

Effects of stocking density on growth performance and survival of three male morphotypes in all-male culture of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man)

Banu M.R.¹; Christianus A.^{1,2*}; Siraj S.S.¹;
Ikhsan N.F.M.¹; Rajaee A.H.³

Received: August 2014

Accepted: December 2015

Abstract

A study was conducted to appraise the effect of different stocking densities on three male morphotypes named blue claw (BC), orange claw (OC) and small male (SM) at harvest in all-male culture and to assess the growth performance of BC, OC and SM in each isolated culture. Trials involving three stocking densities of all-male prawn viz., 20, 30 and 40 juvenile m⁻² were carried out in replicates. After 4 months of culture, BC, OC and SM were sorted from all tanks and restocked at 5 m⁻² in treatments BC, OC and SM respectively for 80 days. A difference in prawn density significantly ($p < 0.05$) affected adversely on morphotypes. The highest survival rate combined with good yield performance was from 20 juvenile m⁻² stocking density with 21% BC, 62.5% OC and 16.5% SM, respectively. In isolation culture, the average specific growth rate of the SM population (1.22) was significantly higher than that of the OC (1.01) and the BC (0.43) population. The survival of the SM population was 100% while for others it was 72%. Absolute weight of prawn was significantly greater in the male OC (23.87 g) than the SM (19.57 g) and the BC males (6.31 g). Impacts of isolated culture on population structure were much more pronounced in the SM population than others.

Keywords: Freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*, Heterogeneous individual growth, Male morphotypes, Stocking density, Isolation culture

1- Department of Aquaculture, Faculty of Agriculture, University Putra Malaysia, 43400 Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

2- Institute of Bioscience, University Putra Malaysia, 43400 Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia

3- Department of Animal Science and Fishery, Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science, Bintulu Campus, University Putra Malaysia, 97008 Bintulu, Sarawak, Malaysia

* Corresponding author's Email: anniechr@yahoo.com

Introduction

All-male freshwater prawn *M. rosenbergii* (De Man, 1879) culture yields better outputs than mixed sex or all-female culture (Cohen *et al.*, 1988; Nair *et al.*, 2006; Kunda *et al.*, 2009), and provides differential growth that contributes to a wide variation in size within male populations. Males *M. rosenbergii* however, exhibit heterogeneous individual growth (HIG), in some instances producing 50% undersized small males (SM), 40% orange-clawed males (OC) that are larger than SM, and only 10% large blue-clawed males (BC) at harvest (Ra'anan *et al.*, 1991). Thus, HIG is one of the major problems affecting profitability in freshwater prawn culture (Karplus *et al.*, 2000) as demand and market price of prawn depend largely on individual size.

Four social mechanisms are controlling factors of growth variation such as direct competition for food, appetite suppression in subordinate individuals, decreased food conversion efficiency and increased motor activity (Karplus, 2005) as well as genetic variation (Banu *et al.*, 2015a). For management of size variation, early researchers have practiced several ways: supplementary shelters (Peebles, 1979; Smith and Sandifer, 1979; Cohen *et al.*, 1983; Tidwell *et al.*, 2002; Uddin *et al.*, 2009), selective harvesting (Garcia-Perez, 1999; Jose *et al.*, 2007; Rahman *et al.*, 2010), claw ablation (Harpaz *et al.*, 1987; Sagi and Aflalo, 2005; Rahman *et al.*, 2010), size

grading (D'Abramo *et al.*, 1991; Daniels and D'Abramo, 1994; Daniels *et al.*, 1995; Tidwell *et al.*, 2003, 2004a,b) eyestalk ablation (Banu *et al.*, 2014) and cold shock (Banu *et al.*, 2015b). A practical management strategy, selective harvesting of BC, has been proposed to enhance the growth rate of SM, thereby minimizing the size variation of males and increasing the total productivity of ponds (Sagi and Aflalo, 2005; Rahman *et al.*, 2010). According to Karplus *et al.* (1989) large second pair of claws of BC prawns is responsible for the stunting of growth of small males (SMs). However, stunting of SMs may be completely eliminated by removing the BC males from the culture systems (Karplus, 2005). Harvesting of BC males were conducted and SM individuals left in the pond to grow to larger size and hence to enhance overall biomass in polyculture system (Rahman *et al.*, 2010).

Hence, the present investigation focused on male morphotypes of freshwater prawn *M. rosenbergii*. The aim of the current study was to determine the effect of different stocking densities on male morphotypes in all-male culture and to evaluate its influence on growth and survival of BC, OC and SM in isolation culture.

Materials and methods

Tank preparation and stocking

The experiment was conducted in the Centre of Marine Science at Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia

for a period of 120 days from February to June 2012. Nine fiberglass tanks (volume 1 ton) were selected for three stocking densities of male freshwater prawn: 20, 30 and 40 juvenile m^{-2} (herein called treatments R₂₀, R₃₀, R₄₀, respectively) with three replications, using completely randomized design. Lime (CaCO₃) was applied before filling tank up with water from reservoir tank. Lime was liquefied into an earthen pot and then applied by spreading homogenously into the tanks. Water preparation was done one week before stocking juveniles. Each tank was aerated by an air stone supplied with air from a regenerative blower. The water depth was maintained around 0.5 m with keeping good water quality and water was exchanged at 50% every week. Water temperatures in all experimental tanks were maintained at (27.34±0.66)°C.

Total length of nursery period was 2 months. Males and females juveniles of *M. rosenbergii* larger than 3.5 cm total length can be easily identified (Janseen, 1987). The sexes can be manually segregated with accuracy of more than 95% by skilled persons (Nair and Salin, 2005). The segregation of male juvenile of *M. rosenbergii* was done manually on the basis of external morphological characteristics by visually examining the base of the last pereopods. The gap between the origins of the two walking legs is less in case of males and in addition they possess a shield-like covering that hides the genopore. The male juveniles of *M. rosenbergii* were

collected from a commercial aquaculture hatchery farm, Jelubu, Negeri Sembilan. Juveniles were brought to the experimental site by plastic bag equipped with aerators. The bags were kept underwater in the experimental tanks for about 30 minute's acclimatization of temperature. Individual mean stocking weight ($\bar{x} \pm S.D.$) for each treatment was: 1) R₂₀, 5.80±0.09 g; 2) R₃₀, 5.80±0.07 g; and 3) R₄₀, 5.83±0.44 g. Tanks were randomly assigned to receive juveniles from one of the three treatments. Shelter was provided in each tank to reduce cannibalism of prawns. The length and weight of around 10% of prawn juveniles of each tank was measured and recorded for estimating initial stocking biomass and to adjust initial prawn feeding rates.

Feeds and feeding

Prawns were fed with commercial pelleted feed containing 34% protein (BLANCA, 7704, Star feed mills (M) SDN BHD) daily at a rate of 6 % of body weight for the 1st month, 4% of body weight for the 2nd month and 3% of body weight for rest of the culture period (D'Abramo *et al.*, 1995). Half of the required feed for a day was supplied in the evening and the rest in the morning. Feed rate was calculated and adjusted after sampling of prawns twice in a month.

Samples

Freshwater prawns were sampled biweekly using scoop net to assess

growth and health condition. At least 5 prawns from each tank were taken to make assessment of growth trends and to readjust feeding rate. Prawns were handled carefully to avoid stress during sampling. In the last two sampling attempts prior to harvest, prawns were also individually weighed and classified into one of three male morphotypes: blue claw (BC), orange claw (OC) and small (SM) as described by Cohen *et al.* (1981), Kuris *et al.* (1987) and modified by D'Abramo *et al.* (1989).

Harvest and restocking

On day 120 of stocking, water was drained out from each tank and all prawns were harvested. Then, individual body weight, and number of prawns from each tank were recorded. Percentage of BC, OC and SM male morphotypes were measured at three treatments. The BC, OC and SM males were segregated from all treatments into 3 tanks. After 1 week of harvesting, prawns were restocked at 5 prawn/m² per tanks with three treatments BC, OC and SM (also called treatments R_{BC}, R_{OC} and R_{SM}), respectively with three replicates per treatment. On day 80 of restocking, all prawns were harvested and weighed.

Water quality management

Water temperature and dissolved oxygen levels and pH (Dissolved Oxygen Meter, YSI Model 58, Yellow Springs, Ohio, USA) were measured daily. Nitrogen compounds (NH₃-N, NO₂-N, and NO₃-N) and

orthophosphate (PO₄-P) analyses were performed bi-weekly using a digital HACH kit (model DR 2010, HACH Co., Loveland, USA).

Statistical analyses

For statistical analysis, one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey's Test were performed using SAS version-9.2 (Statistical Analysis System: SAS Institute, 1990). Significance was assigned at the 0.05% level. Specific growth rate (SGR) was estimated as: $SGR = [\text{Ln}(\text{final weight}) - \text{Ln}(\text{initial weight}) \times 100] / \text{culture period (days)}$. Survival rate of prawn was calculated as $\text{Survival (\%)} = (\text{No. of harvested individual} \div \text{No. of stocked individual}) \times 100$.

Results

During the all-male culture and isolation culture of BC, OC and SM, parameters of water quality were not significantly different ($p < 0.05$) among treatments. Data on mean values of water temperature, dissolved oxygen (DO), ammonia (NH₃-N), nitrite (NO₂-N), nitrate (NO₃-N) and orthophosphate (PO₄-P), and pH are presented in Table 1.

All-male culture

Growth and yields performance results for prawns are presented in Table 2. Initial stocking weight of prawn was not significantly different ($p < 0.05$) among treatments whereas the final harvested weight was the highest in the treatment R₂₀ as compared to the R₃₀ and R₄₀. Although the survival rate of freshwater prawn was not significantly different among treatments, it reduced slightly at high stocking density.

Table 1: Range and mean (SD) of the water quality parameters were measured in all tanks.

Parameters	Range	Mean±SD
Dissolved Oxygen (mgL ⁻¹)	5.61- 8.32	7.5±0.23
Temperature (°C)	25.47- 29.93	27.34±0.66
pH	7.39-9.18	7.98±0.29
NH ₃ -N (mgL ⁻¹)	0.47-2.37	0.93±0.51
PO ₃ -P (mgL ⁻¹)	0.39-2.28	1.20±0.57
NO ₃ -N (mgL ⁻¹)	0.10-1.05	0.492±0.31
NO ₂ -N (mgL ⁻¹)	0.006-0.481	0.1570±0.16

Table 2: Growth and production parameters of prawn (Mean±SD).

Parameters	Stocking density (Juvenile/m ²)		
	R ₂₀	R ₃₀	R ₄₀
Initial stocking weight(g)	5.80±0.09 ^a	5.80±0.07 ^a	5.83±0.44 ^a
Final harvesting weight(g)	25.83±1.33 ^a	20.22±3.05 ^b	23.98±2.26 ^{ab}
Survival rate (%)	90.00±0 ^a	89.0±9.89 ^a	88.5±2.12 ^a
Production (gm ⁻²)	386.15±30.21 ^a	379.78±82.28 ^a	464.74±65.49 ^a
SGR(%/day)	1.24±0.03 ^a	0.99±0.11 ^b	1.15±0.05 ^{ab}

Mean values with different superscripts in the same row indicate significant difference ($p<0.05$).

Specific growth rate (SGR) of prawn was significantly greater ($p<0.05$) in the R₂₀ than others.

Percentages of different male morphotypes within treatments are presented in Table 3. The proportion of the BC was significantly higher ($p<0.05$) in the R₂₀ and R₃₀ as compared to the R₄₀, representing 21, 23 and 10 % of total harvested male prawn. An opposite trend was evident for SM: 17% in R₂₀, 15% in R₃₀ and 26% in R₄₀. Relative percentages of the OC males (62-65%) however, were not significantly different among stocking densities.

Isolation culture

Growth and survival rate of prawn were significantly ($p<0.05$) different among all the treatments (Table 4). Specific growth rate (g/day) trend was

significant and thrice in the R_{SM} (1.22±0.28) and twice in the R_{OC} (1.01±0.11) compared to the R_{BC} (0.43±0.06). The survival rate of prawn was not significantly different ($p>0.05$) between the R_{BC} and R_{OC} whereas it was 100% in the R_{SM}. The absolute weight of prawn was significantly greater in the OC males (23.87g) than the SM (19.57 g) and the BC males (6.31g) (Fig. 1).

Discussion

Water parameters monitored in the current study remained within acceptable range for the cultivation of freshwater prawns (New, 2002). The stocking density of prawns had no significant effect on the water quality parameters, therefore differences observed in the productivity was related to the effect of the treatments.

Table 3: Percentages of different male morphotypes of prawn by count (Mean±SD) within treatments.

Morphotype	Stocking density (Juvenile/m ²)		
	R ₂₀	R ₃₀	R ₄₀
Blue claw male (%)	21.0±2.83 ^a	23.265±0.37 ^a	9.5±0.71 ^b
Orange claw male (%)	62.5±0.71 ^a	61.855±4.04 ^a	65.0±0 ^a
Small male (%)	17.0±2.83 ^{ab}	14.880±4.41 ^b	25.5±0.71 ^a

Mean values with different superscripts in the same row indicate significant difference ($p < 0.05$).

Table 4: Growth and survival rate of different male morphotypes by count (Mean±SD) within treatments in isolation culture.

Parameters	Male morphotype of prawn		
	BC	OC	SM
Initial stocking weight(g)	23.34±1.26	18.39±1.37	9.06±0.53
Final harvesting weight(g)	29.65±0.28	42.24±0.37	28.63±0.73
SGR(%bdwt/day)	0.43±0.06 ^b	1.01±0.11 ^a	1.22±0.28 ^a
Survival (%)	72.33±9.24 ^b	72.33±9.24 ^b	100±0 ^a

Mean values with different superscripts in the same row indicate significant difference ($p < 0.05$).

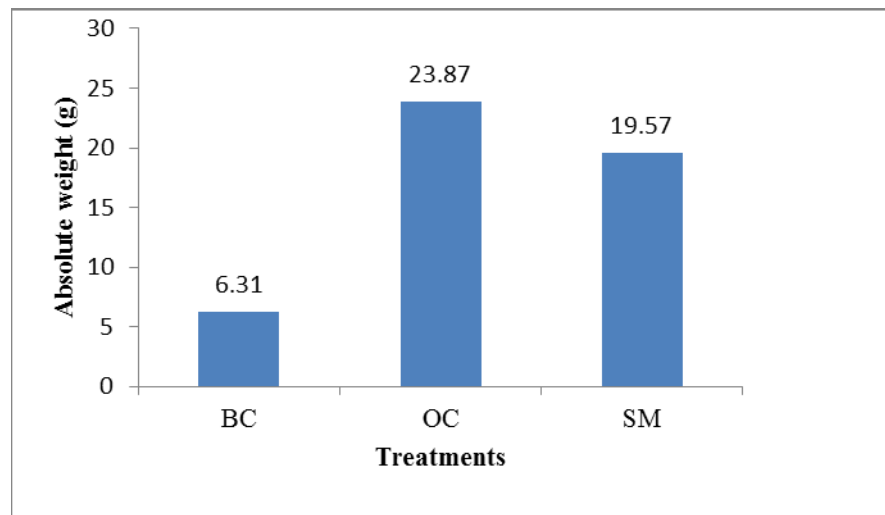


Figure 1: Absolute weight of each male (BC, OC, SM) morphotype in isolation culture.

Density had a major effect on growth and a minor effect on survival of prawns (Valenti *et al.*, 2010). Stocking density significantly but slightly affected the final harvesting weight whereas no significant effects on final yield was detected. It has been reported that stocking density has dependent

effects on growth pattern in *M. rosenbergii* (Karplus 2005; Pillai *et al.*, 2007; Rahman *et al.*, 2012). The mean size at harvest, specific growth rate and size class distribution can be significantly influenced by stocking density, with those at the lowest stocking density showing significantly

better growth and overall proportion of larger prawns (Civin-Aralar *et al.*, 2007; Kunda *et al.*, 2008). In the present study, the significant effect of increasing stocking density from 20 to 40 juvenile m^{-2} was achieved on the mean percentage of three male morphotypes. The impact of low stocking of prawn was increased proportion of the BC and reduced SM as well while the impact of high stocking rate was vice versa (Ranjeet and Kurup, 2002; Rahman *et al.*, 2012). The proportions of BC was significantly similar in the R₂₀ (21%) and R₃₀ (23%) and the OC was significantly high in all the treatments. On the other hand, the percentage of the SM was 15-25% in the treatments. The number of SM at final harvest reported by Ra'anani *et al.* (1991) was up to 50% in some instances. The percentage of the SM prawn was related to the stocking density and the inverse effect on the BC males as reported by Rahman *et al.* (2012) in their earlier study. Karplus *et al.* (1986) found a dynamic change in the mean percentages of male morphotypes with the increase in density from 1 to 4 prawn m^{-2} . Moreover, Rahman *et al.* (2012) achieved significant variation in the mean proportions of three male morphotypes. Contrary to these reports, no significant effect of increasing stocking density from 4 to 8 prawn m^{-2} (Daniels *et al.*, 1995) and from 5 to 20 prawn m^{-2} (Siddiqui *et al.*, 1997) was found on the mean percentages of male morphotypes of freshwater prawn.

Cohen *et al.* (1981) and Cohen and Ra'anani (1983) have also reported stable proportions of male morphotypes in mature populations.

Survival rate of freshwater prawn in the treatments of the current study ranged from 88 to 90% that is similar with the finding of Tidwell *et al.* (2004a). A survival rate above 50% is considered acceptable by New and Singholka (1985). Malecha (1983) reported about 50 to 60% of prawn survival in continuous culture systems while Kunda *et al.* (2009) recorded a survival rate of 64% in their all-male freshwater prawn polyculture trials.

Periodic selective harvesting of the BC during the culture phase can improve relative biomass yields (Sagi and Aflalo, 2005; Rahman *et al.*, 2010). Similarly, sorting of BC, OC and SM from all tanks improved HIG effects of all-male by removing BC and OC, which was reared separately for sustainable production, and by reducing the stocking density. Isolation culture of BC, OC and SM freshwater prawn has also potential for increasing growth performance among OC and SM because of them having equal ability to compete for food and space among same group of males as well as increasing survival rate as a result of reduced stocking density.

After partial harvesting of the BC, cannibalism could still be present among the OC and SM in the rearing system. In the present study, SM population showed rapid growth and a 100% survival due to no cannibalism.

After isolation of BC and OC males, the stunted SM grew rapidly and developed into large BC males (Ra'anan and Cohen, 1985). It was found that the OC males surpass the BC males in absolute weight when reared in isolation culture. Isolated males transformed into the BC morphotype at a frequency three times higher than those in the communally cultured males (Karplus *et al.*, 1991). The reason for this could be that the OC escaped from the BC and the SM evaded the BC & OC, hence, more space etc. This growth pattern, in isolation culture, was achieved mainly by delayed transition from the fast growing OC morphotype into the slow growing BC one, causing the male prawns attain a larger size upon metamorphosis (Karplus, 2005). This delay probably results from interaction among the male prawns. Male prawns studied under semi-natural conditions were found to be organized in a stable dominance hierarchy, sharing the same area with few low intensity aggressive interactions (Karplus and Harpaz, 1990).

As the absolute weight of the BC was significantly low in isolated culture, it would be better to sell it instead of wasting time and resources. In addition, the proportion of the OC from all male culture and the absolute weight of the OC males from the isolation culture were significantly high in this study; hence prawn farming through following this finding would be most profitable. After separating the BC and OC, the growth of the SM

increased three times more than that of the BC with no mortality observed in our study. Therefore, after sorting of the BC, OC and SM from all-male culture, the OC and SM could be reared in isolated culture system until marketable size to make it a profitable and sustainable all-male prawn farming.

Increasing stocking density of all-male freshwater prawn had virtually no effect on water quality parameters; however it influenced the percentage of the BC, OC and SM in all-male culture. Although it is apparent that the percentage of the BC male prawn is significantly high with 21- 23% from stocking densities up to 30 juvenile m^{-2} , the highest SGR and final individual body weight was from 20 juvenile m^{-2} stocking density. In isolation culture, the SM prawn apparently displayed a compensatory growth response, through which the lower growth rates registered in the BC male population, showed three times more growth rate with no mortality during culture period in fiberglass tanks. Thus, the finding of present study can be used to improve the size variation management in all-male prawn farming.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank to all members of the Centre of Marine Science, UPM, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan, Malaysia for sincere cooperation during the present research. The study was supported by grants from Universiti Putra Malaysia, 43400, Serdang, Selangor, Malaysia.

References

- Banu, M.R., Christianus, A., Islam, M.R., Ikhsan, N.F.M. and Rajae, A.H., 2014.** Growth and survival of bilateral eyestalk ablated small male freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (DeMan). *Journal of Biological Sciences*, 14(8), 527-531. DOI: 10.3923/jbs.2014.527.531
- Banu, M.R., Christianus, A., Ikhsan, N.F.M. and Rajae, A.H., 2015a.** Effect of cold shock and hormone on growth and male morphotypes of freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (de Man). *Aquaculture Research*, Article first published online: 16 JUN 2015. DOI: 10.1111/are.12823
- Banu, M.R., Siraj, S.S., Christianus, A., Ikhsan, N.F.M. and Rajae, A.H., 2015b.** Genetic diversity among different morphotypes of the male freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man). *Aquaculture Reports*, 1, 15-19. DOI:10.1016/j.aqrep.2015.02.001
- Cohen, D., Ra'anan, Z. and Brody, T., 1981.** Population profile development and morphotypic differentiation in the giant freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*. *Journal of World Aquaculture Society*, 12, 213-234.
- Cohen, D. and Ra'anan, Z., 1983.** The production of the freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* in Israel. Density effect of all-male tilapia hybrids on prawn yield characteristics in polyculture. *Aquaculture*, 35, 57-71.
- Cohen, D., Ra'anan, Z., Rappaport, U. and Arieli, Y., 1983.** The production of the freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man) in Israel: improved conditions for intensive monoculture. *Bamidgeh*, 35, 7-31.
- Cohen, D., Sagi, A. Ra'anan, Z. and Zohar, G., 1988.** The production of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* in monosex population: III. Yield characteristics under monoculture conditions in earthen ponds. *Israeli Journal of Aquaculture- Bamidgeh*, 40, 57-63.
- Cuvin-Aralar, M. L. A., Aralar, E.V., Laron, M. and Rosario, W., 2007.** Culture of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man 1879) in experimental cages in a freshwater eutrophic lake at different stocking densities. *Aquaculture Research*, 38, 288-294.
- D'Abramo, L.R., Heinen, J.M., Robinette, H.R. and Collins, J.S., 1989.** Production of the freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* stocked as juveniles at different densities in temperature zone ponds. *Journal of the World Aquaculture Society*, 20, 81- 89.
- D'Abramo, L.R., Malecha, S.R., Fuller, M.J., Daniels, W.H. and Heinen, J.M., 1991.** Reassessment of the prospects for freshwater prawn culture in the United States: complementary research efforts in Hawaii and Mississippi. In *Shrimp Culture in North America and the*

- Caribbean, *Advances in World Aquaculture*, Vol. 4, (Ed. by P.A. Sandifer), pp. 96–123. World Aquaculture Society, Baton Rouge.
- D'Abramo, L.R., Daniels, W.H., Fondren, M.W. and Brunson, M.W., 1995.** Management practices for culture of freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* in temperate climates. Bulletin 1030. Mississippi State University, Mississippi Agricultural Forestry Experimental Station, Jackson, Mississippi, USA.
- Daniels, W.H. and D'Abramo, L.R., 1994.** Pond production characteristics of freshwater prawns *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* as influenced by the stocking of size-graded populations of juveniles. *Aquaculture*, 122, 33–45.
- Daniels, W.H., D'Abramo, L.R., Fondren, M.W. and Durant, M.D., 1995.** Effects of stocking density and feed on pond production characteristics and revenue of harvested freshwater prawns *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* stocked as size-graded juveniles. *Journal of the World Aquaculture Society*, 26, 38–47.
- De Man, J.G., 1879.** On some species of the genus *Palaemon* Fabr. with descriptions of two new forms. *Notes Leyden Museum* 1, 165–84.
- Garcia-Perez, A. 1999.** Effects on yield and population structure by removing female *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* from a continuous polyculture system with red tilapia hybrids. PhD Thesis University of Puerto Rico.
- Harpaz, S., Kahan, D., Moriniere, M. and Porcheron, P., 1987.** Level of ecdysteroids in the hemolymph of the freshwater prawn, *M. rosenbergii* (Crustacea Decapoda), in relation to the phenomenon of cheliped autotomy in males. *Experientia*, 43, 901–2.
- Janseen, J.A.J., 1987.** The sex differentiation of the giant freshwater prawn *M. rosenbergii*. Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia, Bangkok, Thailand, Working Paper NACA/WP/87/54: 35 P.
- Jose, S., Joseph, A., Shyama, S., Mohan, M.V. and Nair, C.M., 2007.** Production trends of the giant freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man) in two culture strategies. In Proceedings of the International Symposium on Freshwater prawns College of Fisheries, Kerala Agricultural University Kochi, Kerala, India, 20–23 August 2003, (Ed. by Nair, C.M., Nambudiri, D.D., Jose, S., Sankaran, T.M., Jayachandran, K.V. & Salin, K.R.), pp. 404–9. Allied Publishers, New Delhi.
- Karplus, I., Hulata, G., Wohlfarth, G.W. and Halvey, A., 1986.** The effect of density of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* raised in earthen ponds on their population structure and weight distribution. *Aquaculture*, 52, 307–320.
- Karplus, I., Samsonov, E., Hulata, G. and Milstein, A., 1989.** Social

- control of growth in *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*. I. The effect of claw ablation on survival and growth of communally raised prawns. *Aquaculture*, 80, 325-35.
- Karplus, E. and Harpaz, S., 1990.** Preliminary observations on behavioral interactions and distribution patterns of freshwater prawns *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* under semi-natural conditions (Decapoda, Caridea). *Crustaceana*, 59, 193-203.
- Karplus, I., Barki, A., Israel, Y. and Cohen, S., 1991.** Social control of growth in *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*. II. The "leapfrog" growth pattern. *Aquaculture*, 96(3-4), 353-365. Available at: <http://linkinghub.elsevier.com/retrieve/pii/0044848691901643>.
- Karplus, I., Malecha, S.R. and Sagi, A., 2000.** The biology and management of size variation. In: *Freshwater Prawn Culture* (eds. M.B. New and W.C. Valenti), pp. 259-289. Blackwell Science, Oxford, UK.
- Karplus, I., 2005.** Social control of growth in *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man): a review and prospects for future research. *Aquaculture Research*, 36, 238-254.
- Kunda, M., Azim, M.E., Wahab, M.A., Dewan, S., Roos, N. and Thilsted, S.H., 2008.** Potential of mixed culture of freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*) and self-recruiting small fish mola (*Amblypharyngodon mola*) in rotational rice-fish/prawn culture systems in Bangladesh. *Aquaculture Research*, 39, 506-517.
- Kunda, M., Wahab, M.A., Dewan, S., Asaduzzaman, M. and Thilsted, S.H., 2009.** Effects of all male, mixed sex and all female freshwater prawn in polyculture with major carps and mola in the fallow rice fields. *Aquaculture Research*, 41, 103-110.
- Kuris, A.M., Ra'anan, Z., Sagi, A. and Cohen, D., 1987.** Morphotypic differentiation of male Malaysian giant prawns *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*. *Journal of Crustacean Biology* 7, 219-37.
- Malecha, S.R., 1983.** Commercial pond production of the freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* in Hawaii. In: McVey, J.P. and J.R. Moore (eds), *CRC Handbook of Mariculture*, Vol. 1: *Crustacean Aquaculture*, CRC Press, Boca Raton. pp. 205-230.
- Nair, C.M. and Salin, K.R., 2005.** Freshwater prawn farming in India-emerging trends. Abstracts of World Aquaculture 2005, 9-13 May 2005, Bali, Indonesia, p.433. World Aquaculture Society, Baton Rouge.
- Nair, C.M., Salin, K.R., Raju, M.S. and Sebastian, M., 2006.** Economic analysis of monosex culture of giant freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*, De Man): a case study. *Aquaculture Research*, 37, 949-954.
- New, M.B. and Singholka, S., 1985.** Freshwater prawn farming. A manual for the culture of

- Macrobrachium rosenbergii*. FAO Fisheries Technical Paper 225 (Rev 1). FAO, Rome, Italy. 125 P.
- New, M.B., 2002.** Farming freshwater prawns a manual for the culture of the giant river prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*). FAO Fish. Tech. Pap., 428. 212 P.
- Peebles, J.B., 1979.** The role of prior residence and relative size in competition for shelter by the Malaysian prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*. *Fishery Bulletin*, 76, 905–11.
- Pillai, B.R., Sahu, S. and Mohanty, S., 2007.** Growth, survival, yields and weight class distribution of monosex populations of giant freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man). In: *Freshwater Prawns: Advances in Biology, Aquaculture and Marketing* (eds. C.M. Nair and D.D. Nambudiri), pp. 410-416. Allied Publishers, New Delhi, India.
- Ra'anana, Z. and Cohen, D., 1985.** Ontogeny of social structure and population dynamics in the giant freshwater prawn, *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man). In *Crustacean Issues, Vol. 3: Crustacean Growth: Factors in Adult Growth*, (Ed. by A. Wenner), pp. 277–311. A.A. Balkema, Rotterdam.
- Ra'anana, Z., Sagi, A., Wax, Y., Karplus, I., Hulata, G. and Kuris, A., 1991.** Growth, size, rank and maturation of the freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*: Analysis of marked prawn in an experimental population. *Biological Bulletin*, 181, 379-386.
- Rahman, S.M.S., Wahab, M.A., Islam, M.A., Kunda, M. and Azim, M.E., 2010.** Effects of selective harvesting and claw ablation of all-male freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*) on water quality, production and economics in polyculture ponds. *Aquaculture Research*, 41, e404-e417.
- Rahman, S. M. S., Islam, M. A., Wahab, M. A., Banu, M. R., Kunda, M. and Azim, M. E., 2012.** Effects of Stocking Density of All-male *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (De Man, 1879) in Polyculture Ponds on Production and Economics. *Asian Fisheries Science*, 25, 133-143.
- Ranjeet, K. and Kurup, B.M., 2002.** Heterogeneous individual growth of *Macrobrachium rosenbergii*. *Aquabyte*, 25(2), 13–18.
- Sagi, A. and Afalo, E.D., 2005.** The androgenic gland and monosex culture of freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (DeMan): a biotechnical perspective. *Aquaculture Research*, 36, 231-237.
- SAS Institute, 1990.** Statistical analysis systems. SAS Institute, Cary, NC.
- Siddiqui, A.Q., Hafedh, Y.S.A., Harbi, A.H.A. and Ali, S.A., 1997.** Effects of stocking density and monosex culture of freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* on growth and production in concrete tanks in Saudi Arabia. *Journal of the*

- World Aquaculture Society*, 28(1), 106-112.
- Smith, T.I.J. and Sandifer, P.A., 1979.** Observations on the behavior of the Malaysian prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (DeMan) to artificial habitats. *Marine Behaviour and Physiology*, 6, 46-131.
- Tidwell, J.H., Coyle, S.D., VanArnum, A. and Weibel, C., 2002.** Effects of substrate amount and orientation on production and population structure of freshwater prawns *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* in ponds. *Journal of the World Aquaculture Society*, 33, 9-63.
- Tidwell, J.H., Coyle, S.D., VanArnum, A. and Weibel, C., 2003.** The effects of size grading and length of nursery period on growth and population structure of freshwater prawns stocked in temperate zone ponds with added substrates. *Aquaculture*, 218, 18-209.
- Tidwell, J.H., Coyle, S.D. and Dasgupta, S., 2004a.** Effects of stocking different fractions of size graded juvenile prawns on production and population structure during a temperature-limited growout period. *Aquaculture*, 231, 34-123.
- Tidwell, J.H., Coyle, S.D., Dasgupta, S., Bright, L.A. and Yasharian, D.K., 2004b.** Impact of different management technologies on the production, population structure, and economics of freshwater prawn *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* culture in temperate climates. *Journal of the World Aquaculture Society*, 35, 498-505.
- Uddin, M.S., Azim, M.E., Wahab, M.A. and Verdegem, M.C.J., 2009.** Effects of substrate addition and supplemental feeding on plankton composition and production in tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) and freshwater prawn (*Macrobrachium rosenbergii*) polyculture. *Aquaculture* 297, 99-105.
- Valenti, W.H., New, M.B., Salin, K.R. and Ye, J., 2010.** Grow-out systems—monoculture. In: New, M.B., Valenti, W.C., Tidwell, J.H., D'Abramo, L.R., Kutty, M.N. (Eds.), *Freshwater Prawns; Biology and Farming*. Wiley-Blackwell, Oxford, pp. 154-179.