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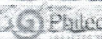
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# FEEDING MANAGEMENT AND GROWTH IN TILAPIA CAGE SMALL FARMS: DIFFERENCES AMONG NEIGHBORS

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Most of the small fish farmers in the Brazilian semi-arid do not check neighbor's production management to observe what he is doing that should be followed. The aim of this research was to monitor fish growth and management throughout one entire growing cycle among tilapia small farmers from an association. Results showed different management strategies

A 200 days productive cycle in 4 cages tilapia areas from an association was followed at Sobradinho Lake, Brazil. Each farmer (man and woman) is responsible for his or her own cages. All cycles started on the same day and tilapia juvenile (19g) proceeded from the same farm. Every 15 days the area was visit to observe the management and ask questions. A survey was applied to design process flow. Results showed that feeding management, in all cases, were different. Also, the density chosen by farmers and process flow. Results, at the end of the production cycle (Figure 1), showed different process flow, feeding management strategy (Table 1) and tilapia growth and, consequently, fish growth.

Table 1: Difference in feeding management

Farmer	Fish size (g)	Times/day	Feed crude protein %
1	17-30	6	42
	30-100	4	36
	200-300	3	36
	300-1000	2	32
2	17-60	4	35
	60-1000	3	32
3	17-32	4	45
	32-160	4	36
	160-190	4	32
	190-800	3	32
4	17-45	4	45
	45-100	4	32
	100-550		32

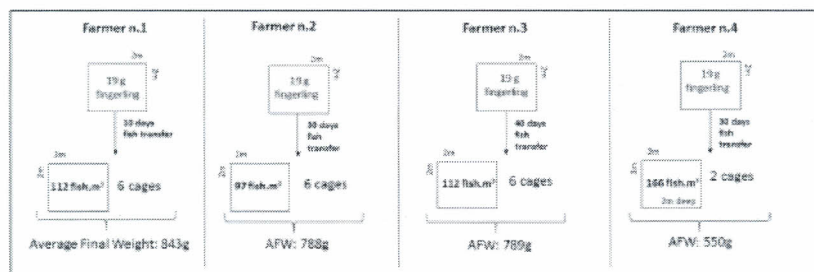


Figure 1: Farmer's production process flow, cage dimension, fish density practiced and final weight