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Production Parameters and Economics of Small-Scale Tilapia Cage Aquaculture in the Volta Lake, Ghana

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Pages 337-351 | Published online: 06 Dec 2010

Cite this article <https://doi.org/10.1080/10454438.2010.527591>

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Abstract

To calculate... small-scale... the Govern... cage... mate... Nile tilap... males (s... pelleted... month p... kg/cage... was sign

ilities for... support from... small-scale... ilable... us line of... al) or all-... available... per six-... aging 460... ± 47.43g)... age of fish

over 300 g at harvest was significantly lower in mixed-sex (38.3%) compared to all-

male (75.7%) populations. Mortality resulting primarily from poor handling during transport and stocking averaged 70% and was a major determinate of production and profitability. To break even, harvested biomass of fish needed to exceed 15 kg/m³. At 25 kg/m³, small-scale cage aquaculture generated a net income of US\$717 per cage per six months (ROI = 30.2%) on revenues of US\$3,500. Water quality in the area surrounding the cages was not negatively affected by aquaculture at the scale tested (5 tons of feed per six months).

Keywords: freshwater small and medium scale enterprise locally sourced inputs

This research was co-funded by Rural Wealth and the CGIAR Water and Food Challenge Program Project 34: Increasing Fish Production from the Volta Lake. Special thanks to Tropo Farms, Ghana; Lake Harvest, Zimbabwe, and the FISH-Uganda project for sharing production data.

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