

Using Of garra rufa for treatment of fin rot in goldfish (*Carassius auratus*)

Abstract

Garra rufa has been used to treat fin necrosis in goldfish. Sick fish were reared in the same tank with *Garra rufa* which was able to eat necrotic tissue of the fins and goldfish healed.

Keywords: *Garra rufa*, Goldfish, Fin rot, Fish, *Flavobacterium*, *Gyrodactylus*

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Introduction

Garra rufa is a small *Cyprinidae* fish used to treat psoriasis in humans (www.fishbase.org) because of it is able to eat affected tissues.

Aims

Taking into account this information we tried to see if this fish can be used to treat fin rot in fish. Fin rot is a polyfactorial disease, but *Flavobacterium* and *Gyrodactylus* are recognised to have the major role (Ferguson, 2006).

Materials and methods

6 naturally infected goldfish with fin rot caused by *Flavobacterium* sp. and *Gyrodactylus* sp. diagnosed by direct microscopy were introduced in an aquarium. 2 fish were separated by a glass placed inside. 6 specimens of *Garra rufa* were introduced with 2 separated goldfish and 4 goldfish remained isolated, without *Garra rufa*.^{1,2}

Results

After 3 days, necrosis started to disappear and eroded fins started

to rise because of consuming the necrotic tissues of goldfish reared in the same tank with *Garra rufa*. Necrosis worsened in the other 4 untreated goldfish.

Conclusion

We concluded that *Garra rufa* can be used to treat fin rot in warm water fish and our experiment was successful.

Acknowledgments

None.

Conflicts of interest

None.

References

1. Ferguson HW. Systemic Pathology of Fish: A Text and Atlas of Normal Tissues in Teleosts and their Response in Disease. *J Fish Dis.* 2006;30(6):381–382.
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