

Susceptibility of hybrid grouper (*Epinephelus fuscoguttatus* ? × *Epinephelus lanceolatus* ?) to *Vibrio harveyi* VHJR7

Abstract

Abstract. The susceptibility of hybrid grouper (*Epinephelus fuscoguttatus* × *Epinephelus lanceolatus*) to *Vibrio harveyi* VHJR7 at three different concentrations of bacteria (8.4×10^4 (T1), 1.3×10^5 (T2), and 1.7×10^5 (T3) c.f.u. g⁻¹ body weight, respectively) was investigated. Fish were cultured in 150 L tank with 7 individuals per tank and duplicated. It was then observed for any signs of abnormalities due to infections and mortalities were recorded up to 10 days of post-challenge. Cumulative mortality of hybrid grouper ranged from 0 to 57.1%. The lethal dose 50% (LD) of *V. harveyi* to hybrid grouper was 1.6×10^5 c.f.u g⁻¹ body weight. Red blood cell (RBC) and white blood cell (WBC) count of fish decreased as the bacterium concentration injected increases. The hybrid grouper is susceptible to *V. harveyi* VHJR7 at high doses.