

Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Research
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJFAR_91370
Title of the Manuscript:	OCCURRENCE AND EFFECTS OF PARASITES IN B. BAYAD AND P. ANNECTENS FROM UPPER RIVER BENUE, MUTUM BIU, TARABA STATE NIGERIA
Type of the Article	Original research paper

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<p>This manuscript reports the prevalence and effects of parasitic infestation from upper river benue, in Mutum Biu, Taraba state, Nigeria. The article is an added value to the scientific community; however, it is incompetent from a scientific standpoint and the quality of the language used be must be carefully checked by a qualified English speaker. I therefore recommend that the manuscript be revised, also taking into account the remarks below.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Language needs much improvement. 2. Format of the manuscript is not according to the journal's specifications, no line number displayed, how one can give specific remarks about specific lines. 3. It is suggested to modify the title as "Prevalence of fish parasites in <i>Bagrus bayad</i> and <i>Protopterus annectens</i> from Upper River Benue, in Mutum Biu, Taraba state, Nigeria" 4. Abstract needs to be rewritten to clearly explain the rationale, background, objectives, methods, scope and outlook of this study. 5. Some areas in the current article require to be rephrased and rewrite to make them shorter instead of longer sentence, for example: "Twelve (12) parasite species belonging to 3 species of protozoa (<i>Trichodina</i> spp., <i>Henneguya</i> spp. and <i>C. iubilans</i>), 3 species of cestode (<i>Diphilobothrium latum</i>, <i>H. nanna</i> and <i>Bothriocephalus aegypticus</i>), 5 species of nematode (<i>C. philipinensis</i>, <i>C. briggsae</i>, <i>Camallanus</i> spp., <i>Eustrongylides</i> spp. and <i>Contracaecum</i> spp.) and a species of trematode (<i>Clinostomum</i> spp.) were recovered from samples of <i>B. bayad</i> while seven (7) parasites species belonging to 2 species of protozoa (<i>Trichodina</i> spp. and <i>C. iubilans</i>), a species of cestodes (<i>B. aegypticus</i>) and 4 species of nematodes (<i>C. philipinensis</i>, <i>Camallanus</i> spp., <i>Eustrongylides</i> spp. and <i>Contracaecum</i> spp.) were recovered from the samples of <i>P. annectens</i>."Please go through the entire manuscript very carefully. 6. The citation format in the text and reference section is not in accordance with the journal requirement, please check and correct according to the journal style. 7. The objective and hypothesis of this work is need to be clearly mention at the end of the introduction section as well as require revision accordingly mentioned in the MS. 8. Materials and Method: Need to be modified accordingly mentioned the MS. 9. Results: Need to be modified accordingly mentioned in the MS. The table and text need to be revised because the data and statistical analysis are inadequate. Figures 1 and 2 are acceptable with modifications, however histology images are of poor quality and must be modified with higher resolution and replaced to provide more clarity to the readers. Histology images should be divided into two figures (Figure 3 and Figure 4) to make it more appealing and comprehensible for the reader. For example, Figure 3. A) Photomicrograph of caudal fin and skin exhibiting necrosis of the <i>B. bayad</i> (400X), B) Photomicrograph of skin exhibiting epidermal necrosis of <i>P. annectens</i> (400X), C) Photomicrograph of thickened intestinal epithelium at the site of parasite attachment from <i>B. bayad</i> (400X), D) Photomicrograph of hyperplasia of the intestinal villi and lamina propria of <i>P. annectens</i> (400X). Figure 4. A) Photomicrograph of hyperplasia of infected gills at the secondary lamellae of <i>B. bayad</i> (400X) B) Photomicrograph of ulceration of the stomach of <i>B. bayad</i> (400X) C) Photomicrograph of abdominal distention of <i>B. bayad</i> D) Photomicrograph of eroded and flattened intestinal folds of <i>B. bayad</i> (400X), E) Photomicrograph of lymphocytic infiltration of intestinal mucosa and edema of the lamina propria of infected intestine of <i>B. bayad</i> (400X). 10. Discussion: Need to be modified accordingly mentioned in the MS. 11. Conclusion: Repetition and somehow not suitable suggestion, please rephrase highlighting the main findings of this study with an appropriate outlook. 	
Minor REVISION comments	Please express the obtained percent with a single decimal throughout the manuscript. For example "46.22%" replace to "46.2%"	
Optional/General comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Manuscript can't be accepted in its present form. It requires thorough revision and can be accepted only after the recommended modifications. 2. Needs to revise and superfluous information and repetition should be avoided. 3. Some sentences need to be rewritten to be meaningful. 	

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	<u>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</u>	

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