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Journal Name:	Asian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Research
Manuscript Number:	Ms_AJFAR_120511
Title of the Manuscript:	THE EFFECT OF SILICA ADMINISTRATION IN THE BIOFLOCK SYSTEM ON PLANKTON ABUNDANCE AND DIVERSITY INDEX
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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PART 1: Review Comments

Compulsory REVISION comments	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Please write few sentences regarding the importance this manuscript for scientific community. Why do you like (or dislike) this manuscript? Minimum 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript makes a valuable contribution to the scientific community by exploring the effects of silica administration on plankton abundance and diversity in biofloc systems. Its findings are particularly significant for aquaculture practitioners seeking sustainable solutions to improve water quality and enhance productivity. I appreciate the manuscript's thorough experimental design, clear presentation of data, and its implications for optimizing aquaculture practices. However, further expansion on the ecological implications and broader applications beyond the experimental setup could enhance its impact. Overall, this study fills an important gap in understanding the role of silica in biofloc systems, offering practical insights for both researchers and industry professionals in sustainable aquaculture management.	
Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)	Yes it is suitable-and Self explanatory .	
Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.	The abstract provides a good overview of the research conducted on the effect of silica administration in biofloc systems on plankton abundance and diversity index. However, a few suggestions for enhancement could be considered: 1. Inclusion of Specific Results: While the abstract mentions the research objectives and methodology briefly, adding a sentence summarizing key findings, such as the significant increase in phytoplankton abundance with silica supplementation, would make it more informative. 2. Broader Context: Expanding slightly on the broader implications of the findings beyond the immediate experimental setup could enhance the abstract. For example, discussing the potential ecological benefits of enhanced plankton diversity in biofloc systems or the practical implications for aquaculture sustainability. 3. Clearer Statement of Importance: Explicitly stating the importance of the study for aquaculture management or environmental sustainability could provide a stronger hook for readers. 4. Conciseness: Ensuring that the abstract remains concise while incorporating these suggestions is crucial to maintain clarity and adherence to typical abstract length restrictions. By incorporating these suggestions, the abstract could provide a more comprehensive snapshot of the research, highlighting its significance and implications effectively.	
Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?	Overall, the subsections and structure of the manuscript appear appropriate for a research article in the field of aquatic ecology and aquaculture. Here are some specific observations: 1. Introduction: The introduction effectively sets the stage by providing background information on biofloc systems, plankton roles, and the relevance of silica. It establishes the context and rationale for the study clearly. 2. Materials and Methods: The materials and methods section is detailed and adequately describes the experimental setup, including the study location, materials used (silica, EM4, dolomite lime, etc.), and the methodology (Completely Randomized Design, treatments, parameters measured). This clarity supports reproducibility. 3. Results and Discussion: o Results: The results section is structured with subsections for plankton abundance (phytoplankton and zooplankton) and diversity index, which is appropriate for presenting quantitative data. o Discussion: The discussion interprets the results well, linking them back to the study objectives and providing insights into the implications of silica supplementation on plankton dynamics. It discusses findings in the context of existing literature and the practical	

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	applications for aquaculture. 4. Figures and Tables: The manuscript effectively uses figures and tables to illustrate data, such as phytoplankton abundance over time and diversity indices, enhancing the clarity and understanding of the results. 5. Conclusion: The conclusion summarizes the main findings succinctly and draws implications for future research or practical applications. In conclusion, the manuscript's subsections and structure are appropriate for conveying the research findings on the effect of silica in biofloc systems. It follows a logical flow from introduction to methods, results, discussion, and conclusion, facilitating comprehension and engagement with the study's outcomes	
Please write few sentences regarding the scientific correctness of this manuscript. Why do think that this manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound? Minimum 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.	This manuscript demonstrates scientific robustness and technical soundness through several key strengths. Firstly, it employs a well-designed experimental setup using a Completely Randomized Design with multiple treatments and replicates, ensuring statistical reliability in data interpretation. Secondly, the methodology includes precise measurement techniques for plankton abundance and diversity indices, such as using Sedgewick Rafter-counting Cell for plankton enumeration and Shannon-Wiener diversity index calculation. Thirdly, the integration of silica supplementation in biofloc systems aligns with current understanding of nutrient dynamics in aquatic environments, supported by references to relevant literature. Overall, these aspects contribute to the manuscript's credibility and its potential impact on advancing knowledge in aquaculture and ecological sciences.	
Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form. -	The references cited in the manuscript provide a foundational basis for the research conducted, particularly regarding biofloc systems, plankton dynamics, and the role of silica. However, to strengthen the manuscript further, it could benefit from incorporating more recent references (published within the last 5 years) that specifically address advancements in biofloc technology, silica's impact on plankton communities, and related ecological studies.	
Minor REVISION comments Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	Based on the excerpts provided, the language and English quality of the article appear suitable for scholarly communications. The manuscript demonstrates technical competence and clarity in presenting scientific concepts, experimental procedures, and data analysis. The language is precise and academic, which is essential for effectively communicating research findings to a scholarly audience. However, to ensure thoroughness, it would be beneficial for the authors to conduct a final proofread for minor grammatical or typographical errors that may still be present. Overall, the manuscript seems well-prepared for submission to a scholarly journal or publication platform.	
Optional/General comments	To further strengthen the manuscript, consider: • Ensuring clarity and coherence in the presentation of results and their interpretation. • Expanding the discussion to include broader ecological implications and practical applications beyond the experimental setup. • Conducting a final review for language consistency and minor errors. Additionally, updating the references with recent literature could provide a more current context for the study's relevance and contribute to its impact in the field of aquaculture and ecological sciences. Overall, this work makes a valuable contribution to understanding the role of silica in enhancing plankton dynamics within biofloc systems.	

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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?	*(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)*	

Reviewer Details:

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