

Supawean product now available

DigsFish Services Pty Ltd has directed several years of research and development into synthetic fish attractants and we are continuing to find them useful in a range of applications. One exciting new product is Supawean, which has been designed to help overcome a well known bottleneck that occurs during weaning of cultured fish and shellfish onto inert diets. Trials conducted at an intensive growout facility in Queensland, Australia applied Supawean powder to the outside of an inert crumble used to wean two batches of Murray cod (*Maccullochella peelii*, n = 150,000) at a rate of 5% w/w (50 g supawean to 1 kg of crumble) for 4 weeks beginning at the initiation of weaning. The results from these trials showed a more successful weaning process ensued, resulting in a significant ($p < 0.05$) increase in growth performance after one month (mean fingerling weight 2.6 grams) compared to the usual growth performance seen over the previous 4 years from 530,000 fish (mean 1.7 grams, range 1.5-1.9 grams) (Figure 2).

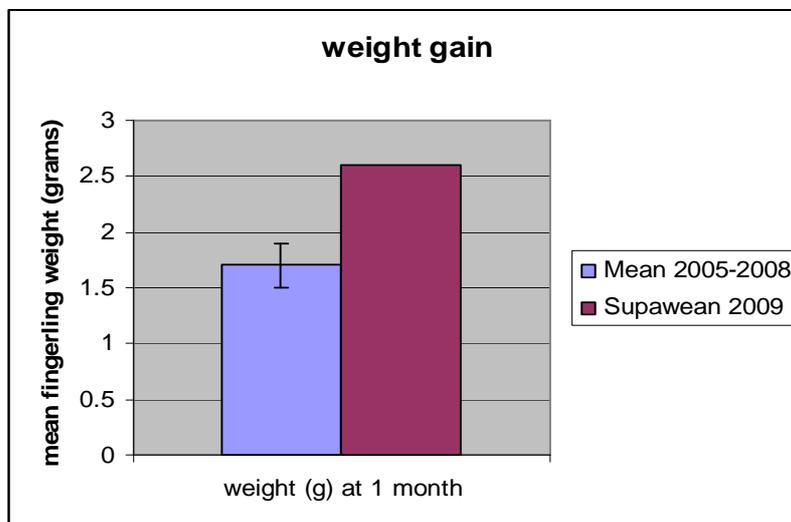


Figure 1. Significantly improved growth performance of murray cod fingerlings through the weaning process using Supawean. The error bar indicates the range of mean weights recorded for the years 2005 -2008.

The results from these trials also showed a large increase in survival of the cod through weaning, in fact the best ever in 5 years of production at that farm at 89.6% survival (compared to the previous average of 74.3% over the previous 4 years, see Figure 2 over page).

Supawean is a highly concentrated synthetic attractant powder proven to stimulate feeding responses a wide variety of marine and freshwater organisms. We are looking to evaluate its effectiveness in other culture systems and welcome commercial and R&D inquiries for applications encompassing all species of fish and crustaceans.

For more information on Supawean or any of our other attractant and medicated feed products, please visit <http://www.digsfish.com>. For commercial and R&D inquiries please e-mail ben@digsfish.com for information on price and availability.

