

---

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF NUTRITIONAL QUALITY OF CULTURED AND WILD  
NILE TILAPIA (*Oreochromis niloticus*) MEAT IN SOROTI DISTRICT

BY



NATUKUNDA EDSON

BU/UG/2015/2109

[natukundaedson71@gmail.com](mailto:natukundaedson71@gmail.com)

A RESEARCH DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE  
AND ANIMAL SCIENCES IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR  
AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND  
MANAGEMENT OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

JULY 2018

**DECLARATION**

I NATUKUNDA EDSON declare that this research dissertation has not been submitted to any University or any other higher institution of learning for any degree or related qualification.

Signature..... Edson  
Date..... 28<sup>th</sup> / July / 2018

This dissertation has been submitted with supervision and approval of

Mr. MUYINDA ROBERT

UNIVERSITY –SUPERVISOR

BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY ARAPAI CAMPUS

P.O BOX 203 SOROTI.



Signature.....  
Date.....

## **DEDICATION**

I am exceedingly humbled and profoundly honored to dedicate this piece of work to my family members especially my father Mr. Turyagyenda Charles, my mother Ms. Kabatoro Jane plus my brothers and sisters without forgetting all agriculturalist especially those in the Animal Industry Section.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Great thanks goes to the Government of Uganda through the ministry of Higher Education that provided me with tuition and allowances which made my stay at campus possible may the lord God reward you.

The same thanks goes to the Administration of Busitema University for supporting me in every academic questions, fellow students for co-operating with me in one way or the other without forgetting my research supervisor Mr. Muyinda Robert and other technicians who helped me in data collection and analysis.

Finally, great thanks goes to my family members who endlessly supported me both financially and materially may the almighty God reward them abundantly.

Table of Contents

**DECLARATION**..... i

**DEDICATION**..... ii

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**..... iii

**LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES**..... vii

**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS** ..... viii

**ABSTRACT**..... ix

**CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**..... 1

**1.1 Background**..... 1

**1.2 Problem statement**..... 2

**1.3 General objective**..... 2

**1.4 Specific objectives**..... 2

**1.5 Hypothesis**..... 2

**1.6 Significance of the research**..... 2

**1.7 Justification**..... 3

**1.8 Scope**..... 3

**CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW**..... 4

**2.1 Proximate composition**..... 4

**2.2 Proximate composition description** ..... 4

**2.3 Structure of fish muscle** ..... 6

**2.4 The principal components of fish muscle**..... 6

**2.4.1 Water** ..... 6

**2.4.2 Fat** ..... 7

**2.4.3 Protein**..... 7

**2.4.4 Flesh quality** ..... 7

2.5	Water quality parameters .....	7
2.5.1	pH.....	8
2.5.2	Dissolved oxygen .....	8
2.5.3	Nitrite.....	8
2.5.4	Ammonia.....	9
2.5.5	Conductivity .....	9
2.5.6	Nitrate-Nitrogen (NO <sub>3</sub> -N).....	9
2.5.7	Phosphates.....	10
2.5.8	Nitrite-Nitrogen (NO <sub>2</sub> -N).....	10
2.5.9	Redox potential .....	10
<b>CHAPTER THREE: MATERIAL AND METHODS.....</b>		<b>11</b>
3.1	Study area .....	11
3.2	Collection of fish samples .....	11
3.3	Proximate composition determination .....	11
3.1.1	Determination of Dry Matter.....	11
3.1.2	Protein determination .....	11
3.1.3	Estimation of fat.....	12
3.1.4	Measurement of Ash Content.....	12
3.1.5	Crude fiber determination.....	12
3.2	Water quality determination.....	13
3.2.1	Phosphates determination.....	13
3.2.2	Nitrites (NO <sub>2</sub> -N-) determination.....	13
3.2.3	Nitrate- Nitrogen (NO <sub>3</sub> -) determination.....	14
3.2.4	Ammonia-Nitrogen determination.....	14
3.3	Data analysis .....	15

3.4	Data presentation .....	15
3.5	Ethical Consideration .....	15
3.6	Limitation and solutions .....	15
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS .....</b>		<b>15</b>
4.1	Proximate composition results .....	15
4.2	Water quality parameter results .....	17
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: DISCUSSION .....</b>		<b>19</b>
5.1	Proximate composition .....	19
5.2	Water quality parameters .....	20
<b>CHAPTER SIX: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>		<b>22</b>
6.1	Conclusion .....	22
6.2	Recommendations .....	22
<b>REFERENCES .....</b>		<b>23</b>
<b>APPENDICES .....</b>		<b>27</b>
Appendix 1: Data collection sheet for proximate composition of wild and cultured Tilapia (Oreochromis niloticus) used for the study .....		27
Appendix 2: data sheet used in collection of water quality parameters .....		27
Appendix 3: Showing result of the analysis for proximate composition of Nile tilapia .....		28
Appendix 4: Showing results from the analysis of water quality parameters .....		29
Appendix 5: Showing some equipment used in data collection .....		30
Appendix 6: Proximate composition of wild and cultured Tilapia (Oreochromis niloticus) used for the study .....		32
Appendix 7: water quality parameters from wild (Lalle landing site) and culture (Arapai pond) environment used in the study .....		32

**LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES**

**Figure 1**Distribution of proximate composition (%) in the wild and cultured Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis Niloticus*) ..... 17

**Figure 2**showing levels of water quality parameters from wild (Lalle) and culture (Arapai) environment..... 18



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
ON	Oreochromis Niloticus
CM	Centimeters
Kg	Kilogram
Mg/l	milligram per liter
dw	dry weight
FEB	February
MAR	March
APR	April
Ug	Uganda
Shs	Shillings
g	grams
ml	milliliters
ANOVA	Analysis of variance
AOAC	Association of Official Analytical Chemists
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
ORP	Oxidation-Reduction Potential
NNED	N-1- naphthylenediamine-dihydrochloride.

## ABSTRACT

The study was conducted on the proximate composition of wild and cultured Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) as well as water quality from Arapai pond and Lalle landing site in Soroti district. The internationally accepted methods of AOAC and APHA were used for the analysis of the data. A total of twelve *Oreochromis Niloticus* fish were collected. Six cultured fish were collected from Arapai pond at Arapai Busitema University and other six from Lalle landing site both found in Soroti district. The study also looked at the water quality from both the wild and culture environments. Proximate composition analysis was conducted on the two group to determine the dry matter content, protein, fat, fiber and ash as well as water quality by determining the levels of pH, temperature, conductivity, phosphate, Nitrate, Nitrite, Redox potential and Ammonia. The data was analyzed by one -way analysis of variance. Results obtained were as follows: Dry matter (wild Nile tilapia: 90.3%, cultured: 92.4%), crude protein (wild Nile tilapia: 78.2%, cultured: 62.3%), crude fat (wild Nile tilapia: 2.0%, cultured: 13.0%), ash (wild Nile tilapia: 0.75%, cultured: 3.93%), fiber content (wild Nile tilapia: 0.51%, cultured: 4.49% pH (wild environment: 7.55, culture environment: 7.37); Conductivity (wild Nile environment: 367.88 mg/l, culture: 142.39mg/l), Dissolved oxygen (wild: 3.68mg/l culture: 4.98mg/l), Temperature (wild : 27.27°C, culture: 24.81°C), Redox potential (wild: -5.22mv, culture: -3.56mv), Phosphate (wild environment: 14.52mg/l, culture environment: 85.23 mg/l), Nitrate (wild environment: 22.71 mg/l, culture environment: 63.81mg/l), Ammonia (wild environment: 0.47 mg/l, culture environment: 12.46mg/l and Nitrite (wild environment: 6.16mg/l, culture environment: 31.37mg/l). The results showed no significant difference between the two groups in proximate composition and some water quality parameters. However, the results showed a significant difference between the two groups for dissolved oxygen and redox potential.

**Key words:** Proximate composition, water quality parameters, wild and cultured tilapia, *Oreochromis niloticus*, Arapai pond, Lalle landing site

## CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

*Oreochromis niloticus* has significantly increased the global tilapia production of freshwater aquaculture. It accounts for 83% of global Nile tilapia production. This has been shown by the Worldwide harvest of farmed tilapia which has now surpassed 800,000 metric tons (Popma & Masser, 1999). Its production was promoted as an aid to the poor in rural families of developing countries (Rica, 2005). However, it has attracted the attention of many consumers including Japan, USA, European Union and others creating a global market (Fish & Fish, 2004; Gupta & Acosta, 2004).

From a nutritional point of view, Nile tilapia is of high nutritional quality. It is rich in most of the vitamins, fats, protein, minerals and fibers (Suliman & James, 2011). Fats are important because they serve as stored energy reserves and as carriers of essential fatty acids and fat-soluble vitamins (Abou, Aina, Fiogbé, & Micha, 2013). Proteins are important in the formation of regulatory compounds, defend the body against disease and act as a component of some hormones and all enzymes in the body (Sources, 2001). Mineral elements are essential components of enzyme systems meaning simple or conditioned deficiencies of mineral elements can have profound effects on metabolism and tissue structure of both animals and humans (Soetan, Olaiya, & Oyewole, 2010). Fibers are important for proper bowel function and can reduce symptoms of chronic constipation, diverticulosis, and hemorrhoids (Bersamin et al., 2004). Vitamins are essential for health, growth, and reproduction (FAO & World Health Organization, 1998). They are also essential for normal metabolism and lack of which in the diet causes deficiency diseases. These properties have placed Nile tilapia in an important category of human diet food (Job, Antai, Inyang-Etoh, Otogo, & Ezekiel, 2015).

However the nutritional quality and chemical composition of Nile tilapia varies greatly from individual to another depending on nutritional requirements, fish size, age, sex, environment, diet, season and culture system (Suliman & James, 2011). Water quality including temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, nitrite, nitrate, phosphates, redox potential, ammonia and heavy metal accumulation are the factors affecting the growth and health of Nile tilapia. Temperature and salinity affects the growth, physiology, reproduction and metabolism hence compromising the nutritional quality (Gustavsson, 2016). In addition, heavy feeding of Nile tilapia on high protein

## REFERENCES

- Abou, Y., Aina, M. P., Fiogbé, E. D., & Micha, J. (2013). Growth and fatty acid composition of Nile tilapia *Oreochromis niloticus* L. fed Azolla -diets, in tanks and in earthen ponds : A comparative study, *5*(1), 77–83.
- Aquaculture, B. (2016). Redox potential - an indicator of aquaculture pond health.
- Ayoub, S., & Hamdi, A. (2017). إل لال ه ت اس .
- Bersamin, A., Student, D., Hathaway, C., Assistant, N., Zidenberg-cherr, S., Specialist, N. S., & Extension, C. (2004). What is fiber?, 1–6.
- BFAR-Philminaq. (2007). Water Quality Criteria and Standards for Freshwater and Marine Aquaculture. *Mitigating Impact from Aquaculture in the Phillipines*, 1–34.
- Caldini, N. N., Rebouças, V. T., Cavalcante, D. D. H., Martins, R. B., & Sá, M. V. D. C. e. (2011). Water quality and Nile tilapia growth performance under different feeding schedules. *Acta Scientiarum. Animal Sciences*, *33*(4), 427–430. <https://doi.org/10.4025/actascianimsci.v33i4.12207>
- Coates, D. (n.d.). Inland capture fishery statistics of Southeast Asia : current status and information needs.
- David, B. (2017). Achimer Self-feeding behaviour and personality traits in tilapia : a comparative study between *Oreochromis niloticus* and *Sarotherodon melanotheron*, *187*(February), 85–92. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2016.12.004>
- Devi, P. A., Padmavathy, P., Aanand, S., & Aruljothi, K. (2017). Review on water quality parameters in freshwater cage fish culture. *International Journal of Applied Research*, *3*(5), 114–120.
- Effiong, B.N and Fakunle, J. . (2011). Proximate and Mineral Composition of Some Commercially Important Fishes in Lake Kainji , Nigeria, *1*(12), 2497–2500.
- El-kader, W. N. A. (2018). ESTIMATION OF PROXIMATE COMPOSITION OF WILD AND CULTURED NILE TILAPIA *Oreochromis niloticus* POPULATIONS , EGYPT.
- El-zaem, S. Y., El-tawil, N. E., & Amer, T. N. (2012). Effect of direct injection of shark DNA

into skeletal muscles on the productive performance characteristics of red tilapia (*Oreochromis sp.*) fed at different dietary regimes, 7(16), 2456–2462. <https://doi.org/10.5897/AJAR11.2037>

FAO, & World Health Organization. (1998). Vitamin and mineral requirements in human nutrition Second edition. *World Health Organization*, 1–20. <https://doi.org/9241546123>

Fish, C., & Fish, M. (2004). Review of global tilapia farming, *IX*(1).

Frequency, T., & Water, S. (n.d.). Important Water Quality Parameters in Aquaponics Systems, 1–8.

Gupta, M. V., & Acosta, B. O. (2004). A review of global tilapia farming practices. *Aquaculture Asia*, *IX* No. 1 (January 2004), 7–12. <https://doi.org/10.3109/9780203308905-5>

Gustavsson, H. (2016). Locally available protein sources in diets of Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) - A study of growth performance in the Mekong Delta in Vietnam.

Jim, F., Garamumhango, P., & Musara, C. (2017). Comparative Analysis of Nutritional Value of *Oreochromis niloticus* (Linnaeus), Nile Tilapia, Meat from Three Different Ecosystems, 2017.

Job, B. E., Antai, E. E., Inyang-Etoh, A. P., Otego, G. A., & Ezekiel, H. S. (2015). Proximate composition and mineral contents of cultured and wild tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) (pisces: Cichlidae) (Linnaeus, 1758). *Pakistan Journal of Nutrition*, *14*(4), 195–200.

Journal, T., & Volume, T. (2009). The Comparison of Heavy Metal Concentrations (Cd, Cu, Mn, Pb, and Zn) in Tissues of Three Economically Important Fish, *4*(1), 7–15.

Kroupova, H., Machova, J., & Svobodova, Z. (2005). Nitrite influence on fish : a review, *2005*(24), 461–471.

Lertzman, K., Gavin, D., Hallett, D., Brubaker, L., Lepofsky, D., & Mathewes, R. (2002). Long-term fire regime estimated from soil charcoal in coastal temperate rainforests. *Ecology and Society*, *6*(2). <https://doi.org/5>

Li, X., Blancheton, J.-P., Liu, Y., Triplet, S., & Michaud, L. (2014). Effect of oxidation–reduction potential on performance of European sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax*) in recirculating

aquaculture systems. *Aquaculture International*, 22(4), 1263–1282.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10499-013-9745-3>

Makori, A. J., Abuom, P. O., Kapiyo, R., Anyona, D. N., & Dida, G. O. (2017). Effects of water physico-chemical parameters on tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) growth in earthen ponds in Teso, 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s41240-017-0075-7>

Molleda, M. I., Fe, S., & Thorarensen, H. (2007). WATER QUALITY IN RECIRCULATING AQUACULTURE SYSTEMS FOR ARCTIC CHARR (*Salvelinus alpinus* L.) CULTURE.

Popma, T., & Masser, M. (1999). Tilapia Life History and Biology. *South Regional Aquaculture Center*, (283), 1–4. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1365-2095.2004.00329.x>

Rasmussen, R. S. (2001). Quality of farmed salmonids with emphasis on proximate composition, yield and sensory characteristics. *Aquaculture Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1365-2109.2001.00617.x>

Rica, C. (2005). Farm-Level Issues in Aquaculture Certification : Tilapia, (April).

Safaa M. Ezzat, R. M. E. and M. M. S. (2012). The Economical Value of Nile Tilapia Fish “*Oreochromis niloticus*” in Relation to Water Quality of Lake Nasser, Egypt. *Journal of American Science*, 8(9), 234–247.

Sahu, B. B., Pilli, B. R., Lalrinsanga, P. L., Samal, R. P., Meher, P. K., Kanaujia, D. R., ... Jayasankar, P. (2012). A Comparison of commercial characteristics and yield partitioning between *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man 1879) and *Macrobrachium malcolmsonii* (Milne Edward 1894). *American-Eurasian Journal of Scientific Research*, 7(2), 82–85. <https://doi.org/10.5829/idosi.ajejr.2012.7.2.64132>

Samy Yehya El-Zaeem. (2012). Flesh quality differentiation of wild and cultured Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) populations. *African Journal of Biotechnology*, 11(17), 4086–4089. <https://doi.org/10.5897/AJB11.3392>

Soetan, K. O., Olaiya, C. O., & Oyewole, O. E. (2010). The importance of mineral elements for humans, domestic animals and plants : A review. *African Journal of Food Science*, 4(May), 200–222. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12302-017-0116-y>

Sources, F. (2001). 5 Protein.

Sulieman, H. M. A., & James, G. K. (2011). a Comparative Studies on the Chemical and Physical Attributes of Wild Farmed Nile Tilapia ( *Oreochromis Niloticus* ). *Online Journal of Animal and Feed Research*, 1(6), 407–411.

Suloma, A., Ogata, H. Y., Garibay, E. S., Chavez, D. R., & El-Haroun, E. R. (2008). Fatty Acid Composition of Nile Tilapia *Oreochromis Niloticus* Muscles : a Comparative Study With Commercially Important Tropical Freshwater Fish in Philippines. *8th International Symposium on Tilapia in Aquaculture*, 921–932.

Thermo Fisher Scientific. (2017). Measuring the Conductivity of Pure Water Using USP<645>. *ThermoFisher Scientific Application Notes*.

Toguyeni, A. (2004). Tilapia production and its global impacts in central african countries. *6th International Symposium on Tilapia in Aquaculture*, 8.

Tomy, S., & Ponniah, A. G. (2010). Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture; (CIBA e-Publication Series N0. 28), 1–12.