

# Effects of intermittent feeding regimes on growth performance and economic benefits of Amur catfish

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**ABSTRACT:** A study was conducted to determine the growth performance and economic viability of culturing Amur Catfish (*Silurus asotus*) using four different feeding regimes: Every-day feeding (EDF), Every two-days feeding (ETDF), Tertian feeding (TF) and Quartan feeding (QF) for 65 days. Twenty fingerlings of sizes between 2-3 grams each were randomly distributed in 12 glass aquaria and assigned to each of the feeding regime in triplicates. Fish were fed on commercial feed (Woosung feed) containing 50% crude protein. Highest specific growth rates (SGR) ( $5.15 \pm 0.06\%$ ) was recorded in EDF with significance differences in all treatments ( $P \leq 0.05$ ). Feed conversion ratio (FCR) was significantly lower in TF ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) while survival rate ranged from

83.33% to 96.67% and was not significantly different among the treatments ( $P > 0.05$ ). The length-weight relationship (LWR) analysis indicated that the regression slope  $b$  values were not significantly different ( $P > 0.05$ ) among the treatments. Partial enterprise budget analysis of *S. asotus* using different feeding regimes indicated that net returns above total costs were significantly higher in EDF ( $P \leq 0.05$ ). This shows that every day feeding to satiation is the best feeding regime to be adopted for economic benefits of rearing Amur catfish.

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