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جامعة عين شمس
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Studies on stocking practices in *Oreochromis niloticus*

BY

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B.Sc. Agri. Sci. (Animal Production), Ain Shams Univ., 1996

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment

of

the requirements for the degree of
MASTER OF SCIENCE

in

**Agricultural Science
(Animal Breeding)**

**Animal Production Department
Faculty of Agriculture
Ain Shams University**

2000

129

APPROVAL SHEET

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ABSTRACT

Mohamed Mohamed said. Studies on stocking practices in *Oreochromis niloticus*. Unpublished M. Sc. thesis, Ain Shams University, Faculty of Agriculture, Animal Production Department, 2000.

This study investigates the implications of different stocking practices in *O. niloticus*. Special attention was exercised to assess the implications of the phenomena of growth depensation and compensatory growth. Additionally, experiments were conducted to investigate possible mechanisms that may control growth performance. Social interaction seems to be responsible for growth variation in this species. Growth depensation develops faster when size variation among the population limited. On the other hand the effect of size grading on growth performance of *O. niloticus* was negligible. Juveniles *O. niloticus* showed a significant compensatory growth associated with alterations in social conditions. The presence of water-born chemical mediator (s) in *O. niloticus* can not be excluded.

Key words: Fish, Nile tilapia, Stocking practices, Growth depensation, Size grading, Compensatory growth.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank God, for providing me the strength and patience to complete this work.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to Dr. A. A. El-Gamal, Associate Professor of Fish Production, Department of Animal Production, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University for his close supervision, help, valuable assistance, encouragement and unlimited guidance during my study.

I would like to thank Prof. Dr. G. D. I. Hassanen, Professor of Fish Nutrition, Department of Fisheries Resources and Aquaculture, Faculty of Env. Agric. Sci. Suez- Canal University for his supervision and encouragement during my study.

Thanks are also due to Prof. Dr. A. S. Eid, Professor of Fish Nutrition, Department of Fish resource, Faculty of Agriculture, Suez -Canal University for his supervision and valuable assistance.

Additionally, I would like to express my thanks to all staff members of Aquaculture closed system laboratory, Faculty of Agriculture, Ain Shams University for their great help during the experimental work.

I also wish to thank my family for their encouragement, assistance and support during my study.

Special thanks are due to all those who gave me any help during this research.

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