

**EVALUATION OF SOME MEDICINAL
PLANTS AS A FEED ADDITIVE IN
DIETS OF NILE TILAPIA
(*Oreochromis niloticus*)**

by

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ABSTRACT

The present work aimed to investigate the response of Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) fingerlings to *Nigella* seeds (*Nigella sativa* L.) Chamomile flowers (*Matricaria chamomilla* L.) or Marjoram leaves (*Majorana hortensis* L.) as a feed additive:

Feeding experiments followed by digestibility trials were conducted. Additives levels of 0.0 (common control) 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0% from the total diet were used to form three feeding experiments (one additive/each) and consequently three digestibility trials.

Addition of *Nigella* seeds, Chamomile flowers or Marjoram leaves in the diet had significant effects on growth performance, feed utilization, body composition and feed cost. Comparisons between the different levels per each may suggest the use of 0.5% *Nigella* seeds, 0.5% Chamomile flowers or 1.0% Marjoram leaves in Nile tilapia diets.