Dear Dr. Amin,

Your manuscript entitled "Prevalence, Intensity, and Histopathology of Marine Leech, Zeylanicobdella arugamensis, Infesting Groupers Reared in Different Aquaculture Systems" has been successfully submitted online and is presently being given full consideration for publication in the Journal of Fish Diseases.

Your manuscript ID is JFD-2020-120.

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Thank you for submitting your manuscript to the Journal of Fish Diseases.

Yours sincerely,

Journal of Fish Diseases Editorial Office
Yours sincerely,

Dr David Speare
Editor, Journal of Fish Diseases
speare@upei.ca

Associate Editor's Comments to Author:
Associate Editor:
Comments to the Author:
This is an interesting paper on Zeylanicobdella arugamensis infestation in groupers from different aquaculture systems. Unfortunately, there are some significant shortcomings. Please make all changes recommended by the reviewers. In particular, please improve description of methods, including histology and description of histology results.

Referee(s)' Comments to Author:
Referee: 1
Comments to the Author
see attached

Referee: 2
Comments to the Author
The primary results presented here are the different infection prevalence and intensities observed between the different systems at the facility where these experiments took place. The experimental design was poorly presented and lacked sufficient details regarding controls. As presented, this does not appear to be a controlled experiment, but a survey of infection intensity and prevalence in their facility.

There is also not enough details presented on the histopathology assessment. For example, were these controlled infections where the individuals were exposed at the same time with leeches of the same age? There is a significant lack of detailed experimental controls and evidence presented to support the hypothesis that the pathology was more severe on one species vs. another.

The significant lack of details around experimental design and controls for the two primary findings presented here are major flaws which make this work unpublishable.

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JFD-2020-120 review.pdf
90K
Prevalence, Intensity, and Histopathology of Zeylanicobdella arugamensis Infestation in Groupers Reared in Different Aquaculture Systems

Abstract

Line 35 I would add: “The marine leech, *Zeylanicobdella arugamensis* is a major threat to aquaculture in ....

Line 39 “native assay” please explain

Introduction

Line 67 and the rest of the manuscript
Please write in present tense i.e. “...which belongs to the phylum....” when describing permanent conditions

Line 69 please change “explained” to “reported”

Line 80 please consider changing the next two sentences starting with “However” to:
The above studies did not provide data on differences in pathogenicity in different species of groupers, nor did they examine the influence of rearing conditions on the prevalence and intensity of infestation.

Line 90 This sentence seems redundant, please consider removing it

Materials and Methods

Fish samples Were the fish collected in the hatchery of comparable size/age to the other fish?

Line 117 you should note that you are referring to mean values of prevalence and intensity for each fish species; please provide the definition for “degree of infestation” did you mean individual intensity of infestation or just categories like “low”, “high” etc. that you use in Table 6? You should also report the range i.e. lowest and highest values for each parameter in each group of fish.

Line 125 You may consider putting the entire description of leech preparation into on-line supplemental data.
Please rewrite the paragraph starting at line 139, it seems redundant to the previous sentences; you may actually replace the entire paragraph with a sentence providing the sources of the id key in Kabata (1985) and as you imply, other sources (book and journal) which you should cite.

Your histopathological evaluation is not clear, explain what you understand by degree and extend of alteration and % of occurrence. Was it based on gross examination and histopathology? If you only used only 2 fish from each species for the latter, it may be a very misleading data set. I would change it to classical histopathological criteria i.e. use type and severity of lesions and % of fish affected by each lesion type/severity in each group for the gross observations if you recorded them, and provide preliminary data on the histopathology based on 4 fish examined. This would replace your Table 2 which is misleading: I guess you score “heavy” if the change has been identified in 70% of fish examined?

How frequent were these measurements of water parameters? Are you providing mean values in your results?

Data analysis

It is not clear to me what histopathological data you were comparing. As suggested above, you should have a data set on gross observations. Do not use statistics on the 4 fish with histopathology.

Results

In your results you should provide mean and range values for intensity and prevalence for each fish/rearing facility and refer the reader to the tables. Are these values mean values, please specify and provide ranges.

This entire paragraph is obsolete, you should just list the morphological criteria that allowed you to id the species based on your sources.

Histopathology

This paragraph needs to be edited to use proper histopathological criteria, i.e. type of lesion and severity. You may send these slides to a fish pathologist for a simple description.

Was this based on gross examination – again to make such conclusions you need provide data on subjective and/or objective (if you used morphometry) macroscopic scoring of lesions in each fish and the statistical analysis of these.
Water quality
You should provide mean values and ranges or standard deviations for each parameter in each rearing facility and results of statistical analysis showing no differences in these as you have done in Table 7.

Discussion

Line 235 please delete the id description of the leech and put the references in your Material and Methods. Just say that based on the keys you id this leech as Z. arugamensis.

Line 283 You imply that secondary bacterial infection contributed to the histopathology at attachment sites, but you provide no evidence of this, please rewrite this sentence to make it clear that such association has been suggested in the literature.

Line 290 Your histopathology/gross pathology descriptions need to be totally changed as suggested previously:
1/ separate gross/macroscopic observations made on all fish with scoring of each type of change (hemorrhage, ulceration or erosion as minimal, moderate, severe, and statistical analysis if species/rearing conditions are associated with differences in histopath scoring
2/ a preliminary histopathology of changes based on 2 fish from each species (please specify from which rearing facility these were taken) and 2 controls

Line 293-313 I would drastically shorten this to just list the histopathological lesions reported in fish at leech attachment sites.

Conclusions
Please abbreviate to just list your prevalence, intensity data as influenced by rearing conditions. Your histopathology data are too preliminary to comment on.

Figure 4
Is out of focus and needs improved description of macroscopic changes

Figure 5 please delete, it does not contribute much to further our understanding of leech-attachment sites.

Table 1
Remove the replicates, you did not mention them in M&M

Table 2 and Table 4
Combine and change as suggested to include macroscopic data on lesion type and severity

Table 3
I would add the lowest and highest values (range) of values recorded

Table 5
Provide the number of times these measurements were taken if these are men values
Journal of Fish Diseases - Decision on Manuscript JFD-2020-120

1 message

Mon, May 25, 2020 at 6:19 PM

David Speare <onbehalfof@manuscriptcentral.com>  
Reply-To: speare@upei.ca
To: muhamad.amin@fpk.unair.ac.id, muhamad.amin81@gmail.com

25-May-2020

Dear Dr Amin,

Manuscript JFD-2020-120, entitled "Prevalence, Intensity, and Histopathology of Zeylanicobdella arugamensis Infestation in Groupers Reared in Different Aquaculture Systems", which you submitted to the Journal of Fish Diseases, has now been reviewed. Any comments from the Associate Editor and the comments of the reviewers are included at the bottom of this email.

The reviewers have recommended publication, but only if some major revisions are made to your manuscript. Therefore, I invite you to respond to the reviewers' comments and revise your manuscript. Please note that both reviewers have requested more data on the experimental/sampling designs so that the reader is better able to understand the relevant findings. The reviewers have provided ample guidance for the authors to focus on those areas that were particularly unclear and therefore deserving of additional explanatory text.

Because we are trying to facilitate timely publication of manuscripts submitted to the Journal of Fish Diseases, your revised manuscript should be uploaded by 19-Jun-2020. If it is not possible for you to submit your revision in this time, please let us know at JFDeitorialoffice@wiley.com.

To revise your manuscript, log into https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jfd and enter your Author Centre, where you'll find your manuscript title listed under "Manuscripts with Decisions". Under "Actions", click on "Create a Revision". Your manuscript number has been appended to denote a revision. Once the revised manuscript is prepared, you can upload and submit it through your Author Centre.

When submitting your revised manuscript, you will be able to respond to the comments made by the reviewers in the space provided. You can use this space to document any changes you make to the original manuscript. In order to expedite the processing of the revised manuscript, please be as specific as possible in your response to the reviewers.

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Once again, thank you for submitting your manuscript to the Journal of Fish Diseases and I look forward to receiving your revision.

We recognise that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may affect your ability to return your revised manuscript to us within the requested timeframe. If this is the case, please let us know.

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Journal of Fish Diseases - Decision on Manuscript JFD-2020-120.R1
1 message

David Speare <onbehalfof@manuscriptcentral.com> Fri, Jun 26, 2020 at 10:56 PM
Reply-To: speare@upei.ca
To: mahasrit@gmail.com, umihafidloh@gmail.com, fungkyputra@gmail.com, dionr196@gmail.com, sri.subekti@fpk.unair.ac.id, putri.dw@fpk.unair.ac.id, muhamad.amin@fpk.unair.ac.id, muhamad.amin81@gmail.com

26-Jun-2020

Dear Dr Amin,

It is a pleasure to accept your manuscript entitled "Prevalence, Intensity, and Histopathology of Zeylanicodella arugamensis Infestation on Groupers Reared in Different Aquaculture Systems" in its current form for publication in Journal of Fish Diseases. Any comments from the Associate Editor and the comments of the reviewers who reviewed your manuscript are included at the foot of this letter.

Your paper will now be stylistically checked by our Editors to ensure it follows the conventions of the journal, as specified in Units and Spelling in the Author Guidelines (scientific name conventions, etc.) To see when your paper has been published in an issue, sign up to receive electronic table of contents – bit.ly/JFDealerts.

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Thank you for your fine contribution. On behalf of the Editors of the Journal of Fish Diseases, we look forward to your continued contributions to the Journal.

Yours sincerely,

Dr David Speare
Editor, Journal of Fish Diseases
speare@upei.ca
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If you have any feedback about the Editorial Review Process, please feel free to share this with us by emailing the Editorial Office: JFDEDITORIALOFFICE@WILEY.COM
Dear muhamad amin,

Article ID: JFD13219
Article DOI: 10.1111/jfd.13219
Internal Article ID: 16825415
Article: Prevalence, Intensity, and Histopathology of Zeylanicobdella arugamensis Infestation on Groupers Reared on Different Aquaculture Systems
Journal: Journal of Fish Diseases

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BOOK REVIEW


Ali Reza Radkhah, Esmaeil Sadeghinejad Masouleh

Pages: 1111-1113 | First Published: 24 September 2020
ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Prevalence, intensity and histopathology of *Zeylanicobdella arugamensis* infestation on groupers reared on different aquaculture systems

Gunanti Mahasri, Umi Hafidloh, Fungky P. Pratama, Dicky Rahmawan, Sri Subekti, Putri D. Wulansari, Muhamad Amin

Pages: 1133-1143 | First Published: 23 July 2020

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Pathogenic characterization of *Aeromonas salmonicida* subsp. *masoucida* turbot isolate from China

Ping Wang, Jie Li, Tian Tian He, Nan Li, Zhao Lan Mo, Pin Nie, Hai Xia Xie

Pages: 1145-1154 | First Published: 27 July 2020

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Modelling the effect of vaccination on transmission dynamics of nervous necrosis virus in grouper larvae *Epinephelus coioides*

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13652781/2020/43/10
Bayesian estimation of diagnostic sensitivity and specificity of a qPCR and a bacteriological culture method for *Piscirickettsia salmonis* in farmed Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar* L.) in Chile

Emilie Laurin, Ian A. Gardner, Andrea Peña, Marco Rozas-Serri, Jorge Gayosa, Joaquin Neumann Heise, Fernando O. Mardones

Molecular and light microscopy evidence for the transfer of *Myxobolus honghuensis* from *Carassius auratus gibelio* broodfish to progeny

Sijia Wang, Bo Zhang, Qingxiang Guo, Yanhua Zhai, Zemao Gu

A histological evaluation of pansteatitis-affected Mozambique tilapia, *Oreochromis mossambicus* (Peters 1852), from different geographical locations in South Africa


Field study indicating susceptibility differences between salmonid species and their lineages to proliferative kidney disease

Eva Syrová, Miroslava Palíková, Jan Mendel, Veronika Seidlová, Ivana Papežíková, Heike Schmidt-Posthaus, Kristina Somerlíková, Hana Mináfová, Lukáš Mareš, Ivana Mikulíková, Jiří Pikula, Jan Mareš

Pathogenic profile and cytotoxic activity of *Aeromonas* spp. isolated from *Pectinatella magnifica* and surrounding water in the South Bohemian aquaculture region
Cytotoxicity of Streptococcus agalactiae secretory protein on tilapia cultured cells

Iyapa Palang, Ikuo Hirono, Saengchan Senapin, Wanna Sirimanapong, Boonsirm Withyachumnarnkul, Rapeepun Vanichviriyakit

VHSV IVb infection and autophagy modulation in the rainbow trout gill epithelial cell line RTgill-W1

Juan-Ting Liu, Phuc H. Pham, Sarah K. Wootton, Niels C. Bols, John S. Lumsden

Mucosal responses of brown-marbled grouper Epinephelus fuscoguttatus (Forsskål, 1775) following intraperitoneal infection with Vibrio harveyi

Catherine Cheng Yun Chieng, Hassan Mohd Daud, Fatimah Md Yusoff, Kim Dawn Thompson, Maha Abdullah

Water disinfection by ozonation has advantages over UV irradiation in a brackish water recirculation aquaculture system for Pacific white shrimp (Litopenaeus vannamei)

Felix Teitge, Christina Peppler, Dieter Steinhagen, Verena Jung-Schroers

Draft genome sequence of scale drop disease virus (SDDV) retrieved from metagenomic investigation of infected barramundi, Lates calcarifer (Bloch, 1790)
SHORT COMMUNICATION

Use of Onion (Allium cepa) and Garlic (Allium sativum) Wastes for the Prevention of Fungal Disease (Saprolegnia parasitica) on Eggs of Rainbow Trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss)

Halil Özcêlik, Yiğit Taştan, Ertugrul Terzi, Adem Yavuz Sönmez

Pages: 1325-1330  |  First Published: 02 August 2020

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