IV.B.3. On the Birth of the Flesh Producing Economically Important Freshwater Snail Species Lymnaea (Radix) Luteola Cultured with Market/Kitchen Waste Materials

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Lymnaeid snails are well known as intermediate hosts for helminth parasites which cause schistosomiasis, fascilopsis and certain other cattle diseases. But none considered the importance of these snails as a potential source of protein food*-while the world is facing a server protein crisis. So we must develop strategies to raise the population of the said snails devoid of infestation of helminth parasites to contain the protein demand problem to a considerable extent. More interesting in this consideration is that these snails can be cultured artificially using decomposed part of vegetables obtained from the market or kitchen wastes which we usually throw away inviting sewage pollution in the long run. In the present attempt the snails were cultured with decomposed food items viz. lettuce, mustard, pea, and raddish leaves taking 100 newly hazched zero-day old snail individuals separately in each and every month of a year. The results of different sets of experiments were varied to a great extent. 100 such individuals yielded 0 -2459386 individuals at the end of 352nd day. Since yielding capacity is largely governed by the birth rate (reproductive potential) of the snail individuals concerned this paper mainly deals with the results obtained on the age-specific birth rate of the snails. The age-specific birth rate was varied from 0 to 553.38 irrespective of the snail batches, but the same was increased with the increase in the age of the snail individuals concerned. Results of two-way ANOVA revoked that the birth rate significantly varied with the age ($P<0.01$) of the snails but not with the batch ($P>0.05$) of the snails. The extract of the knowledge obtained from the present work will certainly help in manipulating the snail population to obtain more protein with a view to enrich the threatened economy of out country through the wise and sustainable use of waste vegetable materials.