

## **UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

# GENETIC STUDIES AND GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF THE YELLOW CATFISH, MYSTUS NEMURUS (CUV. & VAL.) IN THAILAND

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**FSAS 2002 8** 



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DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

2002



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By

SANGA LEESANGA

Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfilment of the Requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**April 2002** 



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Abstract of thesis presented to the senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of

the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

GENETIC STUDIES AND GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF THE YELLOW CATFISH, MYSTUS NEMURUS (CUV. & VAL.)

IN THAILAND

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**April 2002** 

Chairman: Associate Professor Dr. Siti Shapor Siraj, Ph.D.

Faculty: Science and Environmental Studies

Yellow catfish, Mystus nemurus, was examined to determine levels of genetic sub-

population differentiation among samples of this species obtained from different parts

of its range, as well as to compare the genetics of wild and hatchery-bred fish.

Horizontal starch gel electrophoresis and histochemical staining techniques were used

to examine genetic variation within and among 8 wild and one hatchery populations of

M. nemurus in Thailand. Individual specimens were analyzed at 23 protein-coding

Fifteen of the 23 loci examined (65.22 %) were polymorphic. Observed

heterozygosities ranged from 0.041 to 0.111. Genetic distance estimates ranged from

0.005 to 0.164. The greatest genetic distance was found between the Chainat and

Suratthani populations (0.164), which probably, a level indicative of subspecific

differentiation in M. nemurus from within Thailand.

Eight wild populations collected from throughout Thailand and a hatchery stock of *M. nemurus* were also analyzed at the molecular (DNA) level using the technique of RAPD-PCR fingerprinting. Five arbitrary primers were chosen to amplify products which showed 28 polymorphic loci (60.87 %). The highest genetic distance (*D*) was found between the Chainat and Suratthani populations with a value of 0.289, whereas the lowest was found in the pair of Songkhla population and hatchery stock with a value of 0.087. The dendrogram depicts the genetic relationships among populations of *M. nemurus* which grouped into four clusters according to their regions of origin namely northern group (Chiengrai and Sukhothai), central group (Kanchanaburi and Chainat), north-eastern group (Nongkhai and Nakormpanom) and southern group (Suratthani, Songkhla and hatchery stock).

Horizontal starch gel electrophoresis was applied to differentiate between Mystid and Tachysurid species of catfish: Mystus nemurus, M. cavasius, M. gulio, Tachysurus caelatus and T. truncatus, collected from the Tapee River, Thailand. Individual fishes were analysed for 22 enzymatic loci. Eleven loci (50.00 %) were found to be polymorphic (P<0.95). The percentage of polymorphic loci ranged from 14.3 % in T. caelatus to 38.1 % in M. nemurus. The highest mean heterozygosity was found in T. truncatus (0.121±0.048) and the lowest in M. cavasius (0.026±0.014). Genetic distance estimates among Mystus species ranged from 0.167 to 0.364 while genetic distance was 0.359 between the two species of Tachysurus. The genetic distance estimates between Mystus and Tachysurus populations ranged from 0.693 to 0.878.



Morphometric and meristic variation among two populations from Chainat and Suratthani, which showed the highest genetic distance based on both the isozyme and DNA data, were studied. From the 23 morphometric characters examined, 20 characters showed significant differences. Most characters from the Chainat population differed from the Suratthani population especially for eye diameter (ED) and the distance from the posterior end of the dorsal fin to the anterior end of the adipose fin (DDA), which seemed to be consistent diagnostic characters differentiating the two populations.

The relative growth performance of *M. nemurus* collected from northern (Uttaradith), central (Chainat), and southern Thailand (Suratthani) were investigated. Three populations of fish broodstocks were induced to spawn at the same time. The fish larvae were nursed in 0.5 x 2.0 x 0.2 m tanks for 8 weeks. After nursing the fingerlings were separated into 2 groups and cultured at a stocking density of 50 fish/cage in 1.0 x 1.0 x 1.5 m floating net cages, in which one group was placed in the north (Lumpang) and another group in the south of Thailand (Suratthani). Fish were fed to satiation with 30 % protein pellets for 48 weeks. At the end of the experiment, the growth performance of fish from both locations (north and south Thailand) were taken and analyzed. The highest growth was found in the population from the south, whereas the lowest growth was found in the central population. The results are in accordance with the values of genetic distances based on both isozyme and RAPD data



V.

Abstrak tesis ini adalah dipersembahkan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia untuk

memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Doktor Falsafah.

GENETIK DAN KAJIAN PERTUMBUHAN IKAN BAUNG,

MYSTUS NEMURUS (CUV. & VAL.) DI THAILAND

Oleh

SANGA LEESANGA

**April 2002** 

Pengerusi: Prof. Madya Dr. Siti Shapor Siraj, Ph. D

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Perbandingan sub populasi ikan baung, Mystus nemurus yang diambil dari tempat

yang berlainan dan juga perbandingan ikan liar dengan ikan hatcheri (ternakan) telah

dijalankan. Elektroforesis gel kanji horizontal dan teknik perwamaan histokimia telah

dilakukan untuk mengenalpasti variasi genetik antara 8 populasi liar dengan 1 populasi

hatcheri Mystus nemurus di Thailand. Dua puluh tiga lokus pengkodan protein telah

dianalisis untuk setiap spesimen. Antara 23 lokus yang dikaji 15 lokus atau 65.22%

adalah polimorfik. Diperhatikan bahawa heterozigositi berjulat daripada 0.005 hingga

0.164. Jarak genetik yang paling besar dijumpai antara populasi Chainat dan populasi

Suratthani (0.164), ini menunjukkan terdapatnya perbezaan subspesifik dalam M.

nemurus di Thailand.

Lapan populasi liar sekitar Thailand dan stok hatcheri M. nemurus juga telah diuji

pada peringkat molekul (DNA) dengan menggunakan teknik cap jari RAPD-PCR.

Lima primer pengenalpastian telah dipilih dalam mengamplifikasikan produk-produk yang menunjukkan 28 lokus polimorfik (60.87%). Jarak genetik (D) yang tertinggi juga dijumpai antara populasi Chainat dan Suratthani dengan nilai 0.289. Manakala yang terendah telah dijumpai antara populasi Songkala dan stok hatcheri dengan nilai 0.087. Dendrogram menerangkan hubungan genetik antara populasi-populasi *M. nemurus* yang dapat dibahagikan kepada 4 kumpulan berdasarkan kawasan: iaitu kumpulan utara (Chianggrai dan Sukhotai), kumpulan tengah (Kanchanaburi dan Chainat), kumpulan timur laut (Nongkhai dan Nakornpanon) dan kumpulan selatan (Surathani, Songkhla dan stok hatcheri).

Elektroforesis gel kanji horizontal telah digunakan untuk membandingkan antara spesies Mystid dan Tachysurid : *Mystus nemurus, M. cavacius, M. golio Tachysurus caelatus* dan *T. truncatus* yang diambil dari sungai Tapee, Thailand. Setiap ekor ikan dianalisis pada 22 lokus enzim Sebelas lokus (50.00 %) telah dikenalpasti sebagai polimorfik (P<0.95). Peratus lokus polimorfik berjulat daripada 14.3% pada *T.caelatus* hingga 38.1% pada *M.nemurus*. Min heterozigositi yang tertinggi didapati pada spesies *T.truncatus* (0.121±0.048), manakala yang terendah pada *M. cavasius* (0.026±0.014). Jarak genetik antara spesies *Mystus* adalah berjulat daripada 0.167 hingga 0.364, manakala nilai antara 2 spesies *Tachysurus* adalah 0.359. Jarak genetik antara *Mystus* dan *Tachysurus* berjulat daripada 0.693 hingga 0.878.

Ciri-ciri morfometrik dan meristik juga dikaji untuk 2 populasi dari Chainat dan Suratthani yang menunjukkan jarak genetik tertinggi dari segi isozim dan paras DNA.



Daripada 23 ciri-ciri morfometrik yang diuji, 20 ciri menunjukkan perbezaan bererti pada 99% menggunakan ujian-T. Banyak ciri-ciri dari populasi Chainat yang berbeza dari populasi Suratthani, terutamanya pada diameter mata (ED) dan jarak antara hujung posterior sirip dorsal dengan hujung jarak anterior sirip adipos (DDA), ciri-ciri tersebut menunjukkan perbezaan yang ketara antara kedua-dua populasi.

Kadar pertumbuhan *M. nemurus* yang berasal dari bahagian utara (Uttaradith), bahagian tengah (Chainat) dan selatan Thailand (Suratthani) telah dikaji. Induk ikan dari 3 populasi tersebut telah dibiakkan pada masa yang sama. Larva dipelihara dalam tangki bersaiz 50 x 200 x 20 cm selama 8 minggu. Selepas tempoh ini anak-anak ikan dari setiap populasi dibahagikan kepada 2 kumpulan untuk dikultur di utara (Lumpang) dan selatan (Suratthani) Thailand. Anak-anak ikan tersebut dikulturkan dalam sangkar terapung yang bersaiz 1.0 x 1.0 x 1.5 m dengan ketumpatan 50 ekor/sangkar. Makanan rumusan yang mengandungi 30% protein diberikan selama 48 minggu. Pada akhir ujikaji ini, kadar pertumbuhan dari kedua-dua lokasi ini (utara dan selatan Thailand) diambil dan dianalisis. Populasi dari selatan Thailand (Suratthani) telah menunjukkan kadar pertumbuhan yang tertinggi, manakala populasi tengah Thailand (Chainat) telah menunjukkan kadar pertumbuhan yang terendah dengan paras perbezaan pada P<0.05. Keputusan ini telah menunjukkan persamaan dengan nilai jarak genetik yang berdasarkan isozim dan teknik cap jari RAPD



#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

First and foremost, I would like to express my utmost gratitude to my highly respected supervisors, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siti Shapor Siraj, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Siti Khalijah Daud, Prof. Dr. Tan Soon Guan, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sharr Azni Harmin for their valuable advice, guidance and support throughout my project.

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Plodprasop Surassawadi, Mr. Sanay Polprasith, Mr. Sompote Ukkataweewat, Mr. Suebpong Chatmalai and Dr. Cherdsak Veerapat, Fisheries Department of Thailand, Dr. Anake Topakngam, Khon Khen University, for giving me an opportunity to study and allowance.

I would like to thank Dr. Panom K. Sodsuk and Dr. Srirat Sodsuk (National Aquaculture Genetics Research Institute, Thailand), Dr. Pattana Srifa and Mr. Grisana Pintong (Kasetsart University), Mrs. Salimah Said, Miss Chong Lee Kim, Mr. Foo Thong Lim and Miss Carol Wong Yoke Pei (Universiti Putra Malaysia) for their kind information about the various techniques used in this project.

Special thanks are extended to Mrs. Annie Christianus, Mr. Lee Kok Kuan, Mr. Krisanuphan Komenpririn, Mr. Noppadol Jindhaphan, Mrs. Jareeporn Meesri, and Miss. Naiyana Teekha who have provided their kind assistance in this thesis.



I wish to thank the staff of the Department of Fisheries, Thailand for their assistance on tissue collection. I would also like to thank the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science and Environmental Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) for the facilities of laboratory and unfailing support.

Financial support from the SEAMEO Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) and the Government of Malaysia through IRPA (Intensification of Research in Priority Areas) program of the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment are gratefully acknowledged.

Last but not least, my deepest appreciation to my parent, my wife (Mrs. Sermsiri Leesanga) and my children (Gunthira Leesanga and Leenapatra Leesanga) for their constant encouragement and understanding during the course of the study.



I certify that an Examination Committee met on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2002 to conduct the final examination of Mr. Sanga Leesanga on his Doctor of Philosophy thesis entitled "Genetic studies and growth performance of the yellow catfish, *Mystus nemurus* (Cuv. & Val.) in Thailand" in accordance with Universiti Petanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Petanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommended that the candidate be awarded the relevant degree. Members of the Examination Committee are as follows:

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This thesis submitted to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia has been accepted as fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

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#### **DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that the thesis is based on my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at UPM or other institutions.

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