ASSESSMENT OF THE FERTILIZATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE CHINESE CARP FRY, SILVER CARP (Hypophthalmichthys molitrix); BIG HEAD (Aristichthys nobilis); AND GRASS CARP (Ctenopharyngodon idellus), DURING THE NURSING PHASE

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ABSTRACT

Two different manure application regimes were applied in two groups of ponds for nursing of post yolksac Chinese carp fry, big head (Aristichthys nobilis) silver carp (Hypophthalmichthys molitrix) and grass carp (Ctenopharyngodon idellus) Five days before stocking the ponds with fry, basic manure application was done using pure chicken manure at the ratio of 0.5 kg/m³ of water for ponds of the first group and 0.25 kg/m³ of water for ponds of the second group to stimulate the development of the natural food. The ponds were stocked at a stocking density of 20. 10 and 5 fry/m³ for the three species, respectively. After stocking, the manure application amounts were 0.2 kg/m³ and 0.1 kg/m³ of water every day for the first and second group, respectively. Peanut cake was administered for feeding at a ratio of 3 g/1000 fry per day. The duration of the nursing period was 12 days. During the experimental run, growth of fry of the three species in all pondS was monitored and the density of plankton/liter and the organic matter contents were estimated every other day. Upon termination of the fry nursing period, average final weight of the fry and survival rate were estimated. The initial dominant species of phytoplankton emerging initially after fertilization had intimate relation to the amount of manure. Some species of green algae Chlorophyta such as Scenedesmus, Pediastrum and Ankistrodesmus sp. and some species of blue green algae Cyanophyta such as Oscillatoria and Anabaena sp. developed vigorously when a larger quantity of manure was applied in the first group of ponds. While with less manure in the second group of ponds, many of the diatoms of class Bacillariophyta were found dominant such as Navicula and Cyclotalla sp. When low manure application rate was adopted the surviving number of big head and silver carp was low (70.2 and 75.1%, respectively) and that of grass carp was high (87.5%), When high manure was applied survival rate of big head and silver carp increased significantly (89,3 and 82,7%, respectively) while that of grass carp significantly decreased (72.4%). Also, growth performance of big head and silver carp fry was poor and that of grass carp was high under low fertilization conditions compared to the high fertilization regime. Fry of big head, silver carp and grass carp reached 67.1, 105.1 and 65.9 times of their initial body weight, respectively. On the contrary, fry of big head and silver carp grew better and gained significantly larger mean body weight/fry (by 82.6 and 162 times of the initial body weight, respectively) under high manure application conditions. While grass carp fry did not grow as large as the other two species and gained smaller mean body weight/fry (by 55.1 times of the initial body weight). It could be concluded, from the present study, that nursing of big head and silver carp fry requires more fertile water than that required for grass carp fry. Subsequently, monoculture system is preferable for the fry during the nursing stage.

Keyword: Nursing, Grass carp, Silver carp, Big head carp, Polyculture, Fertilization requirements

INTRODUCTION

Application of manure is one of the effective measures to raise the output and survival of fish. It helps to culture various kinds of plankton in water, which serves as direct or indirect feeds for fry. Fry can grow faster at higher survival rate because of the numerous food organisms reproduced. Few researches have been conducted in this regard. Green and Smitherman (1984) carried out an experiment to compare the relative growth, survival and harvestability of bighead carp, silver carp and their reciprocal hybrids during the primary rearing phase in ponds and concrete tanks. Saha et al. (1989) studied the effect of different fertilizers on the growth and survival of silver carp spawn in nursery ponds. Kirkagac (2003) studied the gut contents of grass carp during the nursing phase in earthen ponds. Kumar et al. (2004) used green manure and pig manure to fertilize an earthen pond for nursing of silver carp. They monitored the hydro-biological parameters of water before and after fertilization to verify the essential requirements of natural food for growth and survival of the early fry. Shireman and Smith (1983) studied some biological data on grass carp Ctenopharyngodon idella. Jhingran and Pullin (1985) published a hatchery manual for the common, Chinese and Indian carps. Opsuszynski and Shiremen (1995) reared the herbivourous fish grass carp for weed management. Bromage and Roberts (1995) studied broodstock management and egg and larval quality of Chinese carps.

The aim of this work was to evaluate the fertilization requirements of the Chinese carp fry during the nursing phase.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Six concrete ponds with an area of 25 m² each, at the Central Laboratory for Aquaculture Research, were filled with fresh water. The water column was maintained at 1 meter level. The ponds were supplied with aeration pipes. The ponds were randomly assigned into two groups representing two treatments (three replicates each). Two different manure application regimes were applied in the two groups for nursing of Chinese carp fry. Five days before stocking the ponds with fry, basic manure application was done using pure chicken manure, from Wady El-Mollak; Sharkia, at the ratio of 0.5 kg/m³ of water for ponds of the first group and 0.25 kg/m³ of water for ponds of the second group to stimulate the development of the natural food. The manure was applied directly inside the ponds and undecayed bits of the left-over were removed before the fry were stocked. Ponds of the two groups were stocked in polyculture system with three species of post volksac larvae of Chinese carp, big head carp (Aristichthys silver carp (Hypophthalmichthys molitrix) and grass carp (Ctenopharyngodon idellus), at a stocking density of 20, 10 and 5 fry/m3 for the three species, respectively. The postsac larvae were purchased from El-Abbassa Hatchery, After stocking, the regular manure application was adopted every day at a rate of 0.2 kg/m³ and 0.1 kg/m³ of water for the first and second group, respectively. Soy bean cake was administered for feeding at a ratio of 3 g/1000 fry per day. The duration of the nursing period was 12 days.

During the experimental run, growth of fry of the three species in all pond was monitored every other day, the density of plankton/liter and the organic matter content were estimated according to Boyd and Tucker (1992).

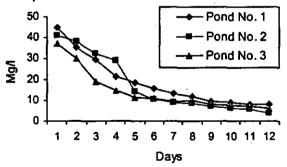
Upon termination of the fry nursing period, average final weight of the fry and survival rate were estimated. Analysis of variance and Duncan (1955)S multiple ringe test were used to detect differences in mean value of the measurements due to treatment effects.

RESULTS

Organic matter content:

As illustrated in Figure (1), the organic matter content in ponds of the higher fertilization rate was 41.1 ± 4 mg/l on the first day of the nursing period just before fry stocking. It dropped down rapidly after fry were stocked and went down by 20.2 ± 5.3 mg/l in four days. At the end of the experimental period, the organic matter content reached 6 ± 2 mg/l. While in ponds of the lower fertilization regime, as shown in Figure (2), the organic matter content was 20 ± 2.6 mg/l before stocking and decreased to 12 ± 3 mg/l on the fifth day after stocking and 3.3 ± 1.7 mg/l on the last day before harvesting. Generally, the mean value of organic matter content during the whole nursing period with applying the higher manure application rate (16.6 ± 2.3 mg/l) was significantly (p< 0.05) higher than that with applying the lower manure application rate (10.9 ± 1.7 mg/l).

Figure (1): Organic matter content (mg/l) during the fry nursing period in the three ponds of high manure application rate (1st treatment).



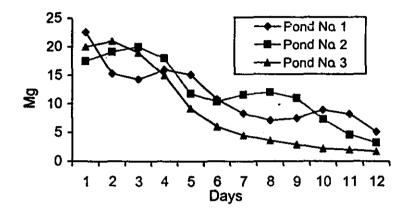
Hydro-biological features: Phytoplankton:

The phytoplankton communities in ponds of the two systems were represented by three groups, *Chlorophyta* (green algae), *Bacillariophyta* (diatoms) and *Cyanophyta* (blue-green algae). However, the dominant groups developed in ponds of the first fertilization regime (higher manure application) were *Chlorophyta* and *Cyanophyta* and the dominant genera sprang up in ponds of the second fertilization regime (lower manure application) was *Bacillariophyta*. Among the organisms of *Chlorophyta group*, *Spirogyra*,

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Protococcus, Pediastrum, Crucigenia, Closterium and Ankistrodismus were recorded as dominent. Phylum Bacillariophyta constituted six major genera: Navicula, Cyclotalla, Stephnodiscus, Flagillaria, Synedra and Diatoma. Nostoc, Oscellatoria and Anabaena were found dominant components in third group (Cyanophyta).

Figure (2): Organic matter content mg./l during the fry nursing period in the three ponds of low manure application rate (2st treatment).



As shown in Figures (3) and (4), there was a significant (p< 0.05) increase in the average phytoplankton number per liter in ponds of the first regime than that in ponds of the second one during the entire fry nursing period, being 903 \pm 90.3 org./l and 557 \pm 72.4 org./l, respectively.

Figure (3): Fluctuations of phytoplankton density (org./I) during the fry nursing period in ponds of high manure application rate.

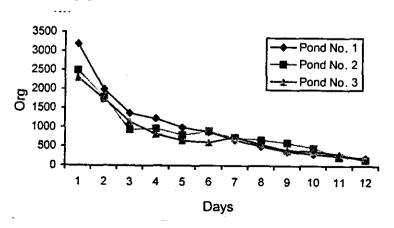
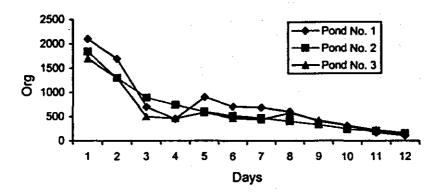


Figure (4): Fluctuations of phytoplankton density (org./l) during the fry nursing period in ponds of low manure application rate.



Zooplankton:

As indicated in Table (1) two genera, *Rotifera* and *Crustacea* represented the zooplankton community in both systems. *Crustacea* constituted *Daphnia* (Cladocera); *Diaptomus*, *Limnocalanus* and *Nauplius* (Copepoda) and *Eubranchipus* (Ostracoda). Average number of zooplankton per liter was significantly (p< 0.05) higher in ponds of the increased organic matter than in ponds of the decreased organic matter, being 890 \pm 80.3 vs. 651 \pm 98.2 org./l, in the whole nursing cycle.

Survival rate: At the end of the experiment, the average survival rate of big head, silver carp and grass care in the highly fertilized pends was 89.3 ± 2.7, 82.7 ±

silver carp and grass carp in the highly fertilized ponds was 89.3 ± 2.7 , 82.7 ± 2.4 and $72.4 \pm 2.8\%$, for the three species respectively (Figure 5). While the average survival rate of the three fry species recorded 70.2 ± 4.3 , 75.1 ± 3.2 and $87.5 \pm 2.7\%$, respectively, in the less fertilized ponds.

Growth performance:

In the period of fry culture, the growth of the three fry species in both systems was measured. As indicated in Figure (6), the initial weight of big head, silver carp and grass carp fry was 3 ± 0.3 , 3 ± 0.4 & 2.17 ± 0.2 mg/fry with an average body length of 8.3 ± 0.2 , 8.2 ± 0.2 and 6.5 ± 0.4 mm, respectively. In ponds of the higher fertilization rate, fry of the three species reached 21.8 ± 0.9 , 23.5 ± 1.1 and 13.9 ± 0.7 mm body length with an average body weight of 247.8 ± 3.3 , 486 ± 8 & 118 ± 8.2 mg/fry, respectively. While in ponds of the lower fertilization regime, the fry attained 201.4 ± 4.9 , 315.4 ± 9.7 & 141 ± 6.2 mg/fry body weight and the average length reached 17.8 ± 0.7 , 15.5 ± 0.9 & 16.9 ± 0.5 mm, respectively (Figure 7).

Table (1): Fluctuations of zooplankton density (org./L) during the fry nursing period in ponds of low and high-a

	manure appl	ication i	ate.										
Item	Zoo.Org. / L	1	2	3	4	5	6	.7	8	9	10	11	1 2
Ponds of high manure application	Rotifera	2000 ± 455	2030 ± 329	1600 ± 173	1300 ± 180	700 ± 105	600 ± 92	620 ±	350 ±	350 ± 78	200± 20	200± 40	15-0 : 4-6
	Crustacea	100±20	90±20	84±20	75±16	70±10	50±10	32±9	26±6	20±5	15±6	10±4	6 ⇒ 2
	Total zooplankton	2100 ± 475	2120 ± 315	1684 ± 164	1375 ± 183	770± 101	650± 85	652± 120	376± 83	370± 80	215± 24	210± 38	15=6±
Ponds of low manure application	Rotifera	1700 ± 223	1550 ± 114	1100 ± 255	650± 210	300± 95	290± 72	270± 70	260± 70	210± 79	180± 66	150± 53	10=0±
	Crustacea	70±20	65±16	60±19	64±17	62±8	42±7	25±5	22±6	17±3	12±3	8±4	3=±3
	Total zooplankton	1770 ± 236	1615 ± 127	1160 ± 270	714± 214	362± 99	332± 78	295± 73	282± 76	227± 82	192± 68	158± 57	10=3±

Figure (5): Survival of B. h., S. c. & G. c. in ponds of low and high fertilization rate.

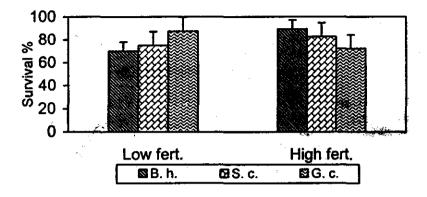


Table (2): Physico-chemical properties of water in ponds of the two treatments during the nursing period.

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Γ	Temperature (°C)	22 - 25	
	pH	8 – 8.5	
	Dissolved oxygen (mg/l)	5.5 - 6.1	e of
-	Alkalinity (ppm)	200 - 340	
1	Ammonia NH ₃ (ppm)	0.2 - 0.5	

Figure (6): Growth of fry of B.H., S.c. and G.c. after stocking in fertile ponds.

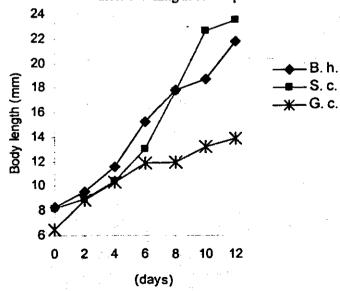
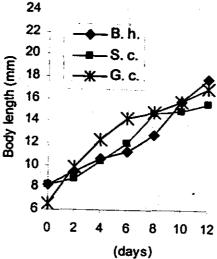


Figure (7): Growth of fry of B.H., S.c. and G.c.
After stocking in slightly fertilized ponds



DISCUSSION

It was obvious in the present study that the initial dominant species of phytoplankton emerging initially after fertilization had intimate relation to the amount of manure. Some species of green algae *Chlorophyta* such as *Scenedesmus, Pediastrum* and *Ankistrodesmus sp.* and some species of blue green algae *Cyanophyta* such as *Oscillatoria and Anabaena sp.* developed vigorously when a larger quantity of manure was applied in the first group of ponds. While with less manure in the second group of ponds, many of the diatoms of class *Bacillariophyta* were found dominant such as *Navicula and Cyclotalla sp.*

In both systems, two genera of *Rotifera* and *Crustacea* represented the zooplankton community. *Crustacea* constituted *Daphnia* (Cladocera); *Diaptomus*, *Limnocalanus* and *Nauplius* (Copepoda) and *Eubranchipus* (Ostracoda). Average number of zooplankton per liter was significantly (p< 0.05) higher, in ponds of the increased organic matter than in ponds of the decreased organic matter being 890 \pm 80.3 vs. 651 \pm 98.2 org./l, in the whole nursing cycle.

The present study indicated also that ponds supplied with larger quantity of poultry manure maintained significantly larger quantity of plankton and significantly higher values of organic matter content than those ponds of lower manure application throughout the whole period of fry nursing.

The content of organic matter was significantly higher in ponds of the intensive fertilization system than in the other slightly fertilized ponds, on the first day of nursing. It dropped down rapidly after fry were stocked in ponds of

both systems. But the average value of organic matter content during the entire nursing period was generally higher in the former system than in the later.

Two days after stocking, grass carp grew most rapidly in ponds of low fertility, exceeding the other two species in body length, but after the 10th days, surpassed by big head. Nevertheless, after two more days (at the end of the experiment) differences in the mean body weight/fry were not significantly different among the three fry species.

From the first day on, in ponds of high fertility, big head grew faster than silver carp and grass carp, but after the 10th day it was surpassed by silver carp. Grass carp dropped far behind as compared with silver carp and big head. Consequently, the present data suggested that low fertile water was more preferable for growth of grass carp than high fertile water. While more fertile water was more appropriate for growth of silver carp and big head than low fertile water.

Although oxygen content was sufficient for normal growth in both systems, as represented in table (2), the changes of water quality due to changes in the fertilization regime influenced the survival rate and growth performance of fry. There were significant differences among means of survival rate and body weight/fry of the three fry species under two different fertilization regimes within 12 days nursing period. When low manure application rate was adopted the surviving number of big head and silver carp was low (70.2 and 75.1%, respectively) and that of grass carp was high (87.5%). When high rate of manure was applied survival rate of big head and silver carp increased significantly (89.3 and 82.7%, respectively) while that of grass carp significantly decreased (72.4%).

Also, growth performance of big head and silver carp fry was poor and that of grass carp was high under low fertilization conditions compared to high fertilization regime. Fry of big head, silver carp and grass carp reached 67.1, 105.1 and 65.9 times of their initial body weight, respectively.

On the contrary, fry of big head and silver carp grew better and gained significantly larger mean body weight/fry (by 82.6 and 162 times of the initial body weight, respectively) under high manure application conditions. While grass carp fry did not grow as large as the other two species and gained smaller mean body weight/fry (by 55.1 times of the initial body weight). This may be attributed to the favorability and selectivity of each of the three Chinese carp fry to specific natural food items that could be dominant and available when different amounts of manure were applied.

Comparing the present study with others is difficult because of the different experimental condition. For example, growth, survival and harvestability of a different polyculture combination of only two Chinese carp fry, big head and silver carp, and their reciprocal hybrids were studied by Green and Smitherman (1984) in a different primary rearing period in ponds and concrete tanks stocked at a different stocking density from that of the present study. Although Kumar et al. (2004) used different manure application for fertilization of earthen ponds for nursery rearing of 4 days-age silver carp; however, blooming of large zooplankton (cladocerans and copepods) was also observed after fertilization which was essential for the

growth of silver carp fry. This result is in partial agreement with the present observation concerning silver carp. The result of gut content examination of grass carp during the nursery period made by Kirkagac (2003) supported the opinion that grass carp fry require low fertile water during the nursery rearing period. At the first week, animal material represented 74% of the gut contents. From the second week onward, plant material were higher

It could be concluded from the present study that nursing of big head and silver carp fry requires more fertile water than that is required for grass carp fry. Subsequently, monoculture system is preferable for the fry during the nursing stage.

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تقييم الاحتياجات التسميدية لزريعة المبروك السصيني الفسضي وكبيسر السرأس والحشائش أثناء فترة الحضانة

جمال عبد الناصر محمد وأحمد عبد الفتاح أحمد محمود أ

١ - قسم التقريخ وفسيولوجيا الأسماك

٣- قسم إنتاج ونظم الاستزراع السمكى المعمل المركزي لبحوث الثروة السمكية

تم اختبار معدلين مختلفين للتسميد لدراسة الاحتياجات التسميدية لثلاثة أنواع من زريعة المبروك الصيني الفضى وكبير الرأس والحشائش أتنساء فتسرة المسضانة التسي استغرقت اثني عشر يوما بعد فترة امتصاص كسيس المسح. استخدمت لهذه الدراسة مجموعتين من الأحواض الخرسانية كل مجموعة ثلاثة أحواض ، مساحة كل منها ٢٥ م٢ وكانت كثافة التحضين ٢٠، ١٠ ، ٥ زريعة للمتر المكعب من المياه للثلاثة أنـــواع علـــــى التوالي. واستخدمت في المجموعة الأولى من ألأحواض معدلات تسميدية عالية ٥,٠كجــم زرق دواجن/م٣ من المياه في التسميد الأساسي قبل التحضين بخمسة أيام ، وفي التسميد الدوري ٠,٢ كجم/م٣ يوميا أما المجموعة الثانية من الأحسواض فقد استخدمت فيها معدلات تسميدية منخفضة ٢٥.٠ كجم/م٣ للتسميد الأساسي و ٢٠٠ كجسم/م٣ التسميد الدوري. وتمت متابعة معدلات النمو للزريعة وكثافة الهائمات (البلانكتون) في اللتر مسن مياه الأحواض وكذلك محتوى المادة العضوية في اللتركل يـــومين. وفــــي نهايــــة فتـــرة التحضين تم قياس متوسطات أوزان الجسم لكل من الأنواع الثلاثة. ومن نتائج هذه الدراسة اتضح أن أنواع الهائمات انباتية التي سادت في المياه بعد التسميد ارتبطت بكمية التسميد ، إذ ظهرت بشكل سائد بعض أنواع الطحالب الخضراء (الكلوروفيتا) مثل السينيديــسماس، والبيدياسترام ، والأنكيستروديسماس ، وبعض الطحالب الخضراء المزرقة (السميانوفايةا) مثل الأوسكيللاتوريا ، والأنابينا في أحواض المجموعة الأولى التي تم تسميدها بمعدلات تسميدية أعلى. بينما سادت أنواع أخرى من هذه الهائمات كـ الدياتومز من رتبعة (الباسيللاريوفيتا) مثل النافيكيولا ، والسايكلوتللا عند استخدام معدلات تسميدية منخفضة في أحواض المجموعة الثانية. وكانت معدلات الإعاشة لنوعى كبير الرأس والفضى منخفضة ٧٠,٢ و ٧٥,١% على التوالي في الأحواض ذات التسمميد المسنخفض بينمسا لمبسروك الحشائش كانت معدلات الإعاشة أعلى (٨٧,٥%)، أما في الأحواض ذات معدلات التسميد المرتفع فقد زادت معدلات الإعاشة بالنسبة لكبير الرأس والفضى زيادة معنوية لتصبح ٨٩,٣ و ٨٢,٧% على التوالي ، بينما قلت بشكل معنوى بالنــسبة لمبــروك الحــشائش لتصبح ٤.٧٢٪. كذلك كان أداء النمو في كبير الرأس والفضى ضـــعيفا وفـــى مبـــروك الحشائش عاليا تحت ظروف التسميد المنخفضة حيث وصل متوسط وزن الزريعة ٦٧،١ و ١٠٥,١ و ٦٥,٩ مرة من وزنها الأصلى على التوالي، وفي المقابل في أحواض التــسميد المرتفع كان أداء النمو عاليا بالنسبة إلى كبير الرأس والفضى ومنخفضا بالنسبة إلسى مبروك الحشائش ، حيث وصل متوسط وزن الزريعة ٨٢،٦ و ١٦٢ و ٥٥،١ مسرة مسن وزنها الأصلى على التوالي. وعلى ذلك يستنتج أن الرعاية المبكرة لزريعة المبروك كبير الرأس والمبروك الفضمي تتطلب معدلات تسميدية أعلى من التي تحتاجها زريعة مبسروك الحشائش ، وكذلك يفضل أن تكون الرعاية المبكرة لكل نسوع على حدة الخستالف الاحتياجات التسميدية لكل منها في هذه المرحلة. استحداث التبويض في أسماك الكارب الفصني (Hypopthalmichthys) تحت ظروف البيئة المصرية أمين عبد المعطى الجمل ومحمد عبد الباقى عامر أمين عبد المعطى الجمل ومحمد عبد الباقى عامر شعبة الثروة السمكية ، قسم الإنتاج الجيواني ، كلية الزراعة ، جامعة عين شمس

تم تتبع الأداء التناسلي لمجموعة تتكون من ١٨١ من الناث أسماك الكارب الفضي خسلال فترة ثمانية أشهر (مارس-أكتوبر) لعامين متواليين ٢٠٠٤ و ٢٠٠٥ تحت الظسروف المسصوية. استحدث التبويض في الإناث بحقن جرعتين من مسحوق نخامية الكسارب (ارجنست - الفلبين) جرعة تحضيريه (٢٠٠ مجم/كجم) وجرعة نهائية مقدارها ٤ مجم/كجم بعد حوالي ٩ ساعات بينما تم معاملة الذكور بجرعة واحدة (٣ مجم/كجم أثناء وقت حقن الجرعه التحضيريه في الإناث. تسم الحصول على البيض من الإناث عن طريق العصر بعد حوالي ٨ ساعات من الجرعة الثانية وتم تخصيبها في الحال بالطريقة الجافه. تم تحضين البويضات المخصبه في أقماع من الفيسرجلاس مزودة بمياه مهواه ومتدفقه حتى وقت الفقس. اجريت محاوله لدراسة العمر عند النصح الجنسسي في مجموعه من الإناث عددها ١٢ مسكه في عام ٢٠٠٥. تم تقدير المعدلات السشهريه لنسب الإناث التي باضت ووزن البيض (جم) وكنسبة من وزن جسم الأمهات وعدد البويضات المنتجسة المسوعة.

اتضح أن أعلى نسبة استجابه لاستحداث التبويض وأفضل حاله الميرقات الناتجهة تحت المظروف المصرية كانت في الفتره من ايريل إلى يونيو، تصل إناث أسماك الكارب الفضي إلى النضج الجنسي على وزن يقل عن ٢ كجم وعمر سنتين أو أقل. أقل نسبة للتبويض كانت في شهر مارس (٢٠٠٦%، ٥٠٠ في عامي ٢٠٠٠ و ٢٠٠٠ على الترتيب). خالل الاشهر التجريبية الأخرى تراوحت نسبة الإستجابة في الإناث من ٨٣.٣ اللى ١٠٠٠. كان وقت الإستجابة حرالي ٥٠٠ ساعة عند درجة حراره ٢٠٥٠ مئوية. تراوحت أوزان البيض الناتجة بالنسبة لوزن الأمهات من ٢٨٨٦ إلى ١٠٠٠ إلى ١٥٢٤٠ مئوية. كمن من ١٨٨٦ إلى ١٠٠٠ إلى ١٥٢٤٠ مئوية. كمن كجم. تم الفقس بعد حوالي ٢٠ ساعة من التحضين على درجة حرارة ٢٠٥٠ درجة مئوية. تراوحت نسب الإخصاب والبقاء بين ٢٠٥٩-١٠٣ و ٢٠٧٠-١٠٠ و ٢٠٠٠ مايو بالمقارنة بتلك التي أن أقل نسبة لليرقات المشوهة (١١-١٠) كانت في الفترة بين ابريل حمايو بالمقارنة بتلك التي لوحظت في بداية الموسم (مارس ، ١٥-٢٠) لو في نهايته (يوليو-أكتوبر ، ١٦-١٨٣).