

8. RE-STOCKING OF NEW BREEDERS

Refill the pond with water to a depth of about one-half meter. Fertilize and restock with the breeders which have been conditioned for the next production cycle. Replace breeders when they are 250-350 grams each.



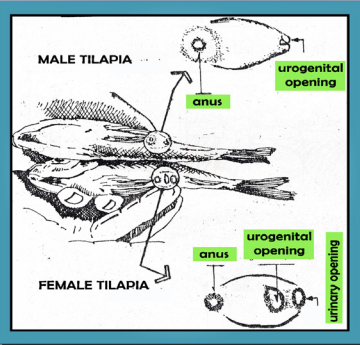
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Tilapia fingerlings production in earthen ponds



Tilapias are bred in the Philippines using net cages, earthen ponds and concrete tanks. The most common method of breeding the fish is by using earthen ponds. Besides supplying a major source of animal protein in the Filipino diet, tilapia farming also offers employment opportunities to a great number of rural families.



1. SEX IDENTIFICATION

FEMALE has three opening at the urogenital papilla and reddish in color.

MALE has only two producing opening at the urogenital papilla.

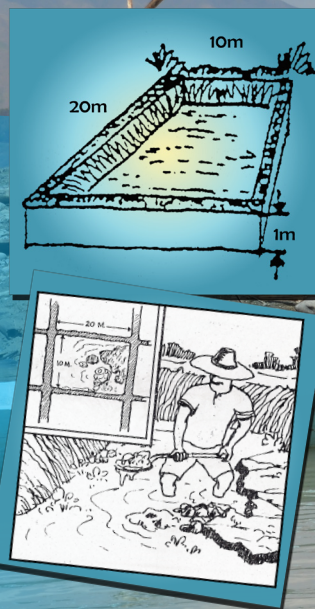
2. POND PREPARATION

Newly – Constructed Pond

1. Construct a small fishpond (10m x 20m x 1m) in areas having suitable soil and abundant water supply.
2. Irrigate the pond up to 10 cm water level.
3. Apply dried chicken manure at 100g/m² of the pond.
4. Allow natural fish food organisms to grow in 5-7 days.
5. Irrigate the pond up to 50cm water level. The pond is now ready for stocking tilapia breeders.

Existing Pond

1. Totally drain pond water to remove all existing stocks.
2. Sundry pond soil until cracked for conditioning.
3. Follow steps 2-5 in newly-constructed pond.



3. SELECTION AND CONDITIONING OF BREEDERS

Select breeders that are physically healthy, without deformities and preferably from accredited producers of quality breeders. They should be at least 6-7 months old and about 150-200 grams in body weight.

Conditioning should be done by separating male from female breeders at 4 pcs/m² stocking density from 2-3 weeks. Feed them with high protein feeds at 3% of their total body weight.

4. STOCKING OF BREEDERS

Stocking should be done early in the morning or late in the afternoon when the weather is cool. One set of breeders composes of 1 male is to three females with the stocking density of 1 set/m² in ponds. Feed stocks with commercial feeds at 1% of their total body weight.



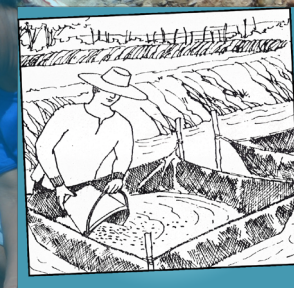
5. FRY COLLECTION

Monitor the occurrence of fry/fingerlings near the dikes 5-10 days after stocking of breeders. Collection follows until 21 days and should be done early in the morning using a dip net. After one cycle, collect all remaining fry/fingerlings by totally draining pond water.

6. REARING OF FRY AND FINGERLINGS

Transfer fry to rearing net enclosures made of fine mesh nets measuring 2m x 1m x 1m or 2m x 2m x 1m in size. Keep the fry in the enclosures at a density of 1,000-2,000 fry per square meter for one week. Feed the fry with fine rice bran or fry mash 4 times a day at 10-20 % of body weight.

After one week of rearing, sort the post fry and fingerlings according to size by allowing them to pass through various mesh sizes of synthetic mesh screens immersed in water. Transfer them in a fertilized nursery pond at a density of 200- 400 fingerlings/m².



7. DISPERSAL OF FINGERLINGS

Price Guide for Tilapia

Size	Average Body Weight	Price
#24	0.02-0.2g	P 0.15
#22	0.21-0.42g	P 0.25
#17	0.43-1.5g	P 0.35
#14	1.6-3.2g	P 0.45
For Broodstock	0.02-3.2g	P 1.00