

Initial success at induce breeding of Thai
catfish, *Pangasius sutchi* in Sri Lanka

J. Chandrasoma¹, H.C. Chin and H.P. Amandakoon

Ceylon Grain Elevators Ltd, 15, Rock House Lane,
Colombo 15

(¹Present address - Sea Food Exporters Consortium,
505, Colombo Road, Kurana, Negombo)

Pangasius sutchi, a riverine catfish is an important food fish in Thailand. Nevertheless in Sri Lanka, it is very popular as an aquarium fish. Attempts were made to induce them to spawn and this paper records the initial success at breeding of Thai cat fish in Sri Lanka.

Brood fish reared in a cement circular tank and fed with a formulated diet was found to be fully mature in about 3 1/2 years. Carp Pituitary Extract (CPE) and Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin (HCG) were used as inducing agents and this combination was found to be effective in ovulation. The females were given two injections, the first does being at 2mg CPE and 150IU HCG per kg body weight. A dose of 2mg CPE and 150IU HCG per kg body weight was given to males as a single injection. Spawning occurred in about 7 hours after the second injection.

Freshwater *Brachionus* sp. and a micro-encapsulated diet was introduced as the initial feed for post larval fish. Later on brine shrimp nauplii and ground cooked cattle liver was used as the feed. Survival rate of fry upto the 14th day was 82%.