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**MONOCULTURE OF MILK FISH *CHANOS CHANOS* (FORSCAL) IN
A BRACKISH WATER POND, PITIPANA**

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As a part of a programme to develop culture practices in brackish waters of Sri Lanka, a monoculture trial on *Chanos chanos* was conducted at the Fisheries Station, Pitipana.

The trial was conducted from 09 February 1982 to 06 October 1982 in a 0.05 ha mud pond. The pond was prepared with prior fertilization using 200 kg of urea/ha and 50 kg of T.S.P./ha. Four hundred juveniles of 0.1 g mean weight and 2.1 cm mean total length were temporarily stocked in vellon net hapa fixed inside the pond and were released to the pond after one month. No supplementary feeding was done during the first 6 months. Fish were then fed with chick mash at approximately 5% body weight daily.

The fish grew to an average weight of 368 g and to an average size of 36.5 cm at a survival rate of 47%. The average of daily growth increment was 0.9 g during the first 6 months and the daily growth increment was enhanced to 2.9 g with the supplementary feeding. The total yield was 1,391 kg/ha/8 months.

Gut analysis of sacrificed fish shared remnants of lab lab during the early part of the study, while the guts of the harvested fish after 8 months carried the supplementary feed.