

Original Research Article

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## Xylanase and Phytase Supplementation in the De-oiled Rice Bran (DORB) based Diet Improves the Growth Performance of *Labeo rohita*

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### ABSTRACT

A 60-day experiment was conducted to study the effect of xylanase and phytase supplementation in the DORB based diet on growth performance of *Labeo rohita*. Two iso-nitrogenous (crude protein-14%) test diets (T1-DORB based diet, T2-phytase and xylanase supplemented diet) were formulated. Sixty (60) juveniles of *L. rohita*, with an average weight  $5.01 \pm 0.02$ g were stocked in six uniform size plastic rectangular tank in triplicates with 10 fishes per tank following a completely randomized design (CRD). At the end of the experiment growth performance and nutrient utilization of *L. rohita* were assessed and found that exogenous enzyme supplementation @ 0.01% in the DORB based diet significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) improved the growth performance and nutrient utilization (weight gain % from 63.6% to 79.7%, SGR from 0.82 to 0.98, PER from 2.01 to 2.44 and FCR reduced from 3.57 to 2.92) of *L. rohita*. Carcass composition of fishes did not vary significantly. Hence, the experiment concludes that exogenous enzyme supplementation of xylanase and phytase in the DORB based diet improves the growth performance of *L. rohita*.

#### Keywords

De-oiled Rice bran (DORB), *Labeo rohita*, Xylanase, Phytase, Growth, Body composition.

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### Introduction

De-oiled rice bran (DORB) is one of the major ingredient used in the fish feed. DORB is the by-product after extraction of oil from rice bran. At present about 7.0 MT of ingredients are being used for farm-made fish production (Ramkrishna *et al.*, 2013). The current aquaculture production of the country (4.3 MMT) which is projected to reach 12.7 MMT by the year 2030 as reported by World Bank report (Msangi *et al.*, 2013). Considering the total aquafeed production of India which is about 1 MMT as reported by

Alltech (2014) is set to reach around 3 MMT by the year 2030 but the feed demand will be around 23 MMT hence the major part of feed will be the Mash feed that mainly contains DORB (about 80-85 %) (Ramkrishna *et al.*, 2013). The carps together contribute to more than 82% of total aquaculture production in India. About 97% of the carp feeds used by Indian farmers are farm-made (Ramkrishna *et al.*, 2013). But looking into the DORB production of India which is presently about 6 MMT is not going to increase to support the

demand that will be required for Indian Major Carp (IMC) and other cultured fish. Hence, the strategic utilization of DORB to reduce FCR is required which will pave the way to bring down the demand and supply gap of DORB.

Most of the ANFs present in rice bran is protein in nature and heat labile except phytate (Juliano, 1985). Rice bran also contains a relatively high percentage of non-starch polysaccharide (NSP), with arabinose and xylose being predominant (Annison *et al.*, 1985). This may have an adverse effect on the digestion of some dietary components. Phytic acid is an ANF found in many plant ingredients which chelate with various macro- and micronutrients and negatively affects their digestibility (Sugiura *et al.*, 2001; Usmani and Jafri, 2002; Baruah *et al.*, 2005, 2007; Debnath *et al.*, 2005). Dietary microbial phytase supplementation has been shown to be very promising in several fish species which nullify the negative effect of phytate and improves the nutrients digestibility and growth performance of fish (Yan and Reigh, 2002; Vielma *et al.*, 2004; Debnath *et al.*, 2005; Baruah *et al.*, 2007).

Non-starch polysaccharide (NSP) are considered as an unavailable energy source for fish, as they lack NSP digestive enzymes (Castillo and Gatlin, 2015; Sinha *et al.*, 2011). NSP dilutes the energy concentration of the feeds and reduces the digestibility/bioavailability of nutrients by interfering with the digestion and absorption (NRC, 2011; Castillo and Gatlin, 2015). NSP also interfere with the access of digestive enzymes to their substrates (Xu *et al.*, 2009; Jiang *et al.*, 2014; Magalhães *et al.*, 2015).

Dietary NSPase supplementation to plant based feedstuffs diets improves nutrients utilization and reduces environmental faecal wastes. NSPase were shown to increase the

growth performance, feed conversion, and protein utilization efficiency in juvenile Japanese seabass (*Lateolabrax japonicas*; Ai *et al.*, 2007), hybrid tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus* × *Oreochromis aureus*; Lin *et al.*, 2007); Caspian salmon (*Salmo trutta caspius*; Zamini *et al.*, 2014) and African catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*; Yildirim and Turan, 2010). The beneficial effects of exogenous non-starch polysaccharidases (NSPase) may be directly related to NSP hydroxylation, which improves carbohydrate digestibility, or to the improvement of other nutrients digestibility (Adeola and Bedford, 2004; Ai *et al.*, 2007; Adeola and Cowieson, 2011; Yiğit *et al.*, 2014). Xylanase hydrolyses cell wall components in plant and efficiently reduces NSP content in plant ingredient which in turn improves protein utilization and growth performance in several fish experiment.

As it is clear from above discussion that DORB contains various ANFs, NSP that impede the nutrient utilization of rice bran. Hence, to increase the nutrient availability and improve the growth performance and nutrient utilization of *Labeo rohita*, the present study has conducted to evaluate the effect of xylanase and phytase supplementation on maximizing utilization of de-oiled rice bran in the diet of *Labeo rohita*.

## **Materials and Methods**

### **De-oiled Rice bran**

De-oiled rice bran was supplied by Vaighai Agro Products Ltd., Tamil Nadu, India. Before using de-oiled rice bran in feed, it was finely ground and sieved to get uniform particle size.

### **Exogenous enzymes**

Microbial phytase from *E. coli* (Quantum blue, 500 U/ kg) and xylanase (Econase® XT,

16000 U/ kg) was supplied by AB Vista, Wiltshire, UK.

### **Diet preparation**

The experimental diets were prepared using DORB. Two experimental diets (T1 and T2) were prepared using ingredients given in table 1. Diets were prepared by blending the ingredients except the vitamin mineral mix to make a dough with the water. Then it was steamed for 30 min. in a pressure cooker. After cooling the dough, vitamin-mineral mix, oil and enzymes were added to the different diets as specified in the formulation. The dough was then mixed properly and pressed through a semi-automatic pelletizer (Uniextrude-Single screw extruder S.B. Panchal and Company, Mumbai, India) to get uniform sized pellets (0.7-0.8 mm), which were spread on a sheet of paper and dried at room temperature. After drying, the pellets were packed in polythene bags, sealed and kept at -20°C for storage until use.

### **Fish and facilities**

The experiment was conducted at wet laboratory of the CIFE, Mumbai over a period of 60 days from February to April, 2016. Subsequently, the laboratory work was carried out in Fish Nutrition, Biochemistry and Physiology laboratory of Central Institute of Fisheries Education. Experimental fishes were procured from a commercial farm from Shramjivi Janta Sahayak Mandal (NGO) Taluka-Mahad, District-Raigarh, Mumbai. The fishes were transported to the wet laboratory in oxygen packed polyethylene bags. In order to ameliorate the handling stress the fishes were given a mild salt (4 ppm) treatment and vitamin C (4 tablets per 500 lit of water) treatment the next day. The stock was acclimatized for a period of 30 days before start of the experiment. Animals used for the experiment were juveniles of *Labeo rohita*, with an average weight  $5.01 \pm 0.02g$

(4.9g-5.1g). The experimental setup consisted of 6 uniform size plastic rectangular tank (80 cm × 57 cm × 42 cm, 150 L capacity) covered with perforated lids. Sixty (60) fishes were randomly distributed and stocked in two distinct experimental groups following a completely randomized design (CRD) in triplicates with 10 fishes per tank. The total volume of the water in each tub was maintained at 120L throughout the experimental period. Round the clock aeration was provided. The aeration pipe in each tank was provided with an air stone and a plastic regulator to control the air pressure uniformly in all the tanks. Feed was fed ad libitum twice daily at 10:00 am in the morning and 04:00 pm in the afternoon. Water quality parameters like DO, pH, free CO<sub>2</sub>, hardness, ammonia, nitrite and nitrate were also estimated periodically as per APHA method (APHA, 1998) to keep the water quality optimal for sustained culture of fish.

### **Fish sampling and proximate analysis**

At the end of feeding trial fishes were fasted for the 24 hrs. and then weighed for calculating the growth performance and nutrient utilization parameters like weight gain (%), specific growth rate (SGR), feed conversion ratio (FCR), protein efficiency ratio (PER). Body indices parameters like hepato-somatic index and intestine-somatic index was also calculated by taking liver and intestine weight to whole body weight of six fishes per replicate. Survival (%) was calculated at the end of experiment by dividing total no. of fish harvested at the end of experiment to the total number of fish stocked at the beginning of the experiment multiplied by 100. Six fish per replicate were sampled and anesthetized with clove oil (50 µl.L<sup>-1</sup>) before killing the fish. For proximate analysis all the dissected fishes from every replicate were collected, weighed and kept in pre-weighed petri plates. Prior to proximate analysis the test diets and sampled fish in

triplicates were dried in hot air oven at 100°C ±2. After complete drying the different test diets and fishes were ground into the fine powder with a pestle and mortar. Proximate composition of the test diets and fish were analyzed following AOAC method (AOAC, 1995).

### Calculations

Weight gain (%), specific growth rate (SGR), feed conversion ratio (FCR), protein efficiency ratio (PER), hepato-somatic index (HSI), intestinal-somatic index (ISI) and survival (%) were calculated as given below

$$\text{Weight gain (\%)} = \frac{\text{Final weight} - \text{Initial Weight}}{\text{Initial weight}} \times 100$$

$$\text{SGR} = \frac{\text{Log}_e \text{ Final weight} - \text{Log}_e \text{ Initial weight}}{\text{Number of days}} \times 100$$

$$\text{FCR} = \frac{\text{Feed given (Dry Weight)}}{\text{Body Weight Gain (Wet Weight)}}$$

$$\text{PER} = \frac{\text{Net weight Gain (wet weight)}}{\text{protein fed}}$$

$$\text{HSI} = \frac{\text{liver weight (g)}}{\text{weight of fish (g)}} \times 100$$

$$\text{VSI} = \frac{\text{viscera weight (g)}}{\text{weight of fish (g)}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Survival (\%)} = \frac{\text{total number of harvested fish}}{\text{total number of stocked fish}} \times 100$$

### Results and Discussion

#### Water quality Parameter

Water quality parameters were estimated periodically as per APHA method (APHA, 1998) and the range of all parameter observed during experimental period were as follows: temperature (27.2-28 °C), DO (6.5-7.2 mgL<sup>-1</sup>), pH (7.5-7.6), free CO<sub>2</sub> (not detected),

hardness (228-240 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>), ammonia (0.14-0.19 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>), nitrite (0.001-0.002 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>) and nitrate (0.02-0.04 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>).

#### Proximate composition of Experimental diets

Proximate composition of the experimental diets viz. dry matter(%),ash (%), crude protein (%),ether extract (%) and crude fibre (%) were analysed which is presented in table 2. Dry matter (%) vary from 92.30 % to 92.39 %, ash (%) vary from 13.70 % to 13.79%,crude protein (%) vary from 14.02% to 14.15 %, ether extract (%) vary from 7.44 % to 7.50 % and crude fibre (%) vary from 16.12% to 16.41 % which were found statistically insignificant (p>0.05) among treatments.

#### Growth performance, nutrient utilization, body indices and survival (%) of different treatments

Highest WG %, SGR and PER and lowest FCR were recorded for the fishes fed with DORB supplemented with exogenous enzymes (phytase and xylanase), as compared to the fish fed with the only DORB without enzyme supplementation. Exogenous enzyme supplementation to DORB resulted improvement in weight gain % from 63.6% to 79.7%, SGR from 0.82 to 0.98, PER from 2.01 to 2.44 and FCR reduced from 3.57 to 2.92 of *L. rohita*. Body indices parameter like HSI varied from 0.61 to 0.74 and ISI varied from 3.87 to 4.04 which were not statistically different treatments. Survival (%) of the two treatments were 100 % (T1) and 93% (T2) which were not significantly different (p>0.05) (Table 3).

#### Body composition of fishes among different treatments

Proximate composition of the whole body of fish is presented in table 4. Body composition

of fishes were analysed following AOAC method (AOAC, 1995) in which moisture (%) of fishes varies from 76.05 to 76.42 %, crude protein from 13.17% to 13.99, ssh (%) from 3.56% to 3.58%, and ether extract from 3.01% to 3.23% which were also not different among treatments ( $p>0.05$ ).

Higher crude fibre content and non-starch polysaccharide along with phytate are the major limitation for utilization of DORB in

the mono-gastric animal including fish. The non-starch polysaccharide altogether constitutes 59.97% of the DORB (Malathi and Devegowda, 2001), which is not digested by fish (Francis *et al.*, 2001; Glencross *et al.*, 2007). The presence of NSP in the diets leads to increase gut viscosity, prevent access to the endogenous enzyme to nutrients and form a physical barrier and hence elicit an anti-nutritive effect (Storebakken *et al.*, 1998; Refstie *et al.*, 1999).

**Table.1** Composition of experimental diets

Ingredients (%)	T1	T2
DORB	90	90
CMC	2	2
Cod liver oil	3.5	3.5
Soybean oil	3.5	3.5
Vitamin- mineral mix	1	1
Phytase	0	0.01
Xylanase	0	0.01

T1- DORB without enzyme, T2- DORB with enzyme

DORB= De-Oiled Rice Bran, CMC= Carboxy Methyl Cellulose

Composition of Vitamin- mineral mix (PREMIX PLUS) (quantity.kg<sup>-1</sup>)

Vitamin A (55,00,000 IU); Vitamin D3 (11,00,000 IU); Vitamin B2 (2,000 mg); Vitamin E (750 mg); Vitamin K (1,000 mg); Vitamin B1 (100 mg), Vitamin B2 (200 mg), Vitamin B6 (1,000 mg); Vitamin B12 (6 mcg); Calcium Pantothenate (2,500 mg); Nicotinamide (10 g); Choline Chloride (150 g); Mn (27,000 mg); I (1,000 mg); Fe (7,500 mg); Zn (5,000 mg); Cu (2,000 mg); Co (450) (10g);Selenium(125mg).

**Table.2** Proximate composition of Test Diets (% Dry matter basis)

Proximate composition	T1	T2
Dry matter	92.30±0.22	92.39±0.26
Ash	13.79±0.03	13.70±0.08
CP	14.02±0.03	14.15±0.10
EE	7.50±0.02	7.44±0.17
CF	16.12±0.20	16.41±0.02

T1- DORB without enzyme, T2- DORB with enzyme

All values are Mean ± SE, obtained from three replicates.

CP (%) =Crude Protein; EE (%) =Ether Extract; CF (%) =Crude Fibre; SE=Standard Error.

**Table.3** Growth performance, Body indices and Survival (%) of *Labeo rohita* fed with or without enzyme supplemented DORB

Treatments	T1	T2	p-value
WG%	63.61 <sup>a</sup> ±2.66	79.71 <sup>b</sup> ±1.20	0.005
SGR	0.82 <sup>a</sup> ±0.03	0.98 <sup>b</sup> ±0.01	0.006
FCR	3.57 <sup>b</sup> ±0.13	2.92 <sup>a</sup> ±0.04	0.008
PER	2.01 <sup>a</sup> ±0.07	2.44 <sup>b</sup> ±0.03	0.005
HSI	0.61±0.05	0.74±0.03	0.095
ISI	3.87±0.15	4.04±0.32	0.661
Survival %	100	93	0.374

T1- DORB without enzyme, T2- DORB with enzyme

All values are Mean ± SE, obtained from three replicates. Values in the same row with different superscript letters are significantly different (p< 0.05).

WG %= Weight Gain %, SGR= Specific Growth Rate, FCR=Feed Conversion Ratio, PER= Protein Efficiency Ratio, HSI = hepato-somatic index, ISI= intestinal-somatic index, SE=Standard Error.

**Table.4** Whole body composition of *Labeo rohita* fed with or without Enzyme supplemented DORB

Treatments	Moisture (%)	CP (%)	ASH (%)	EE (%)
T1	76.05±0.51	13.17±0.32	3.56±0.19	3.23±0.17
T2	76.42±0.14	13.99±0.23	3.58±0.16	3.01±0.24
p-value	0.521	0.105	0.955	0.092

T1- DORB without enzyme, T2- DORB with enzyme

CP (%) =Crude Protein; EE (%) =Ether Extract; SE=Standard Error.

In fish, their negative influences may be either because of binding to bile acids or obstructing action against digestive enzyme activity and movement of substrates in their intestine (Storebakken *et al.*, 1998). Digestive enzymes in fish that specifically hydrolyze the β-glycosidic bonds of non-starch polysaccharides are very low or even non-existent (Krogdahl *et al.*, 2005; NRC, 2011). Supplementation of exogenous NSP enzymes leads to the decrease in digesta viscosity, and improve digestibility of amino acids, protein, lipid and starch which contributes to improved feed utilization and growth performance of animals (Classen, 1996; Cowieson *et al.*, 2006). Phytate is another

important anti-nutritional factor which is associated with DORB. Phytate chelates with divalent element such as Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Zn<sup>2+</sup>, Fe<sup>2+</sup>, Mn<sup>2+</sup> and forms insoluble chelate complex (Papatryphon *et al.*, 1999).

They also combine with protein insoluble complex and reduce their utilization efficiency, activity and digestibility (Liu *et al.*, 1998; Sugiura *et al.*, 2001). Fishes are unable to digest Phytate phosphorus as they are devoid of intestinal phytase (Pointillart *et al.*, 1987; Debnath *et al.*, 2005). The exogenous phytase supplementation leads to increase in the utilization of phytate phosphorus, other trace elements and protein,

and the decrease in phosphorus discharged into water (Papatyphon *et al.*, 1999; Vielma *et al.*, 2002). Results from the present study demonstrated that strategy like exogenous enzyme supplementation to DORB based diet improves the growth performance and nutrient utilization of *L. rohita* significantly.

The exogenous enzyme supplementation to the DORB based diet led to higher weight gain, SGR, PER and lower FCR as compared to the DORB based diet in which exogenous enzyme was not supplemented. Similar findings were also observed in Japanese sea bass, *Lateolabrax japonicus* (Ai *et al.*, 2007; Zhang *et al.*, 2009) large yellow croaker, *Pseudosciaenacrocea* (Zhang *et al.*, 2006) and tilapia, *Oreochromis niloticus* × *Oreochromis aureus* (Lin *et al.*, 2007), when their diet supplemented with exogenous non-starch polysaccharide (NSP) enzymes and phytase, resulted in higher growth, feed utilization and digestive enzyme activities. Zamini *et al.*, (2014) also found that *Salmo trutta caspius* fed the control diet without any exogenous enzyme exhibited lower growth and higher FCR than diets with supplemented enzymes, indicating that exogenous enzyme is beneficial for the growth of the fish. Most studies on other species also indicated that exogenous carbohydrases enzymes improved the weight gain and feed conversion ratio (Carter *et al.*, 1994; Van *et al.*, 1999; Bedford, 1995, 2000; Hlophe-Ginindza *et al.*, 2015). In contrary to that there are several conflicting reports in which it was found that even no or adverse effect when carbohydrases enzymes were added to the animal feeds (Stone *et al.*, 2003; Kazerani and Shahsavani, 2011; Yigit and Olmez, 2011). Similarly, Ogunkoya *et al.*, (2006) and Farhangi and Carter (2007) did not find any effect on growth and feed efficiency of rainbow trout fed the diet supplemented with enzyme cocktail mix. HSI explains the relationship between liver weight and body weight. In present study, HSI did not vary significantly among the treatments, which is

in accordance with the finding of Magalhães *et al.*, (2016), who also observed no significant difference in the HSI of white seabream (*Diplodus sargus*) juveniles fed high soybean meal diets supplemented with exogenous carbohydrases enzyme. Similarly, ISI explains the relationship between the weight of intestine and somatic weight of the fish. In present study, ISI were found similar ( $p>0.05$ ). Fawole *et al.*, (2016) also did not find any significant difference in the ISI of *Labeorohita* fed with rubber protein isolate. The whole body moisture %, ash %, crude protein % and ether extract % was similar among treatments ( $p>0.05$ ). Our findings are consistent with the results of Adeoye *et al.*, (2016), however, he finds a significant difference in moisture % when he fed formulated diet to tilapia with selected exogenous enzymes (Protease, lipase and Carbohydrases). Similarly, Yldirin and Turan (2010) also observed no significant difference in the whole body composition except crude protein (%) of *Clarius gariepinus* fed with exogenous enzyme supplemented diet.

The addition of xylanase and phytase @ 0.01 % to the DORB based diets significantly improved the growth performance and nutrient utilization of *Labeorohita*. The present study demonstrated that DORB based diet along with supplementation of exogenous enzymes (xylanase and phytase) can be an effective strategy to bring down the FCR, which will not only bring down the future higher demand of DORB but will also give an effective tool to utilize DORB as sole source of ingredient in the feed of *Labeorohita*. This appears to be an effective strategy for utilization of farm feed which is mostly prepared from DORB.

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