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Rearing of catfish, *Rita rita* with live and prepared feeds in cemented cisterns

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The rearing of catfish, *Rita rita* with live and prepared feeds in cemented cisterns was initiated for 90 days. The juveniles of experimental fish with mean initial body weight 6.40 ± 1.6 g were procure from local fishing community of River Indus near Jamshoro. Feed regime like live small fish (tilapia), tubifex larvae, chopped chicken viscera and dead small fish (tilapia) were used as live and prepared feed with control. It was observed that the experimental fish fed with chopped chicken viscera exhibited significantly better growth (129.10 ± 2.90 g weight gain) followed by chopped small

fish (103.90 ± 1.10 g) as prepared feed while live small fish resulted 3rd preference (81.89 ± 1.11 g). Significantly lower growth and survival was obtained fed with tubifex larvae (73.85 ± 1.15 g). Water quality parameter like pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen; ammonia nitrate and alkalinity were monitored fortnightly and found within the suitable ranges. Finally decided that chopped chicken viscera found to be ideal food for better growth and survival of catfish *Rita rita* reared in cemented cisterns.

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