Rohu breeds in November at CIFA, Bhubaneswar: A success story

Indian major carp viz. catla, rohu and mrigala contribute more than 80% to the freshwater fish basket of the country. Seed is one of the critical inputs for carp culture. At present India produces 38 billion fry in a year (DAHD Annual Report, 2012-13). The fry production in hatcheries is through induced breeding and of seasonal activities during monsoon months. Winter breeding of carps is made possible at Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture during January and February. This year rohu, *Labeo rohita* was induced bred during November. The monsoon spent rohu were reared in indoor rearing system under controlled photo-thermal condition. Within a period of 120 days of indoor rearing these spent brood rematured. During first week of November males were oozing milt. Females were found gravid with prominent secondary sexual characteristics like bulging pelvic abdomen and reddish protruding vent. The fish were induced bred on 23rd November 2013. The breeding was done in FRP hatchery at CIFA campus. Around 1.8 lakh rohu spawn from the incubation pool was recovered. This is first ever report of IMC breeding during the month of November. Earlier, CIFA bred IMC in all the quarters of the year except October-December quarter. With this achievement CIFA proved that rohu can be bred round the year, which is a boon for seed producers and scope for carp aquaculturist to enhance their earning and livelihood.

Rohu Brood- ready for breeding

Protruding vent of gravid female

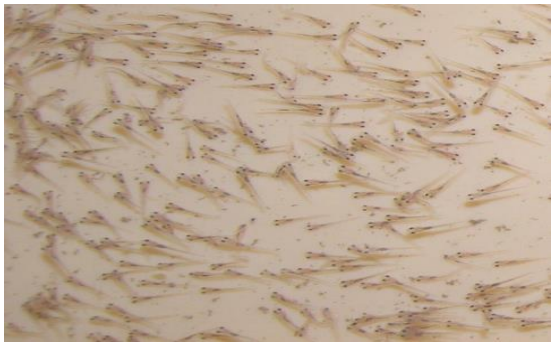
Rough pectoral fin of matured male

Intramuscular administration of inducing agent

FRP breeding pool

FRP egg incubation pool

Freshly spawned rohu eggs (semi-swollen)



4 days old rohu larvae

(Source: Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Kausalyaganga, Bhubaneswar, Odisha)