

IMPACT OF USING α -Fe₂O₃ NANOPARTICLES AS DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS ON THE GROWTH OF A CRITICALLY ENDANGERED MINOR CARP *Puntius sarana* (HAMILTON, 1822)

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*A simple wet chemical method is employed to synthesize α -Fe₂O₃ nanoparticles (NPs). The pH value of the starting solution is controlled to vary the particle sizes. Microstructural characterizations confirm the excellent quality of synthesized α -Fe₂O₃ NPs having different sizes. The synthesized NPs are used as dietary supplements of a critically endangered minor carp *Puntius sarana* (Hamilton, 1822) to investigate the effects on the growth of the fish. Significant improvement in the fish growth is observed owing to the treatment. Our data further demonstrate that the growth of *P. sarana* becomes more favourable as the concentration of NPs increases and or the size of the NPs decreases, up to a certain level.*
