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Journal of Applied Aquaculture > Volume 20, 2008 - Issue 1

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Original Articles

Productivity and Economics of Nile Tilapia Oreochromis niloticus Cage Culture in South-East Brazil

L. Conte, D.Y. Sonoda, R. Shirota & J.E.P. Cyrino

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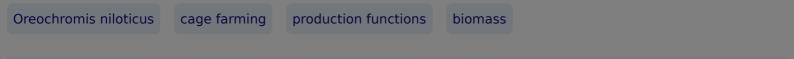
were fed d 1700, and

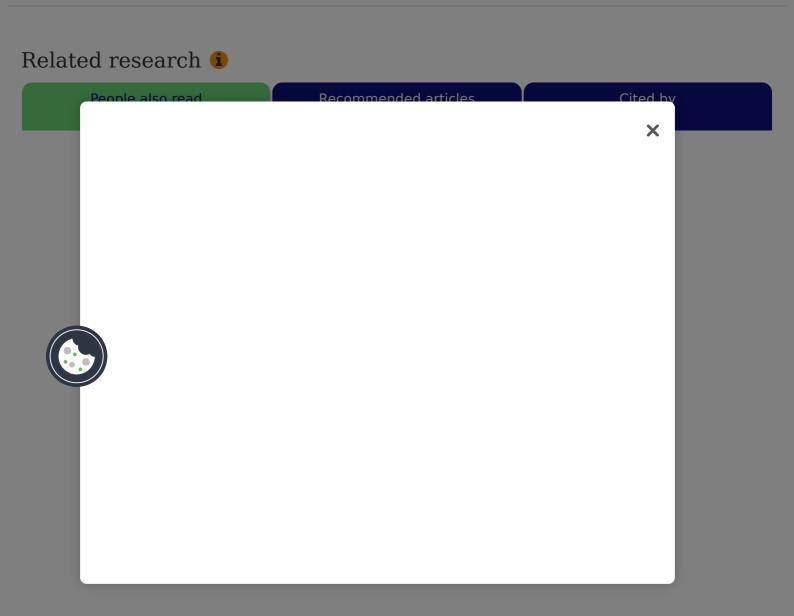
cages; t different intake, s pH, and daily on

feeding rate was adjusted based on weight gain and survival rate. Data were analyzed

statistically by ANOVA (P = 0.05) and regression analysis; the Mitscherlich function was chosen to represent the production function. Carrying capacity of both stocking densities reached 200 kg/m³ and no differences were found (P > 0.05) regarding accumulated biomass and individual average weight over time. The larger stocking density yielded larger accumulated biomass and had better feeding efficiency and no differences between individual average weights of fish at both densities were observed (P > 0.05). Profit-maximizing biomass at 500–600 fish/m³ was 145 kg/m³ and at 300–400 fish/m³ was 121 kg/m³. Cage farming of Nile tilapia at 500–600 fish/m³, individual average weight 283 g, presented many advantages: optimization of space and production time, better feed efficiency, higher fish production per unit volume of cages, and increased profitability.

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