Supply of Fish Waste and Level of Awareness of Fish Vendors in the City of Baybay, Leyte Province on the Potential Use of Fish By Products as Local Fish Silage

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ABSTRACT

Fish by-products from fish markets represent a huge portion of underutilized resources that may have potential as a source of protein-rich feed ingredient. A study was conducted to determine the socio-demographic profile of the fish vendors in the Barangays and Public Market of Baybay City, Leyte, determine the supply of local fish by-products; identify the means of disposal of the fish by-products; and determine awareness among fish vendors on the utilization of fish by-products. A total of 42 respondents who were fish vendors were surveyed in this study. Descriptive research was used in the survey study. Data collection was done using different techniques through interview and questionnaires, responses were analyzed using descriptive statistics such as percentage and ranking. Results showed that fish vendors were mostly female with ages between 51-60 years and high school graduates. These vendors earned about P10, 000.00 per month from selling fish which were sourced out from nearby towns. Blackfin scad, mackerel tuna, and milkfish were among the top fish being sold in Baybay City. Fish waste by products amounting to 1-5 kilograms per vendor were disposed based on three (3) times daily schedules using garbage truck to prevent foul odors. These fish wastes were not sold to consumers, but a few asked for it as pet food. With this, there is a huge potential on the utilization of these by products as animal feeds, and therefore a good aspect to review between the government and the academe.

Keywords: Fish Silage, Fish by-products, Vendor, Baybay City

INTRODUCTION

One challenge in animal farming is the lack of high-quality protein sources with a good amino acid profile due to limited availability and relatively high cost (Panda et al 2017). Among the food industries, the seafood in particular can be considered as one of the most important sources of by-product as animal feed, owing to the growing demand for seafood products all over the world. These by-products can be derived from the capture, commercialization, and industrialization process which results in a large quantity of wastes (Islam et al 2021). Fish wastes refer to