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Comparative studies on morphological characteristics and filleting yield of *Clarotes laticeps* and *Clarias gariepinus*

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The morphological characteristics and fillet yield of *Clarotes laticeps* and *Clarias gariepinus* were investigated. 30 fresh samples each of *Clarotes laticeps* and *Clarias gariepinus* collected from Wadata market, Makurdi, Benue state, Nigeria were used for this research work. All the morphological characteristics measured (total length, body weight, head length, head width, head weight, gut length, gut weight and total hard parts weight) were significantly higher ($p < 0.05$) for *Clarotes laticeps* than *Clarias gariepinus* except the mean standard length which was higher in *Clarias gariepinus* (27.73 ± 4.26 cm) than in *Clarotes laticeps* (24.81 ± 0.98 cm). The percentage fillet yield was significantly higher in *Clarotes laticeps* (48%) than in *Clarias gariepinus* (46%). However, the percentage non-edible part was higher than the percentage edible part (fillet) in both *Clarotes laticeps* (52% and 48% respectively) and *Clarias gariepinus* (54% and 46% respectively). The result reveals that the bulk of the body of both *Clarotes laticeps* and *Clarias gariepinus* is made up of non-edible parts, however, the most economical for consumers would be *Clarotes laticeps* as it gave more fillet yield per unit weight.

Biography

Reuben Jiya Kolo has completed his PhD in 1996. He is currently the Dean of School of Agriculture and Agricultural Technology, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria. He is a member of the academic staff in Department of Water Resources, Aquaculture and Fisheries Technology of the same institution. He has supervised and graduated several PhD and Master of Technology students. He is a Consultant to Federal Government of Nigeria on Environmental Impact Assessment of proposed projects. He has published over 50 journal articles in referred journals, five book chapters and attended several international and national conferences and workshops.

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