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Independent Study Advisors : Assoc.Prof. Paitoon Kachamart, Mr. Weera Pakuthai

ABSTRACT

The objectives of this research were to study the cost, returns and problems of the production and marketing of Nile Tilapia cage cultures. This was also to study for guiding to a future plan for raising fish in a cage for farmers who want to raise fish in fiber basket both for food and business.

The sample size consisting of 15 samples were obtained from Nile Tilapia cage cultures breeders in Lampao Reservoir Changwat Kalasin. It was divided into 3 groups: those who has small farm of 5 samples (the size is less or 6 floating baskets), and those who has medium farm of 5 samples (the size is 7-12 floating baskets), and those who has large farm of 5 samples (the size is more or 13 floating baskets).

The result of this study showed that the net profit of both the fry nursery and non-nursery of small farm had the net profits even 4,332.76 and 4,847.68 bath there were also the net profit of medium farm even 8,336.10 and 6,751.22 bath per floating basket per group. The net profit the large farm, both the fry nursery and non-nursery was 6,577.17 and 5,880.05 bath per floating basket per group of the net profit.

This study of the production on Nile Tilapia cage cultures management found that there was high risk in public water resources for all farms because there was no spare pond in case of immediate water pollution. This caused the lose of their Nile Tilapia. All farmers used the same floating basket in each group. Most of them did not have any plan for floating basket using.

It was also indicated that all farmers would like to sell their own products at farm. Most of the products in the medium and large farm were sold wholesale to dealer at their own farm. Their average cost was lower than small farm. Because the products in small farm was retail to the consumers, they gained the profit which is better than sold to the dealer. For size selecting of Nile Tilapia , all farmers selected the sizable fish which has the average weight more than 0.50 kilogram per one fish because the consumer need to eat the big fish.

The optimal number of Nile Tilapia breeder fish raised in the cage is 40 – 100 units per square meter. The feed should be provided in the day time and 4 – 5 times per day due to the fact that they can feed in great amount. It is required that cages be constantly checked and maintained so that the fish are unable to sneak away. In addition, it is critical that there be at least a spare pond to transfer the raised fish in the event that the natural water sources used for fish raising are unexpectedly polluted.

In marketing, Nile Tilapia breeder should be processed to add its value in case of over supply and that it is another channel to generate income.

Major recommendations for promotion Nile Tilapia cage cultures based on the findings of this study were: (1) the government sector should support them to set up the cooperative society for Nile Tilapia breeder in order to ask for credit from the bank and do bargaining power with the trader, (2) the government sector should assist to decrease the costs of production such as giving the knowledge of blended food instead processed food which is more helpful to reduce their costs.