

# CRUSTACIAN DISEASES OF FISHES

PREPARED BY

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# Argulosis:

Argulus or fish lice is a common copepode parasite in fishes. It is an ectoparasite. This parasite is commonly known as carp lice. The toxins released by the parasite are known to cause lymphocyte destruction. The feeding site becomes a wound. The fish swims erratically, shows stunted growth.

**Treatment:** the parasite can be controlled by giving a bath in a solution of 0.5% potassium permanganate or 2000ppm of Lysol



# Lernaeasis

it is caused by Lernaea or anchor worm.  
The parasite buries in to the skin of the fish, and greater part of the body of parasite is present outside the host feeding on mucous and blood.

**Treatment:** the parasite can be controlled by applying 500ml of Dichlorovos per acre of the pond.



# Ergasilus spp

This parasite is known to infect the gills of the fish. They are noticed as oval formations on the gill filaments. The parasite feeds on the epithelium of the gills causing distruction and hypertrophy of the gills. Hence the fish cannot get enough oxygen leading to the death of the fish. .

**Treatment:** the parasite can be controlled by giving a bath in a solution of 0.5ppm copper sulphate or 0.2ppm ferric sulphate for 6 to 9 days.



# Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome (EUS)

Epizootic Ulcerative Syndrome has caused severe damage to India's aquaculture. Wide spread outbreaks of this disease cause mass mortality and affected the Indian Aquaculture industry.

Unlike other diseases, this syndrome has been found to affect a variety of fish species like carps, catfishes, mullets etc.

The symptoms are peesized hemorrhagic spots all over the body which ultimately turn into big ulcers of the size of a coin with central necrotic area. The fish start rotating while still alive and eventually die. The internal organs like liver, kidney show hemorrhages.

Till date many methods were tried to control this disease. Sulfonamides were found to be effective to control this disease.



## Prevention of fish diseases

- It is difficult to identify the appearance of disease in its initial stage. Therefore perfect preventive measures must be taken for effective fish disease control
- Thorough pond cleaning and disinfection
- Disinfection of the appliances like nets, hapas etc
- Segregation of older fish, as they carry parasites with them
- Selection of healthy seed
- Proper stocking density to be maintained. No over stocking be done.
- Careful management
- Good water quality
- Fish feed should be given adequately. Excess food that is left uneaten becomes decomposed and contaminate the water
- Spot removal of dead fish from the pond
- Occasional pond treatment with potassium permanganate at the rate of 2-3ppm