

COMPARATIVE STUDIES OF NUTRIENT COMPOSITION OF WILD CAUGHT AND POND REARED AFRICAN CATFISH, CLARIAS GARIEPINUS

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ABSTRACT

Proximate composition of wild caught catfish sample from Oguta lake and pond reared catfish (*Clarias gariepinus* Burchell, 1822) were studied between October 2014 and November 2015. The comparative work was carried out to find out if habitat could affect the nutrient composition of the fish. Standard method was employed in the analysis of body nutrient. From the result of this study, there were significant difference between the protein content of wild *Clarias gariepinus* and that of pond reared *Clarias gariepinus* ($P < 0.05$) from the pond raised catfish percentage crude protein was 60 ± 1.30 and for the wild *Clarias gariepinus* crude protein percentage was 61 ± 1.20 . Also, for the pond reared *Clarias gariepinus* the percentage fat was 21 ± 1.31 Ash 1.62 ± 0.25 , dry matter 5.40 ± 4.49 , percentage crude fiber 0.2 ± 20.23 and energy 472.65 ± 5.39 , for the wild reared *Clarias gariepinus* percentage fat was 27.23 ± 5.47 , percentage Ash 1.47 ± 0.82 , dry matter 4.75 ± 0.89 , percentage crude fiber 1.04 ± 0.63 and energy 527.56 ± 72.1 . ($P > 0.05$) There was significant difference between *C. gariepinus* raised in the pond and the one from wild caught for all the nutrients analyzed. This indicates that wild reared *Clarias gariepinus* accumulates more crude protein, fat, ash, dry matter, crude fiber and Energy than pond raised *Clarias gariepinus*. Wild caught catfish is also recommended for post-operation patients as it is a good healing agent.

KEYWORDS: Catfish, pond reared, wild caught, proximate composition, Oguta Lake