mortality of the fish. Water quality management tries to keep environmental conditions within a suitable range for fish development and survival. Water impacts the success or failure of an aquaculture enterprise to a large degree. Many aquatic factors make up the aquatic environment. Fish culturists must be aware of the circumstances that might cause stress in the fish. The factors may also help to understand the root reasons of fish culture issues.

Water quality control

Water quality is a dynamic network of physical, biological, and chemical elements that comprise the water environment and impact fish and other aquatic environment productivity. In pond fish cultivation, there are several water quality factors to consider. A pond with high water quality will produce more and healthier fish than a pond with low water quality, everything else being equal. The success or failure of a fish culture operation is heavily influenced by water quality. The most important water quality characteristics include temperature, turbidity, oxygen, CO₂, nitrogen, ammonia, pH, alkalinity, hardness, and so on.

Temperature

Water temperature is regarded as one of the most essential elements in the aquatic environment since it influences all metabolic, physiological, and biological processes in the various trophic levels of the pond ecosystem. Furthermore, it influences the rate of chemical changes in soil and water. Water temperature has a direct link with total plankton and hence plays a significant role in affecting the periodicity, occurrence, and quantity of phytoplankton. Fish are cold-blooded animals that rely on the temperature of the water in which they dwell. Every fish species has a preferred temperature range in which to develop rapidly. The optimal temperature ranges for 'cold water' and 'warm water' fishes, respectively, are 14-18°C and 24-30°C. In regulated systems like as hatcheries, water temperature may be changed to an optimal level. Temperature adjustment is difficult in huge bodies of water. By mixing warm surface water with cold subsurface water, aerator operation during a quiet and warm afternoon helps to break thermal stratification in the pond.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a word that refers to the particles of suspended solids, planktonic organisms, and humic compounds formed by the breakdown of organic materials. Turbidity induced by planktonic organisms is frequently desired in aquaculture ponds, but that created by suspended particles is not. Heavy blooms, on the other hand, restrict heat and light penetration, lowering the effective volume of productive zone. The optimal Secchi-disc visibility of fish ponds is thought to be 30-40 cm. Dissolved oxygen concentrations in ponds with Secchi-disc visibility of 10-20 cm may fall so low at night that fish get stressed or even

die. Turbidity caused by suspended particles may be reduced by applying organic manure at a rate of 500-1000 kg/ha, gypsum at a rate of 250-500 kg/ha, or alum at a rate of 25-50 kg/ha.

Oxygen in solution

One of the most essential chemical factors in aquaculture is dissolved oxygen. Fish deaths are caused by low dissolved oxygen levels, either directly or indirectly. The relative rates of diffusion to and from the atmosphere, photosynthesis by aquatic plants, and respiration by the aquatic biological population all impact the concentration of dissolved oxygen in natural water. Dissolved oxygen, in conjunction with turbidity, may reveal more information on the nature of an ecosystem than any other chemical measure. It was also shown that pond water with dissolved oxygen levels ranging from 5 mg/litre to saturation level promotes healthy flora and fauna development. Aeration is a tried-and-true method for increasing dissolved oxygen availability in ponds. The fish farm may utilize a variety of mechanical aeration methods, such as paddle wheel aerators, airlift pumps, air diffusers, agitators, and so on.

CO₂ (Carbon Dioxide)

Respiration by fish and the tiny plants and animals that form the fish pond biota are the principal sources of carbon dioxide in fish ponds. Organic matter decomposition is also a significant source of carbon dioxide in fish ponds. The fish producers are justified to be worried about ensuring enough dissolved oxygen concentrations. The issue with carbon dioxide's possible toxicity is due to the daily varying pattern of dissolved oxygen and carbon dioxide concentrations. When dissolved oxygen concentrations are lowest, carbon dioxide concentrations are greatest. Carbon dioxide concentrations are highest in the winter and lowest in the summer. However, since dissolved oxygen concentrations are normally substantially above saturation levels in winter, carbon dioxide is seldom a concern. Although freshwater fish ponds may handle high CO₂ concentrations, they should have a modest concentration of free CO₂ (3 mg/litre). Aeration and adjusting the pH may help to manage the excessive CO₂ content.

Ammonia

The first metric used to assess the health of a biological converter is ammonia. Unionised ammonia is very toxic to fish, and the optimal value in pond water is 0.02-0.05 mg/litre. When ammonia levels reach dangerous levels, fish are unable to take energy from meal effectively. If the ammonia content becomes too high, the fish will become sluggish and finally die from a coma. Ammonia seldom accumulates to fatal levels in well-managed fish ponds. However, at doses lower than deadly, ammonia may have sub-lethal consequences such as diminished growth, poor feed conversion, and impaired disease resistance. Fish discharge is the primary source of ammonia in fish ponds. The ultimate source of most ammonia in ponds where fish are fed is protein in feed. Diffusion from the substrate is another major source of ammonia in fish ponds. The breakdown of this organic stuff releases ammonia, which diffuses into the water from the sediment[8].

There are two primary mechanisms that result in ammonia loss or change. The most significant is ammonia absorption by algae and other plants. Nitrogen is a nutrient that plants utilize to grow. 'Nitrification' is another essential mechanism of ammonia transformation in fish ponds. Bacteria convert ammonia to nitrite (NO₂) and subsequently to nitrate (NO₃) in two steps. Aeration may also help to lessen the toxicity of ammonia. Ammonia is removed from water by healthy phytoplankton. Formalin may also help to lower ammonia levels. In a fish pond, proper feeding management should be maintained. Through the nitrification process, biological filters may convert ammonia to nitrite and finally to harmless nitrate.

Nitrite

Nitrite is the second chemical test used to assess the biological converter's health. Nitrite should be undetectable in a pond with a working bio-converter. Nitrosomonas bacteria make nitrite by mixing oxygen and ammonia in the bio-converter and, to a lesser extent, on the pond walls. Nitrite is known as the invisible killer. It may be lethal in concentrations as low as 0.25 ppm, especially to smaller fish. Methods for preventing nitrite buildup to dangerous levels in pond culture include effective organic waste collection, appropriate aeration, and proper fertilizer administration.

Hydrogen sulphide

Hydrogen sulphide should not be present in a freshwater fish pond. At a concentration of 0.01 mg/litre of hydrogen sulphide, fish lose their balance and are exposed to sub-lethal stress. Water exchange on a regular basis may help to avoid the formation of hydrogen sulphide. Liming may increase the pH of the water and so lessen the toxicity of hydrogen sulphide. In addition, potassium permanganate (6.2 mg/litre) is used to eliminate hydrogen sulphide from water. pH is a measure of whether the concentration of hydrogen ions in water is acidic or basic. It has an immediate impact on fish development and the survival of food organisms. As a result, in order to attain excellent fish output, the pH of the water should be checked on a regular basis to ensure that it is within the optimal range of 6.5-8.5. It also has a significant impact on ammonia and hydrogen sulphide toxicity, as well as nutrient solubility and hence water fertility. The effects of pH on fish in general

Alkalinity

Water's alkalinity is its ability to neutralize acids without increasing its pH. The sum of carbonate and bicarbonate alkalinity is total alkalinity. Some water may only be bicarbonate alkaline and not carbonate alkaline. Regardless of the manner of production, the carbonate buffering mechanism is critical to fish development. Carbonate and bicarbonate are storage areas for extra carbon dioxide in the buffering system in pond production, when photosynthesis is the predominant natural supply of oxygen. The buffering mechanism, on the other hand, avoids large daily changes by storing carbon dioxide. Without a buffering mechanism, free carbon dioxide will produce a considerable quantity of weak acid, perhaps lowering the pH level at night to 4.5. During the peak phase of photosynthesis, the phytoplankton eat the majority of the carbon dioxide, raising the pH level over 10. Pond water with a low alkalinity of 20 mg/litre as CaCO_3 and a high alkalinity of >300 mg/litre is unproductive. For freshwater fish ponds, the recommended total alkalinity range is 50-300 mg/litre as CaCO_3 [9], [10].

Hardness

Water hardness is related to alkalinity, but it indicates a different set of facts. It is critical to fish culture and an often reported element of water quality. Hardness is a measure of calcium and magnesium, but it also includes aluminium, iron, manganese, strontium, zinc, and hydrogen ions. Calcium and magnesium are necessary for fish biological processes. Calcium and magnesium may be absorbed directly by fish from the water or diet. For optimal development of aquatic species, hardness levels of at least 30 mg/litre should be maintained. The addition of agricultural lime may raise low hardness levels.

Nutrients

A nutrient that is a key ingredient of protein has a prominent position in the aquatic environment. Despite being a small ingredient, phosphorus is sometimes regarded as the most

important single element in the preservation of aquatic production. Dissolved inorganic nitrogen in the range of 0.2 to 0.5 mg/litre may be regarded beneficial for fish productivity, while phosphorous fertility in the range of 0.05 to 2.0 mg/litre may be considered favourable for aquatic production. Silicate persists in silicate form in natural water and is a major structural ingredient of diatoms. The nutritional condition of both water and soil is crucial in regulating the generation of plankton organisms in fish ponds. Nutrient levels in ponds may be raised by applying calibrated amounts of inorganic and organic fertilizers. Increased nutrient levels, on the other hand, may be hazardous, causing excessive plankton growth, algal bloom, and oxygen deprivation.

Additional metals and gases

Other metals and gases may sometimes create issues in the fish pond. The majority of these complications may be avoided by adequately pre-treating the water before adding it to ponds. The treatment options vary from basic aeration to the more costly usage of iron removal devices. When exposed to an appropriate quantity of oxygen at a pH higher than 7.0, iron will normally precipitate out of solution.

CONCLUSION

To summarize, managing the quality of water is very important in the field of aquaculture. It is the key to the industry's success, long-term sustainability, and taking care of the environment. We carefully check the water and make sure it's just right for the fish. This helps them stay healthy and grow well. To keep things healthy, it's important to have enough oxygen, control the temperature, and make sure the right nutrients are added. Preventing diseases and using safety measures to protect fish populations from possible threats help keep them safe. Water exchange, filtration, and recirculating systems also show that the industry cares about using resources efficiently. The ethical duty to limit harm to the environment highlights the significance of managing water quality in a sustainable way. By doing responsible fish farming, which includes releasing fewer nutrients and safeguarding wild fish from getting sick, the industry can help ensure enough food for everyone and protect the environment. In a changing world, where water resources are facing more difficulties, the continued effort to manage water quality well is a strong commitment. More study, new ideas, and following the best ways of doing things will determine what happens next in aquaculture. This will make sure that aquaculture can keep up with the worldwide need for seafood, while also taking care of the environment and the animals.

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CHAPTER 11

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN ICHTHYOLOGY: INNOVATIVE ICHTHYOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Umesh Daivagna, Professor
Department of ISME, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- umesh.daivagna@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

The study of fish, called ichthyology, is changing a lot because of new technologies. These technologies are helping us learn more about fish and how they live in water. This summary presents an overview of important advancements in technology and how they affect the study of fish. New DNA sequencing techniques make it possible to study the genes of fish species in a detailed way. This information helps us understand how genes vary, how living things adapt, and how they change over time. This has important connections to protecting nature and farming fish and other marine creatures. Remote sensing tools and GIS help us create maps and keep an eye on water habitats. This helps us protect important fish habitats and understand any changes in the environment. Microbiome research has progressed, making it possible to study the bacteria living in the digestive system of fish. Studying these tiny organisms can affect the well-being of fish and the way they are cared for in fish farms. In summary, new technologies are helping ichthyology to make important discoveries and protect fish better. These tools help researchers understand fish biology, behavior, and ecosystems in new and powerful ways. This knowledge can help with managing fisheries, protecting biodiversity, and practicing sustainable aquaculture. As technology keeps getting better, scientists who study fish are ready to make even more important discoveries about the underwater world and the different kinds of fish that live in it.

KEYWORDS:

Big Data, DNA Barcoding, Fish, Information, VMS.

INTRODUCTION

As more people are interested in studying how ecosystems can bounce back, we really need more information about the different plants and animals in those ecosystems. Surprisingly, when managing ecosystems, it becomes even more important to study individual organisms as we need information about many species at once. What types of plants and animals are there. Where do they live. How healthy are they. It's important to have accurate information about the organisms in nature to see how an ecosystem is changing and recovering from changes. Therefore, the rise of ecosystem-based management, along with a growing understanding of how human actions affect ecosystems, has created a demand for more detailed and accurate information about individual organisms. It is not surprising that whenever a new way of doing science is discovered, new obstacles to progress appear. And, in areas of study that rely on research, new ideas often lead to new technologies that are designed to solve these problems. In this article, we introduce some of the new tools that ecologists can use to study ecosystems in action. Identifying species is important in biological research and crucial for ecosystem managers. Therefore, it is necessary to create consistent identification tools. In this article, we talk about the technologies used nowadays to find out which kinds of animals and plants are in the ocean[1].

DNA barcoding is a scientific technique that involves analyzing a specific segment of DNA in order to identify and distinguish between different species. It uses a standardized set of genetic markers to compare and classify organisms, providing a reliable way to determine their species. One new method is DNA barcoding, where scientists take a specific part of an organism's DNA to create a unique identifier for that species. Just like a barcode on grocery items, DNA barcodes can identify different living organisms up to the species level. A universal identification system would be helpful for managers when they don't have access to specific expertise on organisms and the risk of misidentifying them in biodiversity reports is a concern. Although there are other ways to sequence DNA or RNA, using DNA barcoding is becoming the preferred method to create databases. DNA barcoding has been effectively used to figure out which animal species belong to by studying a specific part of their DNA called cytochrome c oxidase subunit I (COI) gene. In the year 2003. At first, DNA barcoding was tested and confirmed in two important. By combining traditional information about different species and DNA barcoding, scientists discovered more types of skipper butterflies in Costa Rica that were previously unknown. A study that brought new information about the many different types of birds found in North America[2], [3].

In the ocean, barcoding has been used to determine the types of different species such as fish, small creatures without backbones, microscopic plants, and very tiny organisms. In simple words, DNA barcoding is a very useful tool for managing species. It can quickly identify different species without needing experts in taxonomy, and it can even identify species in different stages of life or variations that are hard to tell apart just by looking at them. People are trying to make a device that can easily scan DNA in nature, which will make it more appealing for scientists who study plants and animals in the wild. However, using DNA barcoding has its issues and has caused debate. The idea of DNA taxonomy suggests that a species can be recognized by its DNA sequence alone. The question it asks is when does a difference in DNA sequence make a different classification. This concept is not easy to understand and requires knowledge of molecular systematics and specific computer tools used in biology. There are two main criticisms of the technique. First, the differences in DNA sequence of closely related species may not be large enough to accurately identify them. Second, it is challenging to know when the DNA barcode results might incorrectly categorize an organism, which could undermine the supposed benefits of speed and efficiency of the technique[4], [5].

DISCUSSION

The study of fish, called ichthyology, has greatly changed because of the introduction of artificial intelligence (AI). This combination of technology and the study of marine life is changing the way scientists research and comprehend underwater life. It has resulted in amazing discoveries and new inventions. AI in ichthyology is starting a new age of research and conservation, giving us never-before-seen knowledge about the underwater world. One of the biggest problems in the study of fish is the large amount of information that needs to be sorted through. From organizing types of animals or plants to following their movement, scientists have a lot of information to go through. The old-fashioned ways of analyzing data take a long time and can only look at a small amount of information. However, artificial intelligence has the ability to overcome these challenges, which means that scientists can analyze and understand large amounts of data very quickly and accurately. Artificial intelligence technology is now being used to automatically identify and categorize different types of fish. Machine learning algorithms can look at pictures or videos of fish and figure out what kind of fish it is by looking at its size, shape, and color. This makes species identification faster and less likely to have mistakes made by humans. In addition, AI can

learn to tell apart small differences between types of animals that people might miss, making categorization more precise[6], [7].

AI is being used to figure out what type of fish there are, and also to follow and guess what fish will do. For example, scientists can use machine learning to study how fish move and predict where certain species will go. This information is extremely valuable for efforts to protect nature because it helps researchers figure out which areas need to be saved and how to make sure these important habitats stay safe. AI is changing the way scientists research how climate change affects fish populations. AI can use past information to guess how fish populations may be influenced by changes in temperature, pH levels, and other things in the environment. It is very important to have the ability to predict what will happen in order to come up with good plans to help lessen the negative impacts of climate change on the ocean. Furthermore, AI-powered technology is creating new opportunities for the general public to get involved in the study of fish, known as ichthyology. More and more people are joining citizen science projects, where regular people help with scientific research. Artificial intelligence (AI) can help improve these projects by giving tools to identify different species and analyze data. This makes it easier for people who are not scientists to contribute to research on fish.

Even though AI has many advantages in the study of fish, it is important to know that there are also difficulties with these technologies. Data privacy and security are big worries, and there is also a possibility of unfairness in AI algorithms. Moreover, even though AI can handle a lot of information, it still needs humans to check if its findings are correct and understand what they mean. In summary, the use of AI in the study of fish is changing the field by helping scientists analyze data faster, make better predictions, and involve the public in their research. Although there may be obstacles, the advantages of using AI in the study of fish are very big. As technology gets better, it is becoming more and more clear that AI will become more important in helping us understand and protect fish in the world.

VMS are used all over the world with different types of transceivers. For example, a few countries have different rules about certain things. In Algeria, they only have special boats for catching tuna or for fishing in the deep ocean. This is because they want to follow the guidelines set by organizations that manage the region's fish populations. states that are located along the coast to generate electricity from both traditional sources, like coal or gas, and renewable sources, such as wind or solar power. This technology helps to diversify and increase energy production, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and promoting a cleaner and more sustainable energy future. Albania and Croatia are planning to use VMS transceivers instead of satellite technology to save money. Gathering information on how boats move can help manage and follow fishing rules better. Governments can collect up-to-date data on where fishing boats are located. VMS records where fishing boats are located and measures how much fishing they are doing. For example, when fishing is not allowed in a Marine Protected Area (MPA), VMS information can help guide fishermen away from those specific places[8], [9].

Additionally, VMS can be a budget-friendly tool for creating zones for marine spatial planning (MSP). For example, information about where fish are found can be used when making plans to protect the environment, like marine protected areas. This helps us achieve the goal of conservation while also making sure fishermen don't lose too much money. However, it is difficult to track the movements of all vessels because the data collection currently only includes larger vessels that are 15 meters long or weigh 300 Gt. At present, 80% of fishing boats around the world do not have VMS. Because only small boats under 15 meters are permitted to fish in MPAs, no one is supervising or monitoring their activities.

Also, just like with other tools used for working together, boat captains can choose to turn off their VMS transponder. However, they may face penalties if they are caught doing this. Sharing computer programs and codes freely may become the way forward for VMS. The United Nations and a group of people called FOCUS have come together to create free software that helps manage and protect fish resources.

In April 2015, the Union Vessel Monitoring System (Union VMS) was made as a free project. It was paid for by the Swedish Agency for Water Management and the European Commission's Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries. The goal of Union VMS is to make it cheaper to create, use, and encourage teamwork between countries in the European Union. You can see, save, and print 10 reports in Union VMS to make sure fishing is done responsibly and legally. A few countries in the European Union, like Greece, Italy, Malta, and Sweden, are trying out this free software. The Union VMS is a program that is currently being introduced in Europe and is expected to be used by more countries in the future. The DG MARE wants EU Member states and other countries to have no excuses for not using collaborative tools on their fishing boats. VMS transceivers are devices that help transmit and receive information. AI systems are smart computer programs that can think and learn on their own. FMCs are devices used to control and manage various functions. ERS refers to systems used for emergency response and safety. When we want to reduce the expenses of VMS for small fishing boats, we should think about using dual or hybrid options, like GSM coverage near the coast. Please provide the text that you would like me to rewrite using simpler words.

The Automatic Identification System (AIS) is a system on ships that uses messages to report information. This information is sent out by ships with transponders. It was made mainly to keep ships from crashing into each other and for coastal states to know about ships near their coasts. AIS transponders are devices that send and receive signals using a high-frequency transmitter. These signals can be received by other ships or land-based systems. Vessels can stay safe when they communicate about who they are and where they are going. This helps them avoid crashing into one another and find their way in foggy conditions. AIS helps fisheries management and enforcement because many countries now need AIS for safety and to save money. An AIS message is used to send information about security and safety, such as the location and status of a ship. The text can be rewritten as: The position of a boat compared to other nearby boats and a nearby ground station, as well as information about the people on board. Linked to a VMS and radar, these tools can recognize a boat without revealing where it is. VMS provides four main pieces of information: the latitude, longitude, speed, and direction, which are known as the AIS. Furthermore, the AIS calculates the speed relative to the ocean floor. When used at the same time, they can tell if the boat is fishing in a specific place or just moving through. Furthermore, Radar-Sat monitoring can help track the path of a ship and search for any signs of illegal transfer of goods, which can be verified by AIS or VMS data.

AIS information is very important for coast guards because it helps them to have a better idea of what is happening in the ocean. It supports all the missions of the Coast Guard. Since May 2014, countries have allowed the use of AIS information and in the EU, AIS is required for all boats over 15 meters long. One problem with AIS is that it can only work within a specific distance. The AIS signal can only travel a certain distance because of the Earth's shape. It can travel about 40 nautical miles, depending on how high the ground station is. This is roughly the same distance as the point where we can see the Earth meet the sky. After traveling 40 nautical miles, AIS satellites take over, but they can become overwhelmed in certain areas with heavy traffic, resulting in lost messages. The European Space Agency (ESA) and the

European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) are working together to promote a European SAT-AIS system. ExactEarth Ltd is one of the main stakeholders involved in this partnership. Today, and ORBCOMM both have a share in this market. Since 2004, the IMO says that most ships need to have AIS transponders on them for safety. They follow the SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea) rules. However, for VMS, this rule only applies to ships that weigh 300 tons or more. The main problem with AIS is that it relies on people reporting information themselves, which makes it unreliable and easy for people to cheat or change the information. In this situation, there are some important problems that need to be dealt with AIS messages may not be accurate because some of the information is typed in by the crew when they set up the system for permanent data [10], [11].

The document contains information about the ship's name and details about each trip it made. For example, data such as the date of the journey and any accompanying information. The place a boat is going to; AIS reports can be changed to trick people because it's easy for anyone to see the information; a boat can hide its location by turning off its AIS device to do illegal things. Although there are problems with data security, we should think about using AIS (both satellite and land-based) more. This will help us protect against fake signals using new technology; improve the way we identify when AIS is turned on or off; and promote a secure future for AIS by using VHF Data Exchange System (VDES). An electronic logbook or ERS Electronic Recording and Reporting System is often called E-Logbook, instead of using old-fashioned paper logbooks. The E-logbook data helps manage fish stocks by keeping records of where and how much fish is caught. ERS gathers information about different types of fish, how much is caught, and where it is caught. This information is important for studying and managing fisheries. Some organizations, like the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, require high sea fishing boats to have logbooks on board.

Electronic reporting systems (ERS) can show when catches have not been reported correctly and can completely change the way data is collected and reported during fishing operations. When ERS is used correctly, it can turn the whole commercial fleet into a source of good data and change the way fish resources are controlled. ERS will allow us to track where fish came from and how they were caught, which will help us understand fisheries better and make the fishing industry more efficient. It will also help us have better control and enforcement of fishing rules, whether in MPA-regulated areas or not. Gathering information from VMS and AIS, along with e-logbooks, provides a better understanding of fishing activities. This helps us evaluate how fishing affects the environment. Fishers in Australia have been using a digital diary to tell the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) about the amount and type of fish they catch since 2011. This is really helpful for both AFMA and the fishing industry. Canada is making electronic logbook client applications (ELOGS) that allow fishermen to type and send fishing catch and effort information to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans using electronic files. The first part of this plan will begin. a group of satellites or on ground-based systems.

The aim is to create a digital logbook system that can be used electronically, instead of using physical logbooks. This development is happening in China and is being supported by the use of local systems, which can either be the Chinese satellites or the ground-based systems. The goal is to have an electronic logbook system that can replace the use of physical logbooks. Beidou is going to start serving customers all around the world. The challenges that are left involve checking and making the ERS data consistent. The combination of logbook and VMS data has already shown to be very useful for understanding where different animals live in the ocean, in more detail than ever before. The VMS and logbook data analysis means we look at

the information from the VMS and logbook to find pings from the cruise track records that show when fishing activities were happening.

In 2015, over 40% of logbook records had accurate locations with a precision of 0.3 degrees. However, 9% of the log data were marked as "cannot be verified" during the data verification process for ensuring the authenticity of catch certification for exporting fish and fishery products. These instances of no-verification mostly happened because of wrong location information. Having different types of ERS file formats can make it difficult for people around the world to share important data for managing fisheries. DG MARE tackled this issue by asking for ways to make data file formats consistent. Smartphones with VMS transceivers can be used to collect data from fishing vessels and send it to a satellite operator for customers' database. This information can be used for monitoring. The person who owns a fishing boat can now keep an eye on it without being on board. Some companies that use satellites give you software that shows where a boat is, when it is expected to arrive, and the path it has taken in the past day. This is done without a direct link to the satellite network. It uses GSM (3G or 4G) with a special subscription and device from the satellite operator. AIS data can also be seen on smartphones and tablets, along with information about the weather.

This tool helps save money because most people already have smartphones. This tool is very easy to get and use by people involved in a project. GSM smartphones are already being used for finding and saving people in emergency situations. However, GSM networks may not have reliable coverage because they are designed to work on land and not over water. This tool has a specific range at sea and cannot be used instead of a VHF system at sea. Interestingly, certain countries have established a phone number for emergencies when people are on the ocean using their mobile phones. Non-collaborative tools refer to surveillance systems that are used by fisheries management authorities to keep track of fishing activities in their coastal areas and surrounding exclusive economic zones (EEZ). These tools are used to monitor fishing activities and include various systems. For example, improved radars are used near the coast to help track fishing boats. These radars are often part of larger systems used by countries to monitor their waters. The text is saying that instead of using only radar on the ground or patrols in the air, new technology combines satellite data from both radar and optical sources for geospatial applications. Identifying operators who are not following the rules.

The people who do illegal things on boats often pretend to be someone else or turn off messages that help identify their boats. This makes it hard to track them and they disappear from the screens that control them. However, coastal radars and satellites can still find them. The distance that ships can be detected by coastal radar systems can be different depending on the type of radar system and the weather. It can be as short as a few kilometers or as long as over 300 kilometers. To keep an eye on big areas that are far from the coast, we use pictures taken by satellites. By using a mix of optical and radar satellite images, we can detect things better and identify ships. Satellite radar sensors can identify small boats even during the day and night. They can monitor vessels as small as 15 meters. However, the ability to detect ships is affected by the wind speed and direction. Tiny boats can disappear among big waves. In addition, radar satellite surveillance covers a large area but is sometimes limited by the time it takes to revisit an area and process the images. The new technologies used to stop illegal fishing have improved, but financial and legal issues often get in the way and prevent full success.

Satellite images can be used as proof in a possible legal case, but the country that is wronged often does not report the incident. In addition, poor countries often cannot stop illegal fishing. More advancements in technology in the fishing industry. Furthermore, many new

technologies like smart labeling or advanced equipment are being used more and more in the management of fisheries or by marketing outlets. Here are some new things that have happened recently. Big data technologies can help sort and manage the large amount of data that comes from new tools used to monitor fisheries. It provides a different option to the usual database and request utilities.

Today, information is made and worked on the cloud and shown quickly on mobile devices. Big Data includes information like customer purchases, production records, website visits, automated processes, satellites, sensors, and the Internet of Things. One big problem with Big Data is that people don't always understand each other because they use different words and terms. For example, different databases do not have a common type of Big Data SQL and comparing them is not easy. Big data can be useful for organizing large amounts of information, particularly when it comes to tracking how busy a particular area of water is with ships. For instance, a new technology platform on the internet Global Fishing Watch was created in 2015 by Oceana, SkyTruth, and Google.

They use information from terrestrial and satellite sources to track fishing boats and figure out if they are doing anything suspicious. Additionally, Pew collaborated with Satellite Applications Catapult to create the Eyes on the Seas Project. This project combines satellite monitoring and imagery data with information about fishing vessels and the ocean to help authorities identify suspicious fishing activities in protected marine areas or worldwide. Other efforts by different countries are currently happening. Blockchain technologies are a type of computer system that uses a decentralised network to securely record and store information. This system is made up of blocks of data that are linked together in a chain, hence the name blockchain. It is designed to be transparent, meaning that anyone can see the information stored on the blockchain, but it is also highly secure and resistant to manipulation. Blockchain technologies are often used for activities like recording financial transactions or verifying the authenticity of digital assets.

A blockchain is like a growing list of records. These records are called blocks, and they are connected and protected using special codes. Each block usually has a special code to show the previous block, the time it was created, and information about the transactions. Blockchains are created in a way that makes it very difficult to change the data. Satoshi Nakamoto came up with the idea for the first distributed blockchain in 2008. It was then used in the digital currency called bitcoin in 2009. The blockchain is like a public record book that keeps track of all the transactions. The first time blockchain technology was used for the seafood industry was in 2017. Three companies worked together to make a special system using blockchain technology. This system helps track and record information about where seafood comes from in the world. It's called the Earth Twine-Stratis Platform. This platform brings together different technologies (Earth Twine, SPARKL, Stratis) that will help make it easier to track fish products. It specifically focuses on finding illegal fishing products mixed in with the legal ones. However, it is unlikely that a competitor would willingly share their business information, so this option is still just an idea without any confirmation. So, we need to create a big enough group of people who are interested in something, so we can use it and make it happen.

Big fishing boats use a special weighing system that cancels out the movement of the waves to measure and keep track of how much fish they catch. The way the boats move on the sea makes it hard to know the exact weight of the fish they catch. So, the smart weighing system on boats calculates how much the fish weigh, even when the boat is moving. The data is sent by satellite to fish markets and ports to update the fishing predictions. Some of these weighing systems use small electronic tags stuck on fish boxes to help keep track of where

the fish came from. The new RFID tags let you read and write information like the ID, voyage, type of fish, weight, size, date of capture, and how it looks. This technology helps us follow fishing rules better to protect fish populations. We can find connections between the amount of fish caught and brought to land, which helps reduce the chance of cheating or deception. But, once again, the problem is that the smart weighing system is much more expensive compared to a regular weighing system on the ground. Additionally, some administrations still have a non-legal aspect to the dynamic weight. France does not accept these measurements, but Belgium, Norway, and Denmark do.

CONCLUSION

In summary, the study of fish is going through big changes because of new technologies. These new ideas are not only helping us learn more about fish and their biology, but also changing the way we study and protect water ecosystems. Studying the genes of fish helps us learn more about their differences and how they have adapted to their environments. This information is useful for protecting fish species from becoming extinct and for improving fish farming. Remote sensing, GIS, and underwater robotics help us explore faraway and difficult underwater places. This allows us to find new things and learn more about how fish behave and where they live. Acoustic telemetry and eDNA analysis are methods that can be used to track fish movements and find out which species are present without harming them. These methods help with efforts to protect and manage ecosystems. Bioinformatics and AI tools help scientists understand big sets of data, finding patterns in ecology and helping with decisions. We use special tools like 3D imaging and microbiome analysis to learn more about fish bodies and health. This helps us make progress in studying and growing fish. Furthermore, using real-time monitoring systems helps keep fish healthy in aquaculture facilities, which helps to keep them going for a long time. As these technologies keep improving and becoming easier to use, scientists who study fish are in a good position to answer important questions about fish biology, conservation, and managing fisheries. The study of fish and aquatic life has a promising future. It can help us learn more about fish and protect and use our fish resources in a sustainable way.

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CHAPTER 12

METHODS AND CONSERVATION STRATEGIES: EVALUATING FISHERIES' ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Somayya Madakam, Associate Professor
Department of uGDX, ATLAS SkillTech University, Mumbai, India
Email Id- somayya.madakam@atlasuniversity.edu.in

ABSTRACT:

Almost everything humans do affects the environment, and aquaculture is no exception. Aquaculture uses natural resources and releases waste into the environment. As the fish farming industry grew, people started worrying more about its impact on the environment. This concern increased during the second half of the 20th century. Until now, most fish farming practices have not caused harm to ecosystems and have even been helpful in some cases. Sometimes, poor management or accidents in fish farms can lead to bad outcomes. Possible effects of aquaculture activities include changes to the water and sediment, as well as harm to existing natural populations, surrounding scenery, and other economic activities already in place. These effects mostly rely on things like the kind of buildings, where they are located, and the types of animals or plants made. The main cause of this type of effect comes from a few sources like food, chemicals, animal waste, dead animals, and the interactions between domesticated and wild animals. Even though there are many ways to measure and analyze the effects, people still use different methods. Also, there are different ways to assess things, like using chemicals, looking at the environment, or considering nutrition. All of these are trying to create models to guess how aquaculture affects the environment. Many different ways of studying and representing environmental data have been suggested, including methods like Vollenweider diagrams, econometric analysis, and mass balance analyses.

KEYWORDS:

Aquaculture, Fish, Farming, Information, Species.

INTRODUCTION

Mariculture is a type of farming where fish, shellfish, and other water creatures like seaweed are raised in saltwater instead of on land. The environment is very important for mariculture. Before starting any mariculture programme, it is very important to assess the environment. This assessment is necessary for the programme to be successful in terms of starting, maintaining, and harvesting. This initial assessment of whether the environment is suitable is a very important factor in deciding what type of mariculture is suitable for the area. Regularly evaluating the environment in mariculture is important to ensure the ongoing health of resources and maintain ecological sustainability.

The environmental impact assessment (EIA) of any project, like mariculture, is a way of understanding the likely effects it will have on the environment. This includes considering how it will impact society, the economy, culture, and human health, both in positive and negative ways. The information and skills gained, as well as the findings of the environmental studies before, during, and after an activity, are used to anticipate the effects it will have. The process may not be able to make precise predictions because the data may not be reliable and there may not be enough initial information available. Instead of trying to predict things directly, which might not work in a complicated natural setting, it is important

for predictions to outline various situations and make the underlying assumptions clear. Additionally, we should assess the effects and create plans to manage the environment[1], [2].

An EMP is a plan made for a specific location to make sure that all required actions are taken to protect the environment and follow environmental laws. While this is good for the environment, it should also help us produce resources as efficiently as possible. Once a plan is made to start a mariculture business, the different stages of evaluating the impact on the environment will begin. The first thing to do is pick a location for the site. The location of the site has a big impact on the cleanliness of the water. Choosing the right location for mariculture is very important because it has a big impact on whether the plan will be profitable or not. The site selection criteria are guidelines to choose a suitable location for starting a mariculture program. The site selection and water quality criteria for certain types of mariculture resources in India, such as marine fish, shrimp, bivalves, and seaweeds. The physical carrying capacity refers to the ability of an area or site to support coastal aquaculture by having the right physical characteristics and infrastructure. This is the main factor used to choose a location for an aquaculture activity and to determine where different types of aquaculture can take place.

The production carrying capacity means the most amount of things that can be made in the chosen water area. This calculates how much fish farming can produce based on the food available. It is usually measured at the individual farm, but it should consider more than just that. It is important to choose the best resource/ species for the culture. The ecological carrying capacity means the maximum number of individuals or amount of biomass that a habitat can support without causing harm to the ecosystem it relies on. It refers to how much mariculture production can be sustained by the environment. The social carrying capacity means how much aquaculture a community can handle without causing major negative social effects. This includes factors like the amount of overall production, the number and density of farms, the types of species and the systems used. The final decision should take into account these four different types of carrying capacity. The place or area that should be chosen is where these four things meet. Even though these definitions were first explained for bivalve farming, they have also been used for raising fish in cages. The data needed to choose a site and estimate how many people or things it can hold is diverse and typically includes information about the land, living organisms, money, society, and infrastructure. This information can come from different places like field research or satellite images. It can also come from things like maps, photos, and written records[3].

Choosing the right location for a site and planning the areas for aquaculture can help minimize the negative effects on the environment. When choosing locations, it is crucial to identify potential dangers by analyzing risks. When choosing the best places for farms, especially in coastal and open areas, it's important to think about the risks from the weather. For instance, shrimp farms near the coast may require walls or other barriers to protect them. Fish cages need to be firmly attached to the ground or a strong structure. The water becoming hotter and having less oxygen can lead to more nutrients being present, which can cause problems like eutrophication. can be prevented or reduced in areas deeper in the body that have good blood flow. The chances of a disease spreading can be reduced by making the distance between farms in aquaculture clusters or zones larger. It is crucial to have effective communication about risks. In simple terms, weather information systems are very important. To protect fish farming, we need to use predictive modeling to create systems that keep an eye on the water and the fish. A very important way to adapt to changes at the local level is by using effective systems to monitor everything together. Monitoring systems should give

enough information about how the water is doing, like if it's healthy or if there's any pollution. They should also be able to tell if there are any diseases or harmful organisms in the water, like algae that can be dangerous. Often, farmers who live in rural areas might not have the resources or tools to carry out monitoring on their own. However, some basic measurements can be done to detect algal blooms early. For example, measuring the water temperature and observing the Secchi disk can help at the local level. Local authorities can help set up monitoring systems that look at many things together. They can also help make plans for telling people about risks and for giving them a warning in advance[4], [5].

DISCUSSION

World aquaculture production in 2000 was 45.7 million tonnes, which made up 57% of the total amount of fish caught that year. After a lot of progress and improvement over the years, the fishing industry suddenly had a big drop in growth because we were using up too many fish. The amount of fish caught each year is now around 80-90 million tonnes, and it is widely agreed that putting more pressure on these fisheries would cause permanent damage to the water ecosystems. The FAO and World Health Organisation want people to eat more seafood. They want each person to eat 25 kg of seafood per year, which is a 30% increase from the current 19 kg. Even if we can't achieve what was mentioned before, the growing world population will still create a need for about 168 million tonnes. It looks like there is a clear need for more seafood products, but we can't catch enough fish to meet that demand. So, we can expect that fish farming will become more widespread. The fish farming industry has increased by 253% in the past ten years. However, for this sector to continue growing in a way that can be maintained, it must address some fundamental issues. This text talks about some important things that need to happen in order to improve aquaculture[6].

One thing is that scientists need to do more research on the biology of different types of fish that can be raised in aquaculture. They also need to find better ways to raise these fish. Lastly, they need to figure out how aquaculture can be done in a way that doesn't harm the environment. This last part is different from other activities like farming and raising animals on land. It is also very old and can be just as polluting as aquaculture. It should be paid a lot of attention as the sector grows. Having a good environment is really important for aquaculture because if the environment is bad, it will harm the organisms we are trying to grow. However, often environmental problems are used as reasons to delay the growth of aquaculture as a new industry when there is competition for using locations with other established activities. Until now, most aquaculture practices have not caused much harm to ecosystems because of poor management or accidents. In fact, in some cases, they have even been beneficial. The possible impacts of aquaculture activities can be part of various aspects. It has a big effect in places where tourists go. Water quality can change in a few different ways. Some things that can change are how clear the water is, the acidity levels, and the levels of nutrients and plant growth in the water. Physical, chemical, and biological processes can cause changes in sediments. These changes can include differences in the size of particles. An increase in organic matter and nutrients has been observed in studies conducted by Hall and Holby as well, the amount of oxygen needed by living organisms in water has increased by between 3 and 15 times[7], [8].

Wild populations of algae in fresh water can be affected by certain conditions. Changing the balance of nutrients can affect the types of species and the overall structure of groups of animals. Aquaculture can change the natural variety of living things. The population of the marine worm *Capitella capitata* is growing due to changes in the environment caused by human activities, such as pollution and the overfishing of predatory species. The decline or possible extinction of echinoderms. There have been reports of turtles and shellfish being

affected too. Separate studies have conflicting information about the total biomass. Some say it has gone up, while others disagree. Cars and a decrease and even small impacts. Can you provide the text that needs to be rewritten in simple words. In any situation, this impact on underwater communities tends to be concentrated in a specific area, within 15 to 50 meters of small and medium sized farms. Weston and Gowen, a group of researchers, conducted a study. The release of cultured organisms or their gametes can impact natural populations by interbreeding or mixing with them. Some possible reasons for the decrease in certain animal populations include attacks from predators, fighting with other animals for resources, destruction of their homes, or the spread of sickness. It is hard to measure what happens as a result, but it is more important when new species are raised. Aquaculture can have competition for space or resources with other activities like farming, tourism, shipping, or fishing. In most situations, people agree that these bad effects can be prevented or reduced.

Aquaculture activities can have different effects on the environment. These effects can vary depending on factors like the type of facilities used, where they are located, the types of fish being produced, and the characteristics of the surrounding waters. For example, freshwater and seawater are very sensitive to changes in the amounts of phosphorus and nitrogen. These two substances limit the growth of algae in these types of water. Species from different cultures have different physical features and ways of eating, which will in turn have different results. So, when bivalve mollusks are farmed, they rely on natural phytoplankton. This can reduce the amount of plants produced in coastal areas. Prawn farming mostly happens in ponds by the coast. This farming method contributes to the destruction of mangroves and changes the quality of the water and sediments. Intensive fish farming can create the same effects using organic matter and nutrient enrichment. Choosing the site and species is usually based on the type of culture system that will be used. Extensive systems are believed to have a smaller effect on the environment compared to intensive systems. Moreover, both intensive and extensive systems of aquaculture, whether located on land or in water, will have distinct impacts on the environment. In every situation, the different impacts of fish farming come from just a few things, like the food given to the fish, chemicals, waste from the fish, dead fish, and how the farmed fish interact with wild fish.

Intensive systems, especially ones that raise carnivorous or omnivorous water animals, rely heavily on dry, prepared food. Even though they are usually used in small amounts, they can build up in the sediment, which can harm the quality and characteristics of the sediment. There are many ways to measure and understand the effects of aquaculture on the environment. Different scientific methods are used to collect data, analyze it, and estimate the impacts. Also, there are different ways to assess things, like using chemicals, studying the environment, and looking at nutrition. Chemical approach is about studying various properties of water and sediments. To do this, we need to plan a sampling program with specific goals, considering factors like the type of culture system and the species being produced. The most commonly measured factors are water quality, which includes temperature, saltiness, cloudiness, the amount of chlorophyll-a, the amount of dissolved oxygen, the amount of organic and inorganic nutrients, the presence of sulfur in both liquid and gas forms, the presence of bacteria from feces, and how quickly the water is renewed. Sediments: Sediments are materials like mud, sand, and dirt that settle at the bottom of bodies of water. These sediments can be made up of organic or inorganic material and contain nutrients. They can also have sulfide, which affects the amount of oxygen. The rate at which sediments settle and their particle size are also important factors[8], [9].

To give helpful information, the sampling program needs to have data before the aquaculture operation begins. But often, it is hard to compare information from different studies, and

many people agree that it is important to use the same methods for collecting and analyzing data (ICES). The majority of environmental regulations in various countries focus on examining the waste being released from factories and other sources. However, these estimates based on the amount of certain elements per unit of water can often lead to incorrect conclusions, especially when different amounts of water are used. Furthermore, the levels of these concentrations can change depending on when the samples are taken. The only way to overcome this is by increasing how often samples are taken, but that can be costly. The impact of solid organic waste on the sediments is influenced by the shape of the bottom and how often new water flows through. The authors of this study are Hakanson and others. There are different types of land at the bottom of the ocean, and they are categorized into zones based on the processes of erosion, transportation, and settling that occur there. These zones have different effects on the ocean floor. On the other hand, estimating settling rates measures the flow of solids, not the total amount of solid waste produced by the aquaculture facility.

The ecological approach focuses on changes in the populations' makeup and organization. The waste produced by aquaculture can have a big impact on the different types of species in a natural environment. There will be fewer different types of species in the ecosystem. There will be a higher number of individuals in the ecosystem, particularly opportunistic species that take advantage of the waste. The amount of biomass in the ecosystem will decrease, although sometimes it may increase due to certain circumstances. The average size of organisms in the ecosystem will become smaller. The organisms that live in the sediment will move closer to the surface. To study these changes, researchers need to know a lot about the structure of the ecosystem before the aquaculture farms start operating. They also need to observe the ecosystem for a long enough period of time to see if any changes occur. Some experts suggest that these studies give us better information about the environmental effects of aquaculture. In some situations, using only chemicals to study the water doesn't show important changes when there are actually big changes in the animals living there. Benthic species are types of creatures that live on the bottom of bodies of water. These species are helpful for scientists to determine how aquaculture affects the sediment, especially those that have specific reactions to pollution in the water. These types of species are referred to as indicator species.

They are usually very opportunistic and can quickly replace other species due to their ability to adapt to different behaviors, physical traits, and reproduction methods. One of the most frequently mentioned species is *C. Capitata* is a complicated term. The studies used different methods to explore a wide range of topics. For example, they looked at the amount and size of living things in different areas, as well as how this related to the amount of organic matter present. They also used various ways to measure the overall health of ecosystems. Oberdoff and Porcher discovered something. These studies compare the amount and quality of food given to the fish with how much they grow, as well as considering how many die and how much food they don't eat. To measure the impact on the environment, we need to estimate how well fish digest their food, how much nutrients stay in their bodies, and how much uneaten food there is. These calculations are based on analyzing chemicals in the environment to estimate the nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, that are released. However, there may be errors in these calculations due to the estimation of the amount of non-ingested food and even the number of fish that died. This method has shown a link with chemical approaches and has become a useful tool for these types of studies. The main goal of monitoring the impact of aquaculture on the environment is to create models that can predict how aquaculture and the environment interact[10], [11].

These models will be helpful for both farmers and government officials. I'm sorry, but the given text is not complete. Could you please provide the complete text you would like me to simplify. Various mathematical models have been suggested to understand the relationship between phosphorus concentration and the growth of phytoplankton. These models include the Vollenweider diagrams and their adaptations by Dillon and Rigler. They focus on determining how the concentration of phosphorus affects the growth of phytoplankton, which is measured by the level of chlorophyll-a. When used in coastal marine areas, these models have not been suitable as they have even more restrictions. There are two main factors that can affect how people understand and use language: complexity and differences. These factors were studied by researchers called Wallin. However, many different models have been suggested. Mass balance models analyze the impact of aquaculture by estimating how much Nitrogen and Phosphorus are released into the environment. This estimation is based on the nutrients that are put into the system and how much is stored in the fish. Econometric analysis is a kind of predictive model that looks at how sensitive different areas are to changes in nutrients. These studies also look at how much waste is being released and what impact it has, along with the characteristics of the area and the aquaculture facility. There is another way to model something. It involves making guesses about how much a specific species can produce when there is a certain amount of food available in nature. Silvert created models to predict how well the environment can absorb and process things. They believe that the environment's ability to handle aquaculture waste is affected by all types of impacts. Ervik et al. also explained another model that was similar. Using all the models mentioned above has limitations because there is not enough data available and different methods are used for collecting and analyzing the data. This makes it challenging to compare different studies. A lot more research is needed to understand how different aquaculture systems interact with different water environments. Different models need to be very helpful in choosing the right places for aquaculture and in managing the environment to prevent harm.

CONCLUSION

It is clear that the aquaculture industry needs to take specific actions to protect the environment. This means using scientific knowledge and modern technologies to create responsible and eco-friendly guidelines. The government needs to make sure that the rules for fish farming are the same in all countries and regions. They should follow the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, especially when it comes to reducing harm to the environment. The enforcement of acceptance criteria will depend on understanding the specific characteristics and assimilation capacity of specific water bodies. It will also depend on understanding how these characteristics interact with factors related to managing farms. This text is too complex, I will make it easier to understand. Overall, it is very important to look at and reduce the negative effects that fishing has on the environment in order to protect the health of oceans and lakes. To achieve this goal, it is important to have scientific evaluations, conservation plans, sustainable methods, advances in technology, involvement of the community, and cooperation between different countries. By using these ways and plans, we can work towards a future for fishing all over the world that is sustainable and good for the environment.

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