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Soybean Meal and Rendered Animal Protein Ingredients Replace Fishmeal in Practical Diets for Sea Bass

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(Received 5.5.09, Accepted 22.6.09)

Key words: sea bass, *Dicentrarchus labrax*, fishmeal, soybean meal, rendered animal ingredients, protein replacement

Abstract

A 180-day feeding trial was carried out in net cages to examine replacement of fishmeal with soybean meal supported by meat/bone meal and blood meal in practical diets for sea bass (*Dicentrarchus labrax* L. 1758). Triplicate groups of fish (initial body weight 110 g) were fed one of four isonitrogenous (crude protein 46%) and isolipidic (10%) diets. A commercial sea bass diet containing 64% fishmeal as the sole animal protein served as the control. The other three diets contained 0, 20%, or 35% fishmeal and the reduced fishmeal was replaced by different levels of soybean meal, meat/bone meal, and blood meal. The final body weight of fish fed the diet containing 20% fishmeal, 50% soybean meal, 10% meat/bone meal, and 4% blood meal was significantly higher than that of the other three treatments. Results indicate that fishmeal can be reduced to 20% when soybean meal, meat/bone meal, and blood meal are used together in the diet.

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