

Performance assessment of Re-use Mariculture System for Mini Farm in Rearing *Sparus aurata* and *Dicentrarchus labrax*

Amr M. Helal and Mona M. Mustafa

Fish Rearing Lab, Aquaculture Division, National Institute of Oceanography & Fisheries, Alexandria, Egypt.

amr_helal@yahoo.com; monamustafa153@yahoo.com

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ABSTRACT

The objective of the present research is to assess the performance of re-used mariculture system on growth rate and percent survival of *S. aurata* and *D. labrax* fish; more over to evaluate water quality, which affects fish production. The results revealed that the degree of re-used sea water was 96.7% which equal 65 L daily and the new water added /Kg fish was 8.8 L/Kg juvenile *S. aurata* daily and 3.28 L/Kg fries *D. labrax* daily. The physicochemical and biological water measurement (T^oc, pH, S%, DO, NH₃, NH₄⁺, NO₂⁻, NO₃⁻ and BOD) are in acceptable range in the two experiments for *S. aurata* and *D. labrax*. The result explained that the survival rate were 96% and 91% for *S. aurata* and 76.7% and 81.6% for *D. Labrax* in Tank1 and Tank2 respectively. The growth performance parameters (WG, ADG, SGR, FCR, PER and K) were reported for the two experiments. The length-weight relationship for *S. aurata* indicate that the high length, the increase in weight with R² = 0.9596 and 0.9966 for Tank1 and Tank2 comparing with 0.8474 for control. Therefore the significant success of rearing *S. aurata* and *D. labrax* in RMS for mini farm was achieved in water management by improving the efficiency of biological filter.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, animal protein becomes a main problem in several countries like Egypt; therefore we must reduce the gap between production and animal protein consumption special fish protein. In Egypt, aquaculture is become an increasingly important activity as source of fish protein required for the increase population (Savary-Auzeloux *et al*, 2014).

Mariculture is a growth industry demarche to satisfy a growing market for food fish. It currently is the overgrowth sectors of aquaculture in Egypt. Farms of rearing *S. Aurata* (sea bream) and *D. Labrax* (sea bass) are help to increase profitability in the last years (FAO, 2013).

Re-use Mariculture system (RMS) is essentially a technology for farming marine fish species by reusing the marine water in the production. It is depend on the use of bio-filters. RMS can be used out at different intensities depending on how much water is re-used.

Re-use marine water enables the fish farm manager to control and easy management for the parameters of production, and the skills of the manager to

operate the reused system itself becomes just as important as his capacity to take care of the fish (FAO, 2015).

The modern mariculture has been practiced on intensive form base on the management of fish production and water quality. A sustainable mariculture industry acquires high seed quality with raising the survival percentage and growth performance (FAO, 2013).

Water quality is the primary important factor affects the larvae and juvenile stages production reared in ponds or tanks. Also, it deem the most tricky production factor to understands and predict to management. Water is not just where fish live but its quality affects on the feed efficiency, growth rate, fish health and survival percentage (Sipaúba-Tavares and Magalhães Santeiro, 2013).

The water quality utilized for aquaculture is one of the important factors affecting fish production to maximum performance. Water quality of fish farm must be appropriate in terms of temperature, salinity, color, neither acidic nor alkaline, contain enough DO and not be muddy or turbid (Iliyasu *et al*, 2016)

Therefore, this research aimed to manage and assessment the RMS in rearing *D. labrax* larvae and juvenile stage of *S. aurata*, also determine the growth rate and percent survival for these species during its experimental rearing.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Re-use Mariculture System:

Re-use Mariculture System (RMS) for mini fish farm is a closed system located at National Institute of Oceanography & Fisheries - El-Anfoshy, Alexandria. RMS is a naval and modern way for rearing fish in mini farms Instead of the traditional method of growing fish. It's a system to optimize production through a limited supply of water, with complete control for environmental to optimize fish growth. RMS is a technology for recycling of treated water as a closed system in the fish farms production. It is depend on utilize of filters biological and RMS can be utilized for any species of aquaculture.

RMS consist of two rearing tanks (T1&T2) the capacity of each one is 2000L, one Sedimentation tank ST has two levels 0.25 and 0.5 m, Bio-Filter BF (consist of three layers gravel sea shell, pottery and coal) and Pump (P) to remain water volume constant (Fig.1). The degree of reused water was calculated as following:

$$R = (1 - Q_B/Q_T) \times 100$$

R: Degree of reused water.

Q_B : The amount of water in the exchange batch/day.

Q_T : Total water volume in tank.

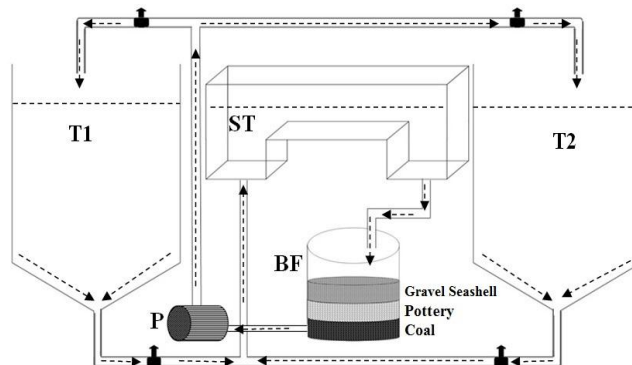


Fig. 1: Re-use Mariculture System Design

* T1&T2: Rearing Tanks; ST: Sedimentation tank; BF: Bio-Filter; P: Pump

The degree of re-use water does not give sufficient information about the performance of the RMS and is not enough to describe a re-used system properly. There for it must be take in regard the quantity of fish in the system to describe RMS it will also be necessary to know the amount of new water added/Kg fish (Liters new water/Kg fish) using the following equation:

$$\frac{\text{New Water Add L/min}}{\text{Total amount of fish/Kg}}$$

Parameters measurement:

Water sampling was conducted weekly from T1 and T2.

Physiochemical and Biological Parameters

Temperature

Water temperature was measure by dipping the bucket thermometer for a few minutes.

pH

pH values were measure immediately using a Lovibond Water Testing, SensoDirect 150.

Salinity

Salinity values were measure immediately using a Digital Refractometers for Sea Water Measurements.

Dissolved Oxygen

DO was analyzed according to Azide method that was approved by AOAC methods (AOAC, 1995).

Ammonium

Ammonia and nitrogenous oxide were analyzed by using ammonia nitrogen test kit "La Motte" solving analytical challenges.

Biological Oxygen Demand

BOD was analyzed according to standard Association of official analytical chemistry AOAC methods (AOAC, 1995).

RMS Management:

The water quality used for fish culture is one of the important factors affecting fish yield for optimum performance fish species being culture. Good water quality, must be neutral pH value contain enough dissolved oxygen, clear, with suitable temperature and salinity.

To face mariculture problems, water quality parameters should be monitored to serve as guide for managing RMS, thus conditions that can adversely affect the growth of fish can be avoided.

Two experiments were designed to assessment the RMS:

First Experiment:

The first experiment was conducted on Sea Bream (*Sparus aurata*). The source of stocking fingerlings Sea Bream was collected from Domietta region and nursed in the tanks for 10 days. The fingerlings of Sea Bream with mean weight 36.0 ± 0.66 gm by average length 14.0 ± 0.22 cm were reared in the same two rearing tank at rate 100 fingerlings /1000L, during the period from November to May.

Second Experiment:

The second experiment was conducted on Sea Bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*). The source of stocking fingerlings Sea Bass was collected from Domiatta region and nursed in the tanks for 10 days. The fingerlings of *Sea Bass* with mean weight 2.5gm by average length 8.5cm were reared in the two rearing tank at rate 100 fingerlings /1000L, during the period from March to June.

The feeding rate was 4% of fish total weight twice time daily. The commercial supplementary feed meal was from Aller Aqua. The dietary ingredients and proximate composition used in RMS (Table 1).

Table 1: Dietary Ingredients and Proximate Composition of *S. aurata* and *D. Labrax* Reared in RMS System Mini Fish Farm

| Ingredients (g kg ⁻¹) (Protein %) | Dietary Treatments % |
|---|----------------------|
| Fish Herring meal (76%) | 24 |
| Fish meal (65%) | 10 |
| Soybean meal (48%) | 14 |
| Soybean meal (44%) | 6 |
| Wheat Gluten (80%) | 7 |
| Wheat flour | 10 |
| Corn Gluten(60%) | 11 |
| Fish oil | 11.50 |
| Brewers yeast | 2 |
| Mono Calcium Phosphate | 2 |
| Krill meal(62%) | 1.5 |
| Min. premix1 | 0.5 |
| Vitamins2 | 0.5 |
| Energy | 4644 kcal/kg |
| Total | 100 |
| Proximate composition (%) | |
| Crude Protein | 48.5±2.1 |
| Crude fat | 14.6±0.6 |
| Crude Fiber | 2.7±0.1 |
| Ash | 8.3±0.2 |
| Moisture | 10.1±0.5 |
| NFE3 | 25.9±3.2 |

1: Vitamins premix (mg kg⁻¹);, p-amino benzoic acid (9.48); D-Biotin (0.38); Inositol (379.20); Niacin (37.92); Ca-pantothenate (56.88); Pyridoxine-HCl (11.38); Riboflavin (7.58); Thiamine-HCl (3.79); L-ascorbyl-2-phosphate Mg (APM) (296.00); Folic acid (0.76); Cyanocobalamine (0.08); Menadione (3.80), Vitamin A-palmitate (17.85); α -tocopherol (18.96); Calciferol (1.14).

2: Minerals premix (mg kg⁻¹) Copper (70) ;Zinc(70) ;Manganese(12) ; Iodine(3) ;Selenium(2)

3: Nitrogen-free extracts (NFE) = 1000 - [Ash + lipid + protein + Fiber] (g kg⁻¹).

Growth Measurements:

The fish in each experimental tank were weighed to nearest gm and measured individually to nearest mm at beginning and end of the experiment to calculate the growth rate, survival percentage, gain weight and specific growth rate in each experiment as the following:

$$\text{Percent gain weight} = \frac{\text{Final weight} - \text{Initial weight}}{\text{Initial weight}} \times 100$$

$$\text{SGR} = \frac{\text{Ln final weight} - \text{Ln initial weight}}{\text{Period/day}}$$

Length-Weight Relationship:

The length-weight relationship for fish can be identifying by using the equation (Le Cren, 1951):

$$W = aL^b$$

Where:

W = Weight of fish (g).

L = Total length of fish (cm).

a = Y – Intercept or the Initial growth index.

b = Slope or the growth coefficient or an exponent.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Assessment of RMS Management:

The re-used water can be expressed either as percentage or amount of water exchanged. The percentage of water exchanged in relation to the total flow in the system through day and night or it can give as the amount of exchanged water in relation to the total volume of water to remain the water volume in tanks constant.

The result exposed that the degree of re-used water in the RMS equal 96.7% and the rate of water exchange due to siphoning to eliminate the organic waste from bottom of the tanks and due to evaporation factors equal 3.3% of the total water volume of each tank which equal 65L/daily.

Moreover, to evaluate the RMS it will be also necessary to know the amount of new water added per Kg fish (L/Kg fish), the results revealed that the new water added/Kg fish in initial and final experiment equal 8.8 L/Kg daily and 3.28 L/Kg for sea bass and sea bream respectively.

Physiochemical and Biological Parameters

Temperature:

The degree of water temperature for the first experiment are revealed that the monthly mean water temperature reached its lowest value in winter 13°C and 14°C during January and February and then it rose during April to 22°C as shown in Table 2. While, the results for the second experiment are revealed that the mean monthly temperature ranged between 21°C and 23°C during summer season (Table 4).

The suitable water temperature range for grows *O. niloticus*, *M. Capito* and *D. Labrax* ranged between 15-35 °C (Attia *et al.*, 2017), these results are agreement with the present results.

pH:

Measurement of pH in aquatic habitat is essential as it reflects the biological activity and changes in the water as well as pollution. The mean monthly pH value in the first experimental period for sea bream range between 8.55 ± 0.02 and 8.68 ± 0.01 in T1 while in T2, the pH value range between 7.53 ± 0.01 and 8.55 ± 0.02 as minimum and maximum values respectively (Table 2).

Moreover, in the second experimental period for sea bass the mean monthly pH value ranged between 7.53 and 7.66 as minimum value while 8.55 and 8.76 as maximum value in T1 and T2 respectively (Table 4).

The suitable pH range for fish culture is between 6.7 and 9.5 and the ideal pH value is between 7.5 and 8.5, while pH value above or below is stressful to the fishes. Therefore the present results seem to be much suitable for fish culture and in agreement with the findings (Attia *et al.*, 2017).

Salinity:

Salinity plays an important role in the growth of culture organism through osmoregulations of body minerals from the surrounding water. Moreover, it is the most significant factors which affect the survival of fish (Jamabo, 2008; Iliyasu *et al.*, 2016). Generally, the result revealed that the mean water salinity ranged between 35 and 37 ppt (Tables 2 and 4) in the first and second experiments respectively.

Dissolved Oxygen:

DO is the most limiting factor in aquaculture. There for, it is considered as the most important and useful parameter for assessing the degree of water quality. It affects the growth, survival, distribution, behavior and physiology of aquatic organism (Ekubo and Abowei, 2011).

The present results revealed that the mean monthly DO value in first experimental period for *S. aurata* ranged between 5.07 ± 0.07 mg/l and 5.03 ± 0.03 mg/l as minimum value and 5.607 ± 0.01 mg/l and 5.83 ± 0.01 mg/l as maximum value in T1 and T2 respectively (Table 2). While, the results in the second experiment for *D. Labrax* the mean monthly DO value ranged between 3.26 mg/l and 3.78 mg/l as minimum value and 8.98 mg/l and 5.1 mg/l as maximum value in T1 and T2 respectively (Table 4).

These result considered in adequate value in aquaculture and agreement with (Ekubo and Abowei, 2011) which recommended that the lowest concentration of 1.0 mg/l DO is essential to sustain fish for long period and 5.0 mg/l are adequate in fish farm. The environmental management of pond fish farms explains that for good water quality; maintain the DO level at above 4 mg/l. The present study is revealed agreement with (Saloom and Duncan, 2005).

Table 2: Monthly Water Quality for (T1& T2) of *S. Aurata* Reared in RMS System Mini Fish Farm

| | Temp° | pH | | S. ppt. | | DO (mg/l) | |
|----------|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|------|-----------|-----------|
| | | Mean ± SE | | | | Mean ± SE | |
| | | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 |
| November | 17 | 8.68±0.01 | 8.53±0.03 | 36 | 36 | 5.67±0.04 | 5.10±0.03 |
| December | 19 | 8.64±0.02 | 8.42±0.03 | 37 | 37 | 5.50±0.05 | 5.08±0.05 |
| January | 13 | 8.57±0.01 | 7.53±0.01 | 35 | 35 | 5.45±0.08 | 5.03±0.09 |
| February | 14 | 8.56±0.02 | 8.55±0.02 | 36 | 36 | 5.43±0.01 | 5.07±0.07 |
| March | 19 | 8.55±0.02 | 8.54±0.02 | 36 | 36 | 5.07±0.07 | 5.03±0.03 |
| April | 22 | 8.68±0.01 | 8.54±0.02 | 37 | 37 | 5.67±0.04 | 5.83±0.04 |
| Average | 17 | 8.61 | 8.31 | 36.7 | 36.7 | 5.46 | 5.2 |

Table 4: Monthly Water Quality for (T1 & T2) of *D. Labrax* Reared in RMS System Mini Fish Farm

| | Temp° | pH mean | | S. ppt. mean | | DO (mg/l) mean | |
|---------|-------|---------|------|--------------|------|----------------|------|
| | | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 |
| | | May | 21 | 8.23 | 8.23 | 36 | 36 |
| June | 23 | 8.42 | 8.33 | 37 | 37 | 4.02 | 4.02 |
| July | 21 | 7.53 | 7.66 | 35 | 35 | 8.98 | 4.98 |
| August | 23 | 8.55 | 8.76 | 36 | 36 | 3.26 | 3.78 |
| Average | 22 | 8.18 | 8.25 | 36 | 36 | 4.79 | 4.47 |

Total Ammonia Nitrogen

Total Ammonia Nitrogen (TAN) is the by product from protein metabolism excreted by fish and bacterial decomposition of organic matter as wasted feed, feces and dead plankton (Fahmy, 2001).

In the first experimental period result detect that the mean unionize ammonia (NH₃) in T1 and T2 fluctuated throughout from 0.041 mg/l and 0.01 mg/l as lowest value at the beginning of rearing period. It increases gradually to attain its highest value 1.043 mg/l and 0.14 mg/l at the end of experimental period respectively for *s. aurata* (Table 3).

While, in second experiment the mean NH₃ value in T1 and T2 are recorded 0.04 mg/l and 0.07 mg/l as minimum value and 0.1 mg/l and 0.18 mg/l as maximum value respectively for *D. labrax* (Table 5).

Whereas, the result revealed that the monthly mean ionized ammonia (NH₄⁺) in T1 and T2 are increased progressively from 0.16mg/l and 0.08mg/l as minimum value at the beginning of rearing period to attain maximum value 0.76 mg/l and 0.74 mg/l at the end of experiment period respectively for *s. aurata* (Table 3).

While the results exposed that the mean ionized ammonia NH₄⁺ in T1 and T2, increased progressively from 0.16 mg/l and 0.08 mg/l as minimum value at the

beginning of rearing period to attain maximum value 0.76 mg/l and 0.74 mg/l at the end of experimental period respectively (Table 3).

But, in the second experiment for *D. labrax* the mean NH_4^+ value in T1 and T2 ranged between 0.99 mg/l and 1.10 mg/l as highest value to 0.7 mg/l and 0.7 mg/l as lowest value respectively (Table 5).

Ahmed *et al.*, (2015) explained that the ammonia level ranged between 0.5 to 2 mg/l, caused high mortality for fish and the desirable limit of ammonia is 0 – 0.05 mg/l and acceptable limit less than 0.5mg/l. Also, (Bhatangar and Devi, 2013) recorded that the level of ammonia less than 0.2 mg/l to be suitable for fish culture the present results are agree with acceptable limit.

Nitrite:

Nitrite is the most unstable compound of inorganic forms because of its intermediate position in oxidation reduction process between ammonia and nitrate, that is mean nitrite appear in water mainly as a result of biochemical oxidation ammonia (nitrification).

The monthly mean recorded results of NO_2^- explained that it fluctuate from 0.176 mg/l and 0.12 mg/l as minimum value to 0.332 mg/l and 0.23 mg/l as maximum value in T1 and T2 respectively in the first experiment (Table 3).

Therefore, the present results illustrated that the average Nitrite values were in T1 higher than that in T2 for *S. aurata*. While, the result of *D. labrax* in the second experiment detected that the monthly mean value of NO_2^- ranged between 2.79 mg/l and 2.00 mg/l as highest value and 1.3 mg/l and 1.43 mg/l as a lowest value in T1 and T2 respectively (Table 5).

The nitrite desirable limit is zero as a normal and ideal measurement in any aquatic system. Stone and Thomforde (2004) recommended that the nitrite acceptable range less than 4 mg/l and according to (Santhosh and Singh, 2007) recorded nitrite concentration in water should never exceed 0.5 mg/l.

While, (OATA, 2008) recommended that the nitrite should not override 0.2 mg/l in freshwater and 0.125 mg/l in seawater. While (Bhatnagar and Devi, 2013) reported that the acceptable range of nitrite ranged between 0.02-2.00 mg/l, therefore the present results are in acceptable range.

Nitrate:

Nitrate is the end of nitrification product process in natural water; it is mean that nitrate is the most stable form of inorganic nitrogen in oxygenated water.

The present results in the first experiment detected that the monthly mean water nitrate (NO_3^-) in T1 and T2 fluctuated from 0.91 mg/l and 0.83 mg/l as highest value to 0.62 mg/l and 0.54 mg/l as lowest value respectively for *S. aurata* (Table 3).

In the second experiment the results recorded that the monthly mean value of NO_3^- ranged between 2.71 mg/l and 2.31 mg/l as minimum value and 4.12 mg/l and 3.78 mg/l as maximum value in T1 and T2 respectively for *D. labrax* (Table 5).

Stone and Thomforde (2004) recorded that the nitrate is comparatively non toxic to fish and not cause any health hazard except at exceedingly high levels (above 90 mg/l), as well as (Santhosh and Singh, 2007) reported the suitable range of 0.1 mg/l to 4.0 mg/l in fish farm water. However, (OATA, 2008) recommends that nitrate levels in marine water not exceed 100 mg/l. It can be concluded that nitrate range in the acceptable limit.

Biological Oxygen Demand:

Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) is measurement of total DO consumed by micro organism for biodegradation of organic matter such as food particles or sewage.

The mean monthly BOD value fluctuated from 6.20 mg/l and 6.53 mg/l as maximum values to 5.35 mg/l and 5.27 mg/l as minimum value in T1 and T2 respectively for *S. aurata* (Table 3). Whilst, in the second experiment for *D. labrax* the BOD value ranged between 4.29 mg/l and 4.18 mg/l as lowest value to 5.23 mg/l and 4.55 mg/l as highest value in T1 and T2 respectively (Table 5).

BOD is the measurement of DO consumed by microorganisms for biodegradation of organic matter such as food particles or sewage. The BOD level between 3.0-6.0 mg/l is optimum for normal activities of fishes; 6.0-12.0 mg/l is sub-lethal to fishes and greater than 12.0 mg/l can usually cause death of fish due to suffocation (Bhatnagar *et al.*, 2004). The optimal BOD level for fish farm should be less than 10 mg/l, however the water with BOD less than 10 mg/l can be considered suitable for fish culture (Attia *et al.*, 2017). There for the present result revealed that BOD value are in acceptable range.

Table 3: Monthly Water Quality for (T1 & T2) of Sea-Bream Reared in RMS System Mini Fish Farm

| | NH ₃ (mg/l) | | NH ₄ ⁺ (mg/l) | | NO ₂ ⁻ (mg/l) | | NO ₃ ⁻ (mg/l) | | BOD (mg/l) | |
|----------------|------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|------------|------|
| | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | |
| | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 |
| Nove. | 0.041 | 0.01 | 0.16 | 0.08 | 0.332 | 0.23 | 0.91 | 0.83 | 6.20 | 5.53 |
| Dec. | 1.043 | 0.01 | 0.19 | 0.08 | 0.234 | 0.17 | 0.87 | 0.74 | 6.03 | 5.43 |
| Jan. | 0.047 | 0.02 | 0.22 | 0.09 | 0.199 | 0.16 | 0.75 | 0.68 | 5.46 | 6.53 |
| Feb. | 0.055 | 0.11 | 0.27 | 0.59 | 0.167 | 0.17 | 0.68 | 0.62 | 5.41 | 5.35 |
| March | 0.112 | 0.12 | 0.59 | 0.66 | 0.176 | 0.14 | 0.62 | 0.58 | 5.35 | 5.32 |
| April | 0.041 | 0.14 | 0.76 | 0.74 | 0.332 | 0.12 | 0.91 | 0.54 | 6.20 | 5.27 |
| Average | 0.22 | 0.08 | 0.36 | 0.43 | 0.24 | 0.15 | 0.79 | 0.63 | 5.77 | 5.58 |

Table 5: Monthly Water Quality for (T1 & T2) of *D. Labrax* Reared in RMS System Mini Fish Farm

| | NH ₃ (mg/l) | | NH ₄ ⁺ (mg/l) | | NO ₂ ⁻ (mg/l) | | NO ₃ ⁻ (mg/l) | | BOD(mg/l) | |
|----------------|------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------|-----------|------|
| | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | |
| | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 |
| May | 0.1 | 0.18 | 0.99 | 1.1 | 2.75 | 1.95 | 2.95 | 2.31 | 4.79 | 4.55 |
| June | 0.04 | 0.14 | 0.77 | 1.07 | 1.36 | 1.56 | 4.01 | 3.21 | 4.29 | 4.31 |
| July | 0.05 | 0.07 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 1.43 | 4.12 | 3.78 | 4.35 | 4.18 |
| August | 0.1 | 0.12 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 2.79 | 2 | 2.71 | 2.31 | 5.23 | 4.23 |
| Average | 0.07 | 0.13 | 0.86 | 0.96 | 2.05 | 1.74 | 3.45 | 2.9 | 4.67 | 4.32 |

Survival and Growth Rate:

Survival and Growth Rate data of RMS for mini farm were depicted for both species *S. aurata* and *D. labrax* under studying (Table 6), it could be notice that the survival rate was 96% and 91% for *S. aurata* and 76.7% and 81.6% for *D. labrax* in T1 and T2 respectively. The weight gain WG gm/fish were 66.5 gm/fish and 72.34 gm/fish for *S. aurata* and 43 gm/fish and 47.5 gm/fish for *D. labrax* in T1 and T2 respectively.

Concerning the average daily gain (ADG) gm/fish/day, the results revealed that it ranged between 0.350 and 0.381 for *S. aurata* and between 0.358 and 0.396 for *D. labrax* in T1 and T2 respectively. While, the specific growth rate SGR the results explained that it ranged between 4.62 and 4.67 for *S. aurata* and 3.81 and 3.91 for *D. labrax* in T1 and T2 respectively (Table 6).

Table 6: Survival Growth Parameters of *S. Aurata* and *D. Labrax* Reared in RMS System Mini Fish Farm

| Parameters | Gilthead sea-bream | | Sea bass | |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| | (100 fish/m ³) | (100 fish/m ³) | (100 fish/m ³) | (100 fish/m ³) |
| | T1 | T2 | T1 | T2 |
| Survival (%) | 96 | 91 | 76.7 | 81.6 |
| Initial weight (g fish ⁻¹) | 36.66 | 36.66 | 2.6 | 2.6 |
| Initial length (g fish ⁻¹) | 14.22 | 14.22 | 8.5 | 8.5 |
| Final weight (g fish ⁻¹) | 103.17 | 109 | 45.6 | 50.1 |
| Final length (g fish ⁻¹) | 19.22 | 21.11 | 12.2 | 13.5 |
| WG (g fish ⁻¹) | 66.51 | 72.34 | 43 | 47.5 |
| Average daily gain(ADG)g/fish/day | 0.350 | 0.381 | 0.358 | 0.396 |
| Percent gain in weight (%) | 176.28 | 197.33 | 1653.85 | 1826.92 |
| SGR(% day ⁻¹ fish ⁻¹) | 4.62 | 4.67 | 3.81 | 3.91 |
| condition Factor (K) | 1.45 | 1.14 | 2.51 | 2.04 |
| FI (g fish ⁻¹) | 150 | 150 | 100 | 100 |
| FCR food conversion rate | 2.26 | 2.07 | 2.33 | 2.11 |
| Protein efficiency ratio(PER) | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.6 |

The food conversion rate FCR revealed that it ranged between 2.26 and 2.07 for *S. aurata*, while *D. labrax* between 2.33 and 2.11 respectively. Moreover, the protein efficiency ratio PER were 1.0, 1.1, 1.2 and 1.6 for *S. aurata* and *D. labrax* in T1 and T2 as shown in Table 6. Therefore, the results are in acceptable range and agreement with (Hamza, 1998).

Moreover the results revealed that the percent gain in weight; condition factors K, food conversion ratio (FCR) and protein efficiency ratio (PER) were less for *S. aurata* than *D. labrax* (Table 6).

These results may be referring to the smallest initial length and weight of *D. labrax* (larval stage). Also, the results of T2 for both species were always higher than that T1.

Growth Studies for the length-weight relationship of combined sex of *S. aurata* is represented in (Fig. 2).

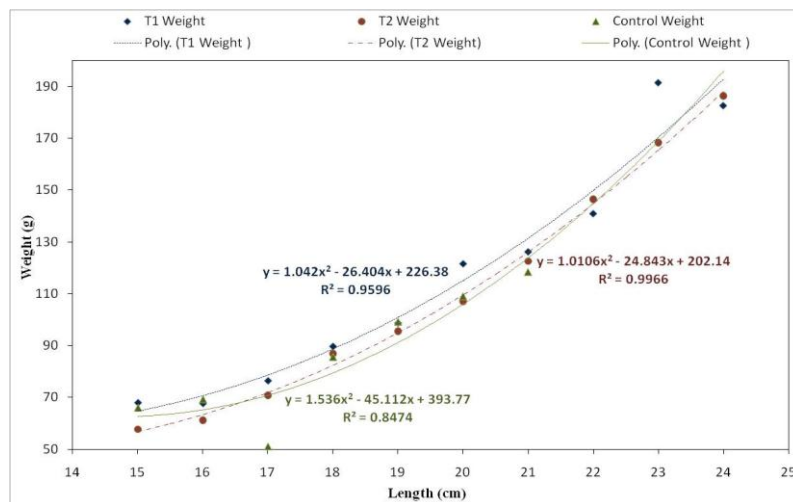


Fig. 2: Length-Weight Relation of Sea Bream Reared in Rearing Tanks (T1, T2) and Control

The curvi-linear relationship shows the calculated weight at each length interval for T1 and T2. The parabolic relationship between the calculated weight and length indicated that the higher length the increase in weight as show Fig.(2).

These results indicated the significant success of rearing fingerlings *S. aurata* and larval stage of *D. labrax* in RMS for mini farm was achieved in water management by improving the efficiency of biological filter and the separation of organic matter through the use of RMS for mini farm.

Moreover the success rearing of fingerlings *S. aurata* represented by high survival percentage and growth parameter refer to the optimization of RAS have been concerning temperature, salinity effects, DO requirement, light intensity referred levels and photoperiod.

From the previous results it can be conclude that the success rearing of *S. aurata* and *D. labrax* in the RMS and could generate profit in mariculture fish species. Also, the success rearing is referring to the bio-filter which manages the environmental water-quality to acceptable limit.

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