MOLECULAR DETECTION OF IRIDOVIRUS IN FISH COLLECTED AT MAGSAYSAY FISH MARKET AND LANDING CENTER, DAGUPAN CITY, PANGASINAN, PHILIPPINES

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ABSTRACT

DUCUSIN, JEANNE LEIA T. Department of Biological Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, **JUNE 2019. MOLECULAR DETECTION OF IRIDOVIRUS IN FISH COLLECTED AT MAGSAYSAY FISH MARKET AND LANDING CENTER, DAGUPAN CITY, PANGASINAN, PHILIPPINES**

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The increase in aquaculture operations worldwide has delivered new opportunities for the occurrence of several novel diseases, which include viral diseases, that have caused serious complications for producers. Iridoviruses are a group of emerging viral pathogens causing infections in several marine finfish.

For this study, the fishes were collected at Magsaysay Fish Market and Landing Center, Dagupan City, Pangasinan, Philippines. The identification of fish was done through morphological means. The detection of the viral pathogen iridovirus was done through molecular means using E.Z.N.A.® Tissue DNA Extraction Kit for the extraction of the viral DNA, then was amplified with the use of PCR procedure using 1-F and 1-R as primers for the detection, then was observed through the use of gel electrophoresis and gel documentation. After sending the PCR product for sequencing, molecular analysis was done through the use of BLAST to verify the presence of said virus.

Three out of four species of fishes showed signs of infection that may or may not be caused by an iridovirus. Based on the molecular analysis, the results showed no presence of iridovirus in the collected fish species. This would then point out that the signs observed in the collected fish species may be symptoms of other diseases or may have been caused by other disease-causing microorganisms such as virus, bacteria and fungi.

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