

EFFECT OF THE USE OF A COFEEDING DIET, Natura™ pRo, IN MEAGRE *Argyrosomus regius*

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INTRODUCTION

In 2022, INVE Aquaculture revolutionized the industry with the introduction of **Natura**™ range, a premium cofeeding feed lines designed to reduce reliance on rotifers.

Following the success in European hatcheries for Sea Bass and Sea Bream, the **Natura**™ feed strategy was tested on tropical species such as Barramundi, Yellowtail Amberjack, Snapper, Grouper and in Totoaba with a good success up to 80% of rotifer replacement. This study evaluated the effect of **Natura**™ pRo, combined with a rotifer reduction strategies, in another species of the Sciaenidae family, the Meagre.

MATERIALS & METHODS

A trial in commercial scale was conducted in Meagre, following two treatments:

Tr1. Control

- Standard hatchery protocol
- Conventional rotifer concentrations

Tr2. Natura™

- INVE cofeeding strategy using **Natura**™ pRo
- 50% of Rotifer replacement

Same larval rearing parameter and planned tanks set-up were used for both treatments.

Evaluated Parameters

- Rotifer consumption
- Survival at first grading
- Total length

RESULTS

Natura™ reduced rotifer consumption by 59.2% while maintaining growth (+4%) and increasing survival(+41.7%), demonstrating improved larval production efficiency.

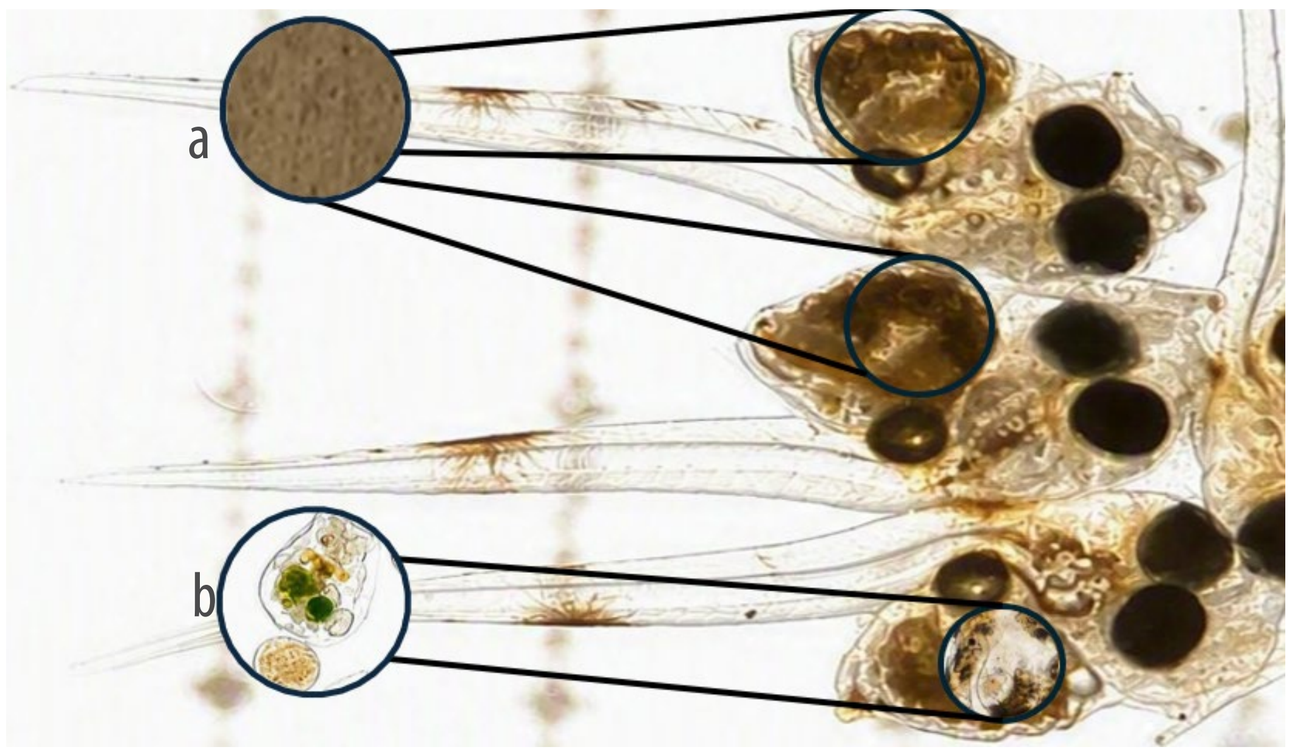


*Fig.1. Meagre's larvae of 10dph eating **Natura**™ pRo <100µm (a), and rotifer (b) .*

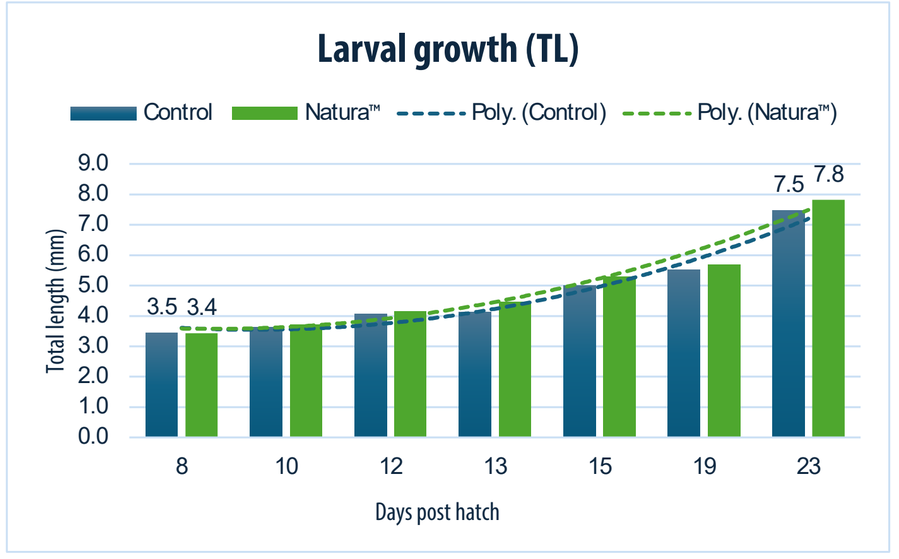


*Fig.2. **Natura**™ larvae exhibited a trend toward improved growth, reaching 7.8 mm at 23 DPH versus 7.5 mm in the Control group (+4%).*

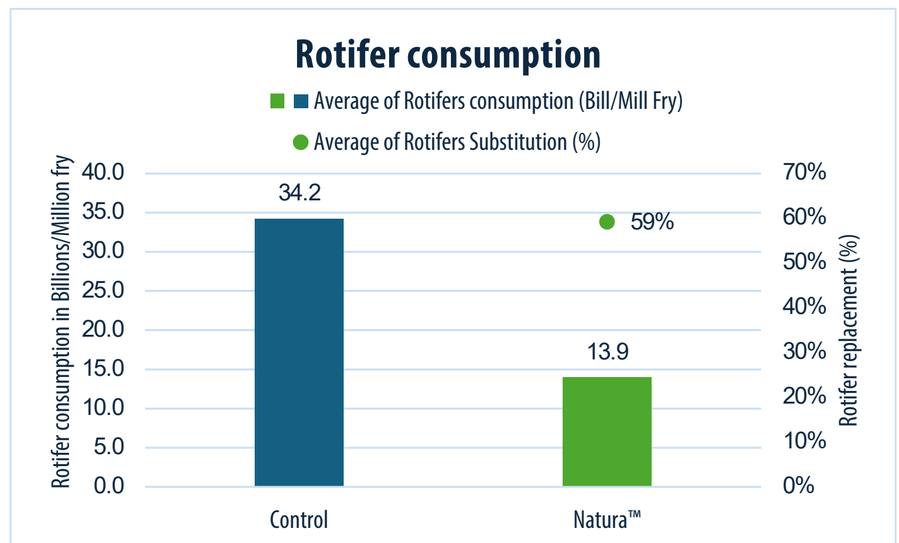


Fig.3. Rotifer consumption decreased representing a 59.2% reduction relative to the control group.

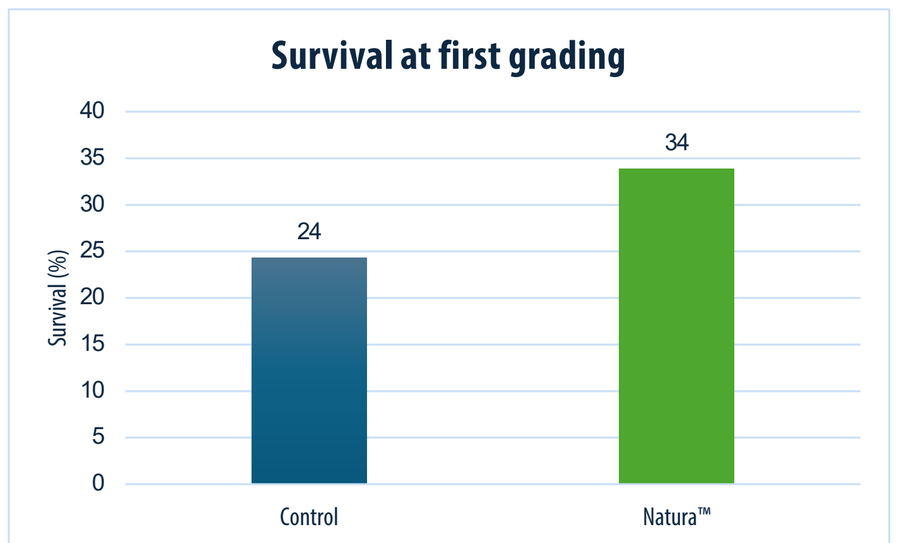


*Fig.4. Final survival increased in **Natura**™ group.*

These results demonstrate that **Natura**™ pRo application during early larval feeding effectively reduces rotifer requirements while maintaining larval growth performance and improving survival at first grading. Furthermore, this trial confirms the versatility of **Natura**™ pRo and its successful application in meagre (Argyrosomus regius) larviculture.

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