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New feeding protocol for enhancing mass culture of the rotifer *Brachionus plicatilis* (Muller, 1786)

Hesham R A Mola, Mahmoud H Hegab and Mostafa S Abdel Hamid

National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Egypt

The effect of two different carbon sources (sugar and molasses) on *Brachionus plicatilis* culture was carried out. In the lab, *B. plicatilis* was enriched with six artificial treatments formed from yeast with sucrose sugar and yeast with molasses in different concentrations. The first treatment (T1= 30% yeast:70% sugar) was the selected treatment, where *B. plicatilis* reached the highest density of 370 org/mL on the 12th day. So, *B. plicatilis* was cultured in large scale under this treatment with similar environmental conditions and at 12th day,

B. plicatilis was harvested; it gave 600 and 32.2 gram/2500 L for wet and dry weight, respectively. The study concludes that the best treatment for *B. plicatilis* culture is to enrich the culture with artificial diet (30% yeast:70% sugar) and the best day to harvest *B. plicatilis* culture is 12th day. The cultured species *B. plicatilis* recorded high protein percent (51.66%) in addition to high content of essential amino and fatty acids.

hesham_reda06@yahoo.com