Effect of Different Levels of Dietary Supplementation of *Spirulina platensis* on Some Growth, Feeding Indices and Body Composition of Benny *Mesopotamichthys sharpeyi* (Günther, 1874) Fingerlings

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**Abstract**

Effect of different levels of dietary supplementation of *Spirulina* on growth indices and carcass composition of Benny *Mesopotamichthys sharpeyi* was investigated in an 8 week experimental trial. Dried and powdered *Spirulina* algae in five levels of 0, 2.5, 5.0, 7.5 and 10.0 % were added to the experimental diet. Experimental fish were fed to satiation twice daily. The results showed significant difference (P<0.05) in final weight and weight gain of the experimental fish fed 10% supplementary diet compared to control treatment. However, specific growth rate and condition factor did not show significant difference among treatments (P>0.05). Feed conversion ratio and protein efficiency ratio in 10% treatment showed significant difference (P<0.05) with control group. Though significant difference (P<0.05) was observed in whole body protein content between 10% (14.07±0.12%) and control treatments, the results showed that various levels of *Spirulina* algae in diet did not affect the fat, ash, moisture, carbohydrate and energy content of the experimental fish. The results indicated that 10% dietary supplementation of *Spirulina* could improve final weight, weight gain, specific growth rate, condition factor and body protein content of Benny fish.

**Keywords:** *Spirulina platensis*, *Weight gain*, *Biochemical composition*, *Mesopotamichthys sharpeyi*. 