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Zeolite and Active Carbon Addition on Closed System Transportation for Milkfish Juvenile (*Chanos chanos*) Survival Rate

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Abstract - The purpose of this study was to determine the effectiveness of the optimum ratio of zeolite and activated carbon to preserve the survival rate of milkfish iuvenile in closed **system** transportation. This research conduct from May to July 2018 at the Laboratory of Aquaculture, University of Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa. The research design uses a completely randomized design (CRD) with 6 treatments and 3 replications, i.e. P1) without zeolite and activated carbon; P2) zeolite 20 g; P3) zeolite 15 g and activated carbon 5 g; P4) zeolite 10 g and activated carbon 10 g; P5) zeolite 5 g and activated carbon 15 g; P6) activated carbon 20 g. The fish size used was 2.2±0.56 cm with a density of 250 fish per 1.3 liters of water. The best results were the treatment of zeolite 15 g and activated carbon 5 g. Optimal transport time was 36 hours with an average survival rate is 91%, but it was still suitable for up to 48 hours with an average survival rate was 80%.

Keywords: active carbon, milkfish, transportation, zeolite

INTRODUCTION

Milkfish is a brackish water fish that has a specific taste. This fish has become a superior commodity and its processing has become the province's special food. Banten people prefer buying milkfish compared to other types of fish or with a preference of 45.1% [1], milkfish satay or sate bandeng are the Banten province's special food. Nutritional composition per 100 grams of milkfish meat is 129 kcal energy, 20 gr protein, 4.8 g fat, 20 mg calcium, 150 mg phosphorus, 2 mg iron, 150 IU vitamin A and 0.05 mg vitamin B1 [2].

At present, milkfish juvenile obtained from nature. Fish farmers in Banten province generally obtain juvenile from fish hatcheries in Gondol, Singaraja, Bali Province. The problem of milkfish farmers is low survival rates, because of the distance and the length of time in juvenile transporting. The closed system transportation is more profitable, efficiency in the use of places, transporting more fish and can be transported over long distances. In this system, the factors that cause fish mortality reduced dissolved oxygen, high temperatures, high-stress levels, and toxic



metabolites such as ammonia and CO accumulation, respectively [3]. Furthermore, the purpose of fish transportation will be achieved if it is successful in overcoming environmental changes and reducing mortality [4]. The expected survival rate is more than 90%. The way to neutralize ammonia or the total concentration of ammonia nitrogen (TAN) is by adding zeolite and activated carbon in the packing media.

The studies about closed system transportation using zeolite and activated carbon has been done previously in several types of fish, such as *Pangasionodon hyppophthalmus* [3], and *Corydoras aenus* [5]. Both of these studies prove that zeolite can reduce the increase in total ammonia nitrogen. The purpose of this study was to

determine the effectiveness of the optimum ratio of zeolite and activated carbon to preserve the survival rate of milkfish juvenile in closed system transportation.

2. METHODS

This research has been conducted from May to July 2018 at the Laboratory of Aquaculture, University of Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa. The research design used a completely randomized design (CRD) with 6 treatments and 3 replications, *i.e.* P1) without zeolite and activated carbon; P2) zeolite 20 g; P3) zeolite 15 g and activated carbon 5 g; P4) zeolite 10 g and activated carbon 10 g; P5) zeolite 5 g and activated carbon 15 g; P6) activated carbon 20 g.

Table 1. The survival rate of milkfish juvenile in closed system transportation

Treatments	Hours				
	0	12	24	36	48
P1) control	100	97.5 a	90.3 a	82.8 a	68.0 a
P2) zeolite 20 g	100	99.2 b	96.0 ^b	89.3 ab	78.0^{ab}
P3) zeolite 15 g + activated carbon 5 g	100	99.7 в	96.9 b	91.1 ^b	80.0 b
P4) zeolite 10 g + activated carbon 10 g	100	99.5 ^b	95.2 ^b	88.8 ab	76.0^{ab}
P5) zeolite 5 g + activated carbon 15 g	100	99.2 b	95.2 b	86.0 ab	74.0^{ab}
P6) activated carbon 20 g	100	99.6 ^в	97.5 b	90.8 b	72.0 ab

The fish size used was 2.2±0.56 cm with a density of 250 fish per 1.3 liters of water. The survival rate is a percentage of the comparison value between the number of fish that live to the end of packing and the

number of fish at the beginning of packing [6]. Supporting parameters measured is total concentration of ammonia nitrogen (TAN) [7].

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of survival rate are shown in Table 1 while the total concentration of

ammonia nitrogen (TAN) in Figure 1. The best results in transportation of milkfish



juvenile for 48 hours are P3 or zeolite 15 g and activated carbon 5 g with average survival rate is 80%. This survival rate is not optimal results because the expected survival rate is more than 90%., the optimal transport time is 36 hours with an average survival rate is 91.1%. In transport time 36 hours, P3 and P6 are not significantly different, but zeolite has a cheaper price, so the use of zeolite 10 g and 5 g of activated carbon is more effective and efficient.

According to Ahmad and Yakob [8], milkfish is a fishery commodity that is resistant to environmental changes, and they suggested that the transport of juveniles from the hatchery to the pond is not more than 12 hours. It can be seen in the results of transportation without treatment (P1) that the transport time of 12 hours gives the best results, but it is still feasible to transport the milkfish juvenile for 24 hours.

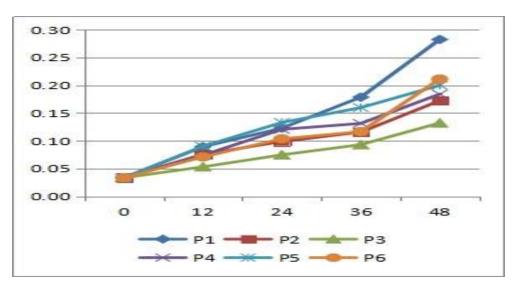


Figure 1. Total concentration of ammonia nitrogen (TAN)

Overall, TAN during transportation has increased. Nitrogen compounds are the main element in metabolic waste products, the most of which are urea and ammonia [9]. The combination of Zeolite and activated carbon has been shown to reduce the increase in total concentration of ammonia nitrogen (Figure 1).

Mortality in the transportation of fish juveniles is caused by ammonia that exceeds the fish tolerance limit. High ammonia

content will affect the permeability of fish to water and reduce the concentration of ions in the body, thereby increasing tissue oxygen consumption and causing gill damage and reducing blood capacity in oxygen transport [10]. Effendi [11], claims that ammonia is harmful to fish at a concentration of 0.2 mg / ℓ . It's proven in (P1), (P5) and (P6) that the TAN value is close to or more than 0.2 mg / ℓ has a low survival rate.



4. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the treatment of zeolite 15 g and activated carbon 5 g. with the optimal transportation time at 36 hours was

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able to yield the average survival rate of 91%, however, with transportation time up to 48 hours the average survival rate was 80%.

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