



INDUCED BREEDING OF STRIPED CAT FISH (PANGASIANODON HYPOPHthalmus) USING OVAPRIM AT NATIAL ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS SRI LANKA.

Udeshika Wimalasiri¹, Chamika Siriwardhana¹, Sumeda Abeysinghe², Dinusha Silva¹, Krishantha
Kularathne¹

1 University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda

2 National Zoological Garden, Dehiwala

udshikamanike@gmail.com

Abstract : Striped catfish or iridescent shark (*Pangasianodon hypophthalmus*) is a highly popular omnivorous fish with a high growth rate. They are schooling fish which makes a delightful display in an aquarium. This fish do not reproduces in natural or captive environments in Sri Lanka. Therefore they have to be induced using artificial technique in order to get offsprings. This study was conducted to implore the potential of captive breeding of striped catfish using artificial induce technique. The brood stocks with average length of 35 cm were collected from the holding tanks of National Zoological garden, Dehiwala. Once the gravid females and male were identified they were subjected into hormone treatment. separated hormonal treatments of Synthetic hormone, Ovaprim was given to male and female .Two doses of 0.5 ml/kg were given to female apart from 6 hours and male was given one dose of 0.5 mg/kg body weight, at the time of second injection to female. Stripping was considered as best technique to fertilize the eggs and dry method of egg fertilization was followed in trials. The fish responded positively and ovulated within 5-6 hours after the second injection. Average 150000 eggs was recovered from female he fertilization rate ranged from 85-95%. The hatching period ranged between 24 to 26 hours at a water temperature of 28-32°C. After 10 days, black body color appeared in hatchlings and they started to feed rapidly with artimia and egg York. Results of the present study would help the hatchery managers in managing the induced breeding programs of *P. hypophthalmus* and other catfishes. It will help to fulfil the rising demand for striped catfish in ornamental culture trade.

Keywords: Striped catfish, *Pangasianodon hypophthalmus*, Ovaprim, ovulation, fertilization rate