



Proposal for a bachelor's thesis

X-ray Based Morphometry of Vertebral Deformations in Pikeperch (*S. lucioperca*)

Background:

Pikeperch shows great potential in European aquaculture. However, high deformity rates, particularly spinal deformities, occur frequently. The associated project aims to investigate possible effects of rearing conditions on vertebral formation during the early developmental stages of pikeperch. The goal is to develop animal welfare-oriented adaptations for use in the aquaculture industry.

Objectives:

As part of this bachelor's thesis, morphometric changes of the spine in pikeperch larvae will be recorded and analysed using X-ray based imaging. The collected data will be statistically evaluated and presented.

Tasks/Methods:

- Analysis of X-ray images
- Morphometric measurements of vertebral bodies
- Statistical analysis and presentation of the results

Requirements:

- Interest in ichthyology, aquaculture and morphology
- Basic knowledge of data analysis

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