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Some Biological Aspects of the Himri Barbel, Barbus luteus, in the Intermediate Reaches of the Euphrates River

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Abstract: Growth; length-weight, standard-, fork-, and total length relationships; age composition; sex ratios; age at first maturity; and fecundity of the himri, Barbus luteus, from different sites along the middle reaches of the Euphrates River were investigated. Von Bertalanffy's growth models were $L_t = 54.71\ (1-e^{0.110\ (t+0.163)})$, $W_t = 1252.833\ (1-e^{0.127\ (t+1.825)})^{2.454}$ in males, and $L_t = 56.93\ (1-e^{0.105\ (t+0.377)})$, $W_t = 1395.363\ (1-e^{0.107\ (t-1.81)})^{2.545}$ in females. Isometric growth was identified from length-weight relationships. Younger age groups dominated the catches, with identifiable ages ranged from II to VII years. Sexual ratios were unbiased and did not deviate from 1:1. Most fish reached sexual maturity within the second year of age.

Key Words: Barbus luteus, growth, fecundity, Euphrates River

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