

CALL FOR PAPERS – DEADLINE: September 29, 2023

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All abstracts must be in English – the official language of the conference.

Each oral presenter shall be entitled to no more than 12 minutes for a presentation, plus 3 minutes for questions. Authors of studies involving proprietary products or formulations should present this information in workshops or the trade show. Oral presentations should use Power Point. Slides, overhead projectors and video players will not be available or allowed.

All presenters are required to pay their own registration accommodation and travel expenses.
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARATION OF ABSTRACTS

Expanded Abstract Format - Please refer to the sample.

- 1. TITLE OF PAPER:** The abstract title is printed in CAPITAL LETTERS, with the exception of scientific names which should be Upper/lower case and *italicized* (see example). Scientific names should not be preceded or followed by commas or parentheses or other markings.
- 2. AUTHOR(S):** The first name should be the presenting author. Use * after the presenting author. Type in upper/lower case.
- 3. ADDRESS AND EMAIL:** Type only the presenting author's institution, address and email. Type in upper/lower case.
- 4. MAXIMUM LENGTH:** One Page
- 5. PAGE SIZE:** Standard 8.5 x 11 inch paper (portrait)
- 6. MARGINS:** 1-inch margin throughout (left/right/top/bottom)
- 7. SPACING:** Single spaced
- 8. PARAGRAPHS:** Paragraphs should be separated by a blank line and should not be indented.
- 9. FONTS:** Character fonts should be 12 point type.
- 10. FIGURES & TABLES:** Figures and tables are highly recommended. They should be reduced to the appropriate size for a one page abstract and should be clearly readable at the reduced size in black print only. The reduced figures and tables should be included in the abstract in camera-ready form.

1 inch margin

EVALUATION OF JUVENILE AUSTRALIAN RED CLAW CRAYFISH *Cherax quadricarinatus* FED PRACTICAL DIETS WITH AND WITHOUT SUPPLEMENTAL LECITHIN AND/OR CHOLESTEROL

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Red claw crayfish (*Cherax quadricarinatus*) are one of more than a hundred species of Australian freshwater crayfish. However, because of its rapid growth rate, ease of spawning, wide tolerance for dissolved oxygen, and ability to tolerate low pH, red claw may be the best candidate for aquaculture in the United States. Red claw are only being investigated as an aquaculture species in the country and very little information exists on their nutritional requirements and practical diet formulations. In many crustaceans, lecithin and cholesterol to be added to their diet, these two nutrients are usually not included in commercial diets. Lecithin and cholesterol are very expensive. Since diet costs can be as much as 10% of the total operating expenses for an aquaculture enterprise, it is imperative that the least expensive diet that meets the nutrient requirements of the species be determined. The present study was conducted to determine if cholesterol and/or lecithin needs to be added to a practical diet for red claw crayfish.

An 8-week feeding trial was conducted in a recirculating aquaculture system with newly-hatched juvenile (*Cherax quadricarinatus*) of a mean weight of 0.2 g red claw, each stocked in a 20 liter plastic mesh culture units. Individual units were placed within fiberglass tanks, each having a recirculating water line. Water was recirculated through biological and mechanical filters. Water temperature was maintained at 27-29°C and light was provided by overhead fluorescent ceiling fixtures on a 12-hour light:dark cycle. Ammonia, nitrite, nitrate, oxygen, temperature, alkalinity, chlorophyll *a* were measured three times per week. The goal of the study was to examine the effects of growth performance of newly-hatched juvenile red claw when fed four practical diets with or without cholesterol and lecithin. Other practical diets included menhaden fish meal, soybean meal, shrimp meal, wheat flour, vitamin and mineral mix, pellet binder, cod liver oil, and corn oil (Table 1).

After 8 weeks, red claw crayfish fed a practical diet without cholesterol (Diet 3) had significantly ($P < 0.05$) lower final weight, percentage weight gain, and specific growth rate (SGR) compared to crayfish fed all other diets (Table 2). These results indicate that a practical diet containing 2% cod liver oil and 1% corn oil and having no lecithin appears to be sufficient and that lecithin may not be necessary for juvenile red claw diets.

TABLE 1. Formulation of experimental diets fed to red claw crayfish.

	Diet			
	1	2	3	4
Menhaden FM	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0
Soybean Meal	35.0	35.0	35.0	44.5
Lecithin 0.5	0.0	0.5	0.0	
Cholesterol	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Other	38.5	39.0	39.5	30.5

TABLE 2. Final weight, percentage weight gain, specific growth rate (SGR), and percentage survival of red claw crayfish fed four practical diets. Means in a column with different letters were significantly different ($P < 0.05$)

	Diet			
	1	2	3	4
Final weight (g)	6.97a	6.00a	3.64b	5.11a
Weight gain (%)	3384a	2897a	1717b	2454a
SGR (%/day)	5.74a	5.66a	4.68b	5.41a
Survival (%)	76.0	64.0	56.0	80.0

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