Induced breeding of snowtrout (*Schizothorax richardsonii* -Gray), from Garhwal Himalaya (Uttarakhand, India) by pituitary gland extract.

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Abstract

Comparative breeding experiments were done in *Schizothorax richardsonii* by using pituitary gland extract (PGE) and stripping technique. Experiments were conducted for two successive years. PGE dose administered was 5mg/kg body weight to male fishes and 7 mg/kg to female fishes. Each dose was administered as two split doses 4 hours apart. For induced breeding, fecundity ranged from 5,200 to 13,542 eggs per female. In 15 sets of induced breeding experiments performed over two years, using PGE extract, fertilization success ranged from 78±1.98% to 76.7±2.18% and hatching success ranged from to 63.3±3.05% to 63.9±1.81%. Stripping experiments yielded similar results with their fertilization ranging from 67.7±3.48% to 64.4±2.67% and hatching ranging from 58.9±3.47% to 57.26±2.8%. Our results conclude that induced breeding is better than stripping and can be used effectively to breed *Schizothorax richardsonii*.

*Keywords*: induced breeding, *Schizothorax*, pituitary gland extract