

Nutritional bioenergetics and estimation of waste production in non-salmonids



The general principles behind the bioenergetic approach for predicting growth, as well as for decreasing feed and nutrient losses, have been set forth for salmonids. Given the diversification of fish farming activities around the world and the ever increasing concern for water quality management, it becomes essential to verify whether an approach developed for salmonids is applicable to other species. Given this general background, an attempt is made here to check the theoretical assumptions and technical considerations behind the bioenergetic principles developed for rainbow trout with other freshwater or marine species. From a conceptual point of view, recent literature data do indicate that as far as nitrogen or energy balance is concerned, the general scheme is as valid for marine species as it is for salmonids, even in quantitative terms. Given the methodological tools available today, it should not be difficult to reduce feed and nutrient losses and to estimate the potential environmental loadings using the same principles for non-salmonids.

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Obtenir le document : EDP Sciences

Thème (issu du Text Mining) : FAUNE

Date : 1998-07-15

Format : text/xml

Source : [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0990-7440\(98\)89003-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0990-7440(98)89003-7)

Langue : Anglais

Télécharger les documents : [https://www.alr-journal.org/10.1016/S0990-7440\(98\)89003-7/pdf](https://www.alr-journal.org/10.1016/S0990-7440(98)89003-7/pdf)

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