



# Grobest Times

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## Do fish really grow best on Grobest?

The Short answer is **yes**, according to food conversion trial's conducted at the DPI's Walkamin research facility in Nth Queensland. Extensive trials conducted by the DPI compared meat/chicken meal based feed up against feed based on fish-meal and found a difference of up to 0.22 FCR points when fed on a fish meal based diet. That might not sound like much but it can mean a difference of up to **\$320/tonne** on your feed bill when comparing FCR results between different feed brands.

**The national FCR average for Barramundi farming has actually increased over the past two years from 1.8:1 to 2.4:1, and considering that 99% of feed sold in Australia is not fish meal based, farmers in actual fact are now paying more for their feed than ever before with lower performance than ever before, not seen since pre 1999.**

In our Analysis of these results it would seem that buying the cheapest feed is not always best practice if you are trying to decrease on farm costs and increase profitability. Grobest's own FCR trials also revealed that not only (continued on next page)

### Joke of the month.

Kent and three of his buddies have gone fishing every Saturday for nearly ten years. One Saturday, the guys are fishing along a highway when a funeral procession drives by. Well, Kent lays down his rod, stands up in the boat, takes off his lucky hat and places it over his heart. This procession is huge and takes nearly five minutes to pass. Once it passes, Kent sits down, puts his hat on and casts out without saying a word. Needless to say his buddies are floored by his actions. One of them finally speaks up and says, "that sure was a respectful thing you did there when they went by." Kent replied, "It seems the least I could do seeing as how I've been married to the woman for over forty years!" anon.



# FCR cont...

using the fish meal based diet decrease overall FCR's with results as low as 0.89:1, it also dramatically improved both water quality and decreased nitrogen outputs. Both are major factors in environmental health especially on farms that release their pond water back into the oceans and water ways. It has been found that for every FCR point increase, a quadrupling of nitrogen/phosphate output occurs within the environment, therefore ,if you can decrease your FCR's you decrease your pollutant output.

Grobest's strict policy of avoiding **all** restricted Land Animal Proteins including animal fat's in their extruded diets is the key to the feeds success in reducing FCR's to an acceptable level. The high digestibility and the complex marine proteins contained in the feed aids the fish/prawns digestion ,therefore optimizing energy intake to gain meat weight rather than lay down animal fats within the gut cavity and or on the fillet. This optimized digestion is the key factor in maintaining good FCR's and good water quality.

Grobest's mill in Jakarta is renowned for its milling quality and pellet integrity , which means that the pellet will last longer as an intact pellet in the water, retaining its vitamin stability for a longer period than other brands. Grobest strives to have little or no dust residue on our pellets which can often foul or reduce water quality. Grobest feed comes highly recommended for use in recirc systems, where optimum water quality is essential.

## **Omega 3 in farmed seafood looks uncertain.**

It's a well known fact that many seafood products contain Omega 3 fatty acids, both the important DHA and EPA which is fundamental to the health of the human body, and apart from popping a pill the best way to consume Omega 3 is to simply eat fish. According to the CSIRO there is a direct link between levels of Omega 3 and the diet that fish are fed. The CSIRO's concern is that because of the decrease of fish meals and fish oils used in most aquatic feeds, that a dramatic fall of DHA and EPA levels will occur, due to the fact that most fish can not produce Omega 3's unless it is contained in the diet. Scientist have also discovered that replacing fish meal with plant based proteins could also result in low Omega 3 levels as fish are unable to convert most plant proteins into Omega 3. There has been some success in farmed salmon being able to convert the plant protein Patterson's curse into EPA and DHA although the study is still in its infancy. Source :CSIRO





# Starter Feeds.

The choice of starter feed you use on your crop could be the most important choice you make of the season. Whether it be Prawn PL's, Barramundi fingerlings or Natives such as Silver and Jade Perch, Grobest has the Diet specific starter feed to suit your needs.

With extensive research carried out on all our starter feeds special attention is given to the early PL/fingering stage of development. With enriched vitamin and mineral additives to boost both the immune and digestive systems Grobest's starter feed is blended with the highest quality marine proteins to deliver the most **cost effective fast growth formulae available in the Australian market.**

The Grobest starter range is available in both floating or sinking format with diet specific formulation developed for the following species:

**Black Tiger Prawn-** .T1 0.1-0.3mm  
T2 0.6-0.8mm

**Barramundi -** N1 1.5mm micro pellet.  
N2 2mm micro pellet.

**Silver/Jade Perch-** SES1 1.4mm micro pellet.  
SES2 1.8mm micro pellet.

**Yellow Tail/Mulloway-** NY1 1.2 mm micro pellet.  
NY2 1.8 mm micro pellet.

**Grouper Species-** NG1 1.2mm micro pellet.  
NG2 1.8mm micro pellet.

**Call our office on our free call number ph 1800 005 434 or  
email:**

**sales@grobest.com.au for a competitive price.**

**Compare our prices to our competitors and save big \$\$\$ on  
all our starter feeds.**

**www.grobest.com.au**