To induce brood stock of *Heterobranchus longifilis* using a synthetic hormone

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An experiment was carried out at Urban Farms and Fisheries Nigeria Ltd, Owerri Imo State Nigeria between February and June 2016 to induce Brood stock of *Heterobranchus longifilis* (mean weight 1.3 kg) in concrete tanks (1.0×2.0×1.5 m) in dimension using a synthetic hormone (Ovaprim) and pituitary extract from *Heterobranchus longifilis*. Brood stock males were selected as pituitary donors and their weights matched with those of females to be injected at 1 ml/kg body weight. Ovaprim was injected at 0.5 ml/kg body weight of female fish. A latency period of 12 hours was allowed after injection of the Brood stock females before stripping the eggs and incubation at 23°C. While incubating the eggs, samples were drawn and the rate of fertilization was determined. Hatching occurred within 33 hours and hatchability rate (%) was determined by counting the active hatchings. The result showed that Ovaprim injected Brood stock eggs fertilized up to 80% while the pituitary from the *Heterobranchus longifilis* had low fertilization and hatching success 20%. Ovaprim is imported and costly, so more effort is required to enhance the procedures for homoplastic hypophysation.

Biography

Romanus Keke is currently working as Professor at Imo State University, Nigeria.  
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