D-78: Rearing of silver carp (*Hypothalmichthys molitrix*) post larvae in platic pools

M H S Ariyaratne[1,2]
([1]*Fresh Water Fisheries Station, Uda Walave,*[2]*National Aquatic Resources Agency, Colombo 15*)

Silver carp (*Hypothalmichthys molitrix*) is a surface layer phytoplankton feeder which suits the purpose of stocking ponds, seasonal or perennial water bodies in a polyculture system.

Rearing of post larvae of silver carp for stocking, is usually done in siting ponds. In the present study, rearing of these post larvae was attempted in circular plastic pools (24 m^2) at the Uda Walawe Fisheries Station. Constant

aeration was provided. The culture cycle was 21 days.

At stocking densities of 400, 600, 800 and 1,000 post larvae/m^2, the survival rates were 97.6%, 82.2%, 98.2% and 96.5% respectively. Initial lengths at stocking ranged between 6 - 7 mm. Average length attained after 21 days of rearing varied from 2.30 - 2.56 cm which was the normal fry size.

The investigations showed that silver carp post larvae can be raised up to the fry stage in plastic pools with impressive survival rates employing stocking densities ranging from 400-1000 post larvae/m^2. There were 2 main advantages in using plastic pools for fry rearing: (1) They can be used in places where earthen ponds cannot be constructed and (2) it can be undertaken in backyards or indoors where good sources of water were available. Installation of plastic pools at sites near reservoirs, would help to raise fry of carps required for the stocking of reservoirs and the work can be easily managed by the fishermen themselves.