



Potential of new aquatic species culture in shrimp pond for sustainability of aquaculture in Khuzestan province

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Abstract

In recent years, shrimp industry has been constantly ups and downs. In some years, aquaculturists had many problems in association with viral disease (white spot). As, they could not success culture shrimp in the ponds. In this regard, new aquatic alternative species could be developed as an executive way. The Asian seabass (*Lates calcarifer*) is an euryhaline fish species that can be introduced as an alternative species due to rapid growth, tolerance to different salinity and the ability to accept formulated food. 9 Ponds of 7,000 m² shrimp farms were considered for culture of sea bass with different stocking density. Densities were determined from 12,000 to 15,000/hectare. The initial weight of the fish was 43 grams. Fish were fed 2-5% body weight during the trial. The biometry of fish was carried out every thirty days. The culture period was 6 months. The results showed that the average density was significantly higher than that of high density treatment ($P < 0.05$). The final production indicates that this pilot can be a successful pilot for aquaculture development in areas with brackish and salt water.

Key words: Asian sea bass, culture, earthen pond, stocking density

