

## Bacteria Gills Diseases

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A disease common in hatcheries whose etiology is believed to be a *Mycobacteria* or *Flavobacteria*. It is also believed that the disease may be induced by diets leading to the right classes of food and other nutrients. Example of fish affected include *Clarias batrachus*, *Cyprinus carpio*, *Clarias macrocephalus*, cultured roufs and Selmon, Tilapia and carp.

### Clinical signs:

1. Fish go towards fresh water inlets to maximize space in race-ways.
2. Hypertrophic gills-Gill tissues are ultimately destroyed, thereby exposing skeletal rods of gills filaments. Ultimately fish die of asphyxia.
3. Loss of appetite.
4. Ulcers produced on the body of fish become secondarily infected by other pathogens.
5. Excessive mucus production.
6. Flared opercula and lethargy.

### Factors:

- a. Crowded population with low water exchange
- b. High ammonia built up
- c. Mud and silt in the water supply

- d. Low dissolved oxygen content
- e. Poor food quality lacking in pathogenic acid which may initiate a nutritional disease.

**Control:**

- 1. Improve environmental condition and avoid crowding.
- 2. Use of quaternary ammonium compounds such as Roccal, Hyamisa 35 at 2 ppm for 3 consecutive days.

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