



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Journal of Applied Life Sciences International
Manuscript Number:	Ms_JALSI_41470
Title of the Manuscript:	Effect of Locally Formulated Watermelon and Moringa Syrup Booster on the Growth Performance of Heterobranchus bidorsalis Fingerlings
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

(<http://www.sciencedomain.org/page.php?id=sdi-general-editorial-policy#Peer-Review-Guideline>)



SDI Review Form 1.6

PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<p>The paper "Effect of Locally Formulated Watermelon and Moringa Syrup Booster on the Growth Performance of <i>Heterobranchus bidorsalis</i> Fingerlings" was aimed at studying the effectiveness of formulated Watermelon (<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>) and <i>Moringa oleifera</i> booster on the growth performance of <i>Heterobranchus bidorsalis</i>.</p> <p><i>General comments</i></p> <p>The paper is interesting and, in my opinion, it may deserve publication as original research article in <i>Journal of Applied Life Sciences International</i> after some Major revisions. First, the language must be carefully revised in many parts of the manuscript. The experimental plan is clear, but a main criticism concerns the important part of the results "the values of the nutrient utilization variables of protein efficiency ratio (PER) and feed conversion efficiency (FCE)": these results are not shown and the related methodology is only introduced and not described in the materials and methods section. A revision of the formatting throughout the MS and the tables is also needed, including punctuation, parenthesis, spaces between numbers and unit of measure, different size of the font. Bibliography must be standardized, because there are differences between the Introduction and Discussion sections.</p>	
Minor REVISION comments	<p><i>Specific comments</i></p> <p>Abstract This is to assess Evaluation of the effectiveness of formulated Watermelon (<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>) and <i>Moringa oleifera</i> booster on the growth performance of <i>Heterobranchus bidorsalis</i> and the rate at which the formulated fish growth booster was efficiently utilized by <i>Heterobranchus bidorsalis</i> fingerlings.</p> <p>Department of Applied and Environmental Biology, Rivers State University Nigeria</p> <p>From Methodology to the end of the document, please control the spaces between numbers and unit of measure, different size of the font (example: with 10% Of their body weight after coating 2ml/ 1kg⁻¹). Check also the spaces between words and homogenize the capital letters in the text (e.g <i>watermelon</i>). Check also the correct form of all the references in the Bibliography section and in the text</p> <p>Introduction Line 25: the statement "the fluctuating level of ingredients contained in commercial feed becomes a barrier" is questionable, because formulated commercial feed generally guarantee constant levels of the ingredients, while their cost can oscillate. Please, give a reference to support this statement.</p> <p>Line 28-31: please, give a reference about the properties of boosters</p> <p>Line 31: Watermelon and Moringa syrup booster used are categorized under phyto-genics</p>	



Lines 33: virus, oxidation etc. **They** aid in digestion as such

Line 35: please, specify the geographic context in which the local farmers operate (Nigeria?)

Line 36: there is a ~~need~~ **the opportunity** to incorporate the product into preparation of high energy level fish....

Line 39: *Heterobranchus bidorsalis*, which belongs to the Clariidea family, can ~~do well~~ **be reared** on formulated and less expensive feed.

Line 41-48. The language must be carefully revised in in this paragraph.

Line 41-43: The type of feed regimen normally used to breed *H. bidorsalis* should be described as well as the reasons why the feed quality varies over time. Please, support the statement with data or references.

Line 46-47: Does it mean that those plant products are already utilized in aquaculture in Nigeria ? Please, specify.

Line 49-51: the meaning of the sentence is not entirely clear: please specify if plant booster are already used, and in which geographic context ("*locally*" means Nigeria?)

Materials and Methods

Line 71-72: please, provide more features related to the *commercial feed from the Skretting* (for example, if the product is available on a web site), and to the *commercial booster (leegrow)*, linking it to table 1.

Line 121: as reported in the abstract insert: *after coating 2ml/1kg⁻¹ of the commercial feed with their individual growth booster syrup*

Line 125: space between: **liter). Weekly**

Line 131-132: please, specify which are the "*some nutrient utilization variables*" If they are *protein efficiency ratio (PER)* and *feed conversion efficiency (FCE)*, describe how they were evaluated.

Line 138-139: "*The recorded values of Temperature was at 27-28.9 °C while pH was within the range of 6.0-6.5*", this sentence is already reported in the results section and should not be into the materials and methods section.

Lines 177-178: the number of samples on which this analysis was performed for each type of booster is not clear. Please, clarify.

Results and Discussion

Lines 197-198: "*Temperature and pH values were measured daily using glass thermometer*



SDI Review Form 1.6

	<p>and pH kit and other physico-chemical parameters were obtained using Extech instrument (Do 700) from Institute of Pollution Studies (IPS) RSU and the values obtained were recorded.” please, delete these two sentences, which are repetitions of MM</p> <p>Table 2: please, give the mean and standard deviations or the range for all the parameters measured, specially if they are collected every day, and consequently change Compositions with Values Range or Values Mean</p> <p>Lines 227-229: It is not necessary repeat again: “Commercial feed coated with commercial syrup booster (CbCf), commercial feed (Cf), commercial feed coated with watermelon syrup booster (WbCf) and commercial feed coated with Moringa syrup booster (MbCf).</p> <p>Line 230: ...and WbCf which.....it is not correct: change with MbCf</p> <p>Line 315: growth rate(Fig.7) against, please space between rate and (Fig.7)</p> <p>Lines 346-350: please rephrase because the comment is not clear, and show the data of PER FCE.</p> <p>Lines 364: please put a space “recordedno”</p> <p>Lines 375: please, provide the carbohydrates data of <i>Moringa oleifera</i> and watermelon in %, as above</p> <p>Line 378: Style of Bibliography is not the same as in the Introduction</p> <p>Line 384: Style of Bibliography is not the same as in the Introduction</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>Lines 396-398: “As such, fish farmers should look inward on the utilization of watermelon growth syrup booster for effective growth performance of catfish”. It should be underlined that the watermelon syrup booster could be used by fish farmers not only for the encouraging growth performance data, but also for the more accessible cost and within a policy of green circular economy that aims at food waste recover.</p>	
<p><u>Optional/General</u> comments</p>		

Reviewer Details:

Name:	Riccardo Caprioli
Department, University & Country	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell’Abruzzo e del Molise, Italy