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VIRTUAL COURSE

26 March to 15 April 2021

Design of an Active Surveillance for Tilapia Lake Virus (TILV) Disease and Its Implementation

TCP/INT/3707: Strengthening biosecurity (policy and farm level) governance to deal with Tilapia lake virus



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CHECKLIST #6

02 April 2021

Checklist 6: TiLV Risk Profile

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TCP/INT/3707: Strengthening biosecurity (policy and farm level) governance to deal with Tilapia lake virus



Learning objectives:

- To understand the requirements and criteria for Checklist 6
- To gain knowledge on the different levels of diagnostics in general
- To get to know the TiLV risk profile



Outline : **TiLV risk factors** → Clustering of the cases

- Host : Susceptible species, Life stages, Stress
- Environment : Season, Climate, Contacts, Locations
- Agent : (Virulence, Survivability)



Host : Susceptible species

Life stages

Stress factors



Susceptible fish species for TiLV

- Wild tilapia *Tristramellasimonis intermedia*
- Hybrid tilapia (*O. niloticus* × *O. aureus* hybrids)
- Nile tilapia (*O. niloticus*)
- Red tilapia (*Oreochromis* spp.)
- Grey tilapia (*O. niloticus* × *O. aureus*)



Sarotherodon galilaeus



Tilapia zilli



Oreochromis aureus



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cichlidae_\(10.3897-zse.96.55837\)_Figure_9.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Cichlidae_(10.3897-zse.96.55837)_Figure_9.jpg)

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/07/St._Peter%27s_Fish.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blue_Tilapia.jpg

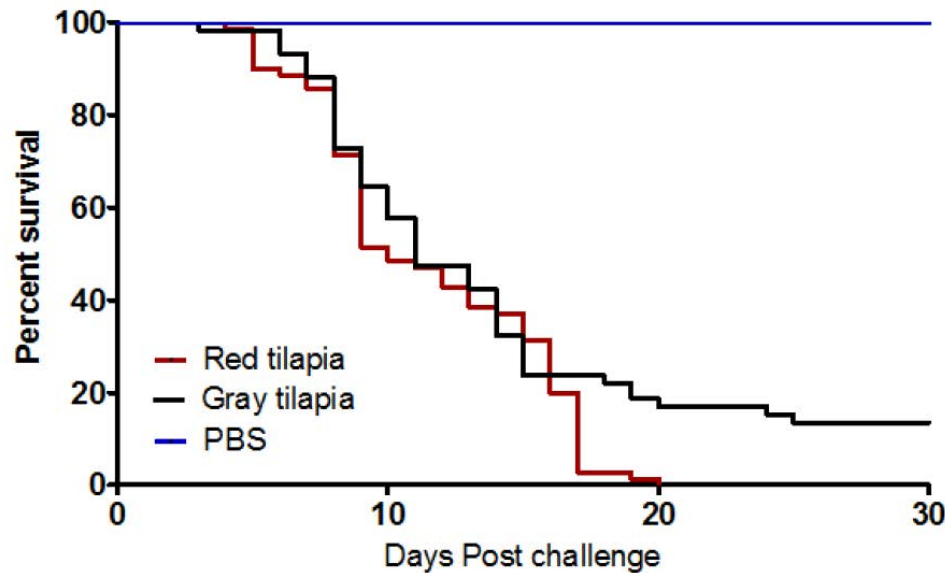
02 April 2021 6



High mortalities after TiLV infection in tilapia



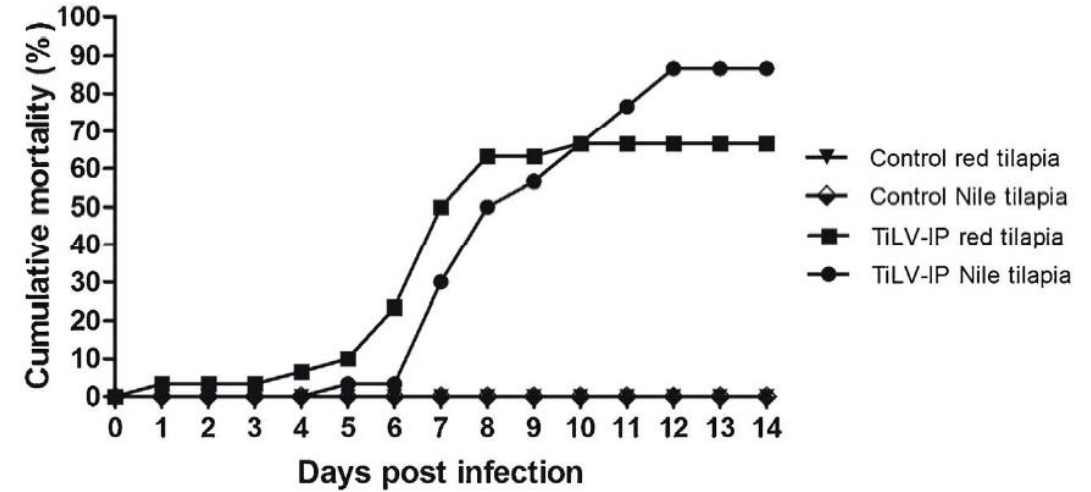
Red and Gray tilapia



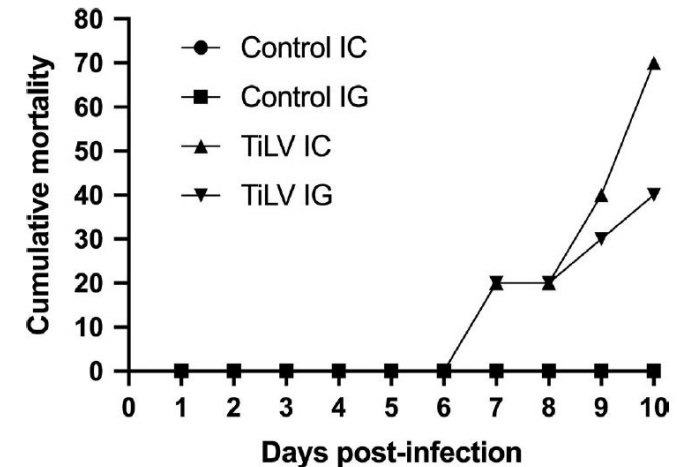
Mugimba et al 2020, Viruses

P. Tattiyapong et al.

Nile and Red tilapia



Journal of Fish Diseases WILEY 1303



Nile tilapia with intragastric challenge

Pierezan et al 2019, J Fish Dis

02 April 2021



Most important warm water fish species are resistant to tilapia lake virus (TiLV) infection

Susceptibility of important warm water fish species to tilapia lake virus (TiLV) infection



Phitchaya Jaemwimol^a, Pattarasuda Rawiwan^{a,b}, Puntanat Tattiyapong^{a,b}, Patrawut Saengnual^c, Attapon Kamlangdee^d, Win Surachetpong^{a,b,*}



Cyprinus carpio



Trichogaster pectoralis



Barbodes gonionotus



Lates calcarifer



Anabas testudineus



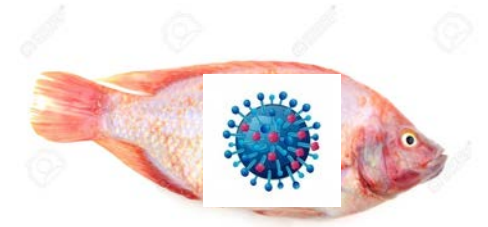
Clarias macrocephalus



Pangasianodon hypophthalmus

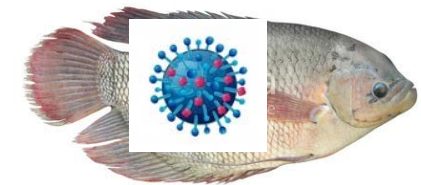


Chana striata



TiLV susceptible

Oreochromis spp.



Osphronemus goramy





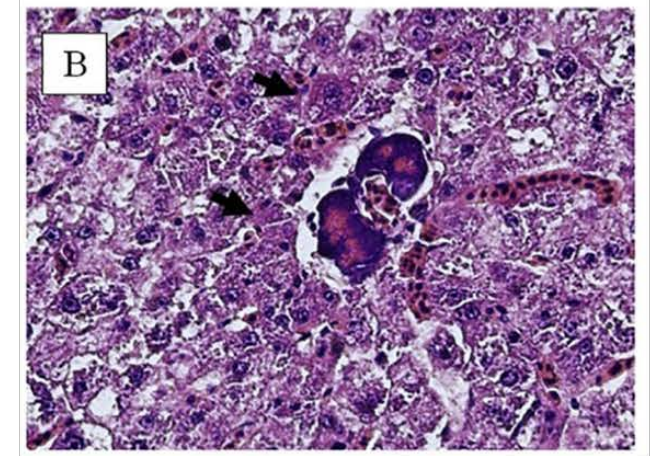
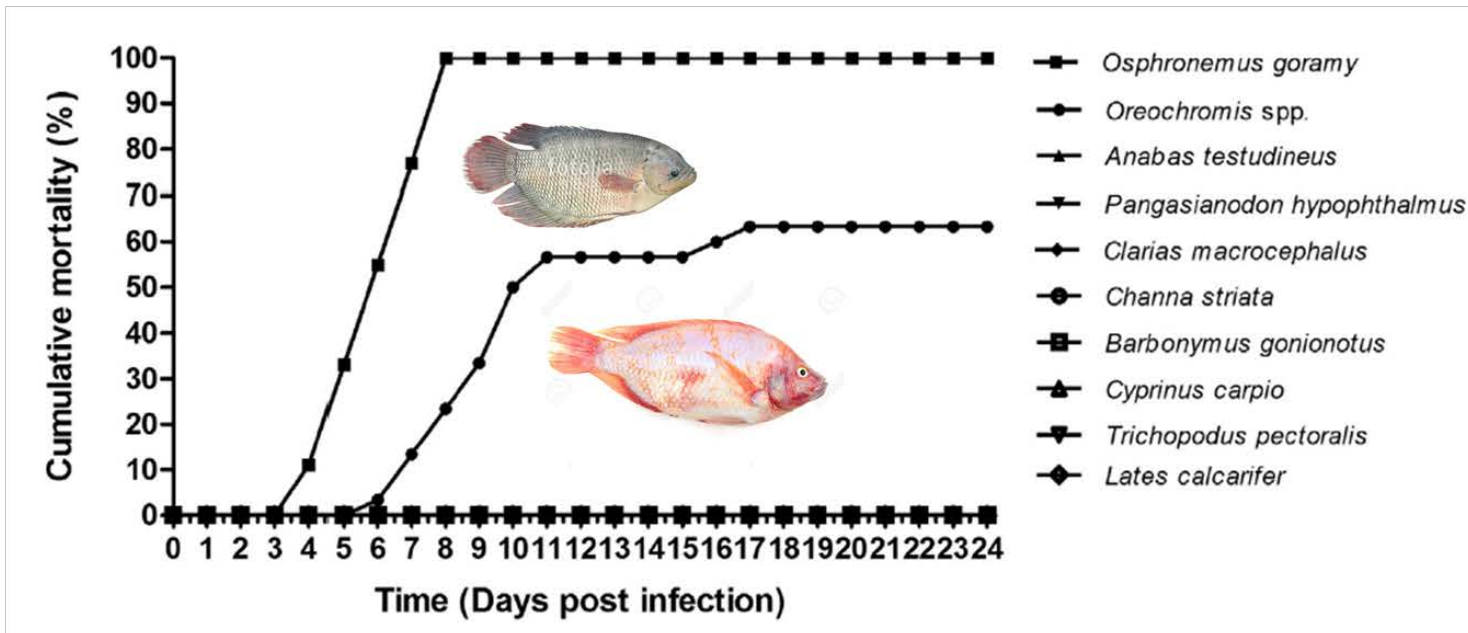
ELSEVIER



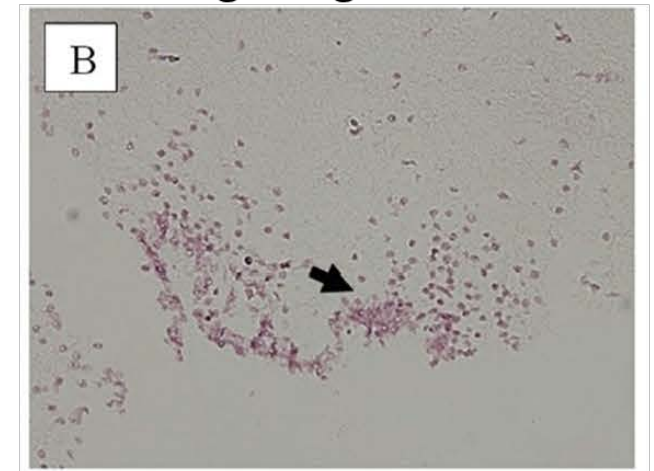
Susceptibility of important warm water fish species to tilapia lake virus (TiLV) infection

Phitchaya Jaemwimol^a, Pattarasuda Rawiwan^{a,b}, Puntanat Tattiyapong^{a,b}, Patrawut Saengnual^c, Attapon Kamlangdee^d, Win Surachetpong^{a,b,*}

Mortality of ten species after TiLV challenge

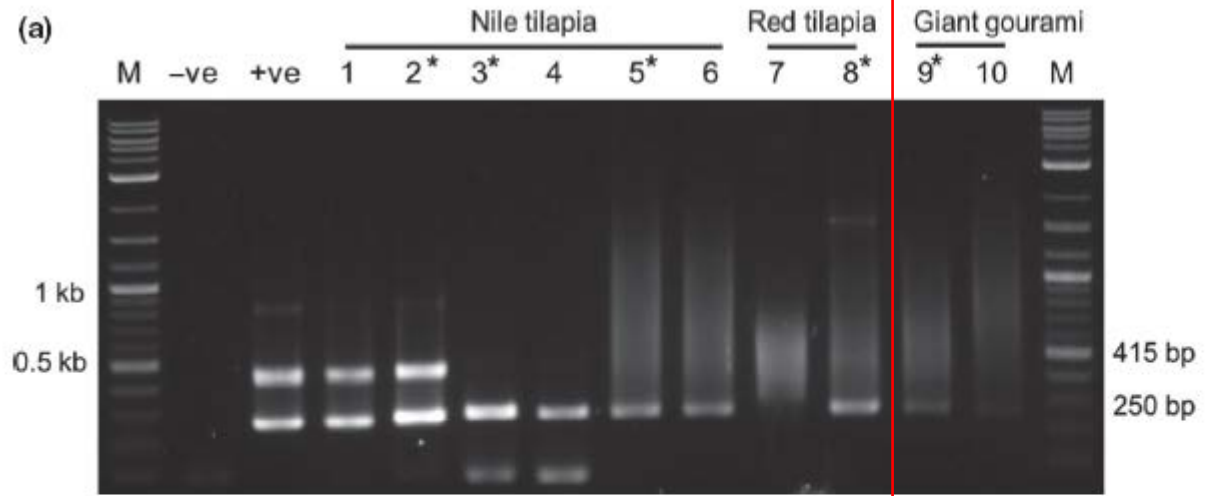


Syncytial cells in liver of giant gourami



In situ hybridization signal in the brain of infected giant gourami

TiLV was detected in blood samples of two cultured giant gourami



(b)

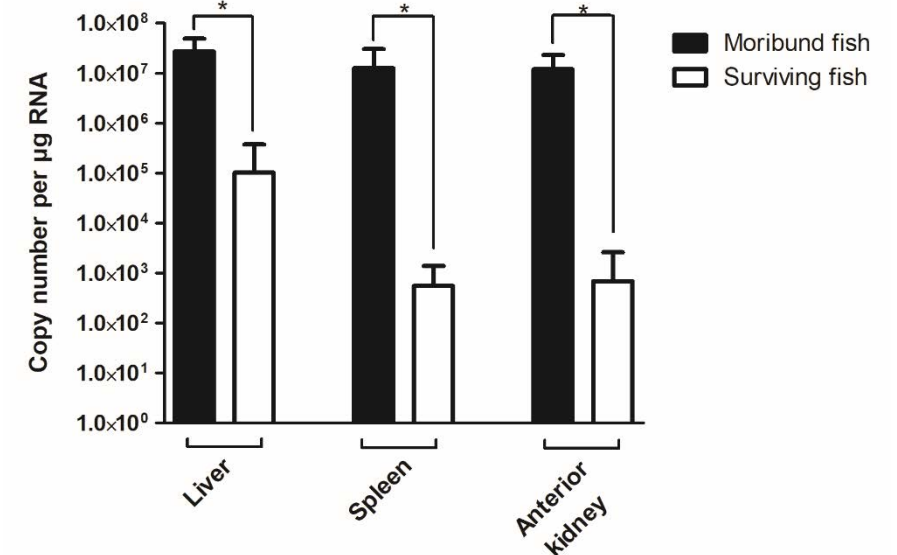
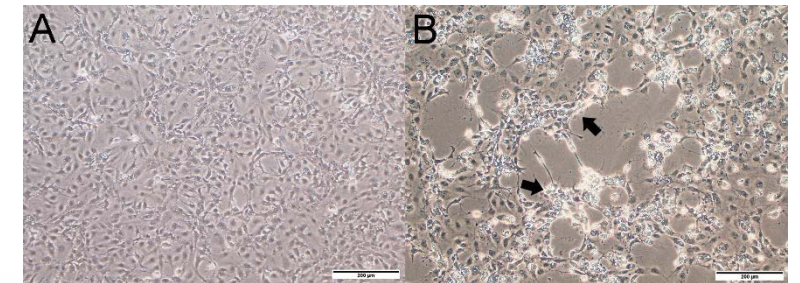
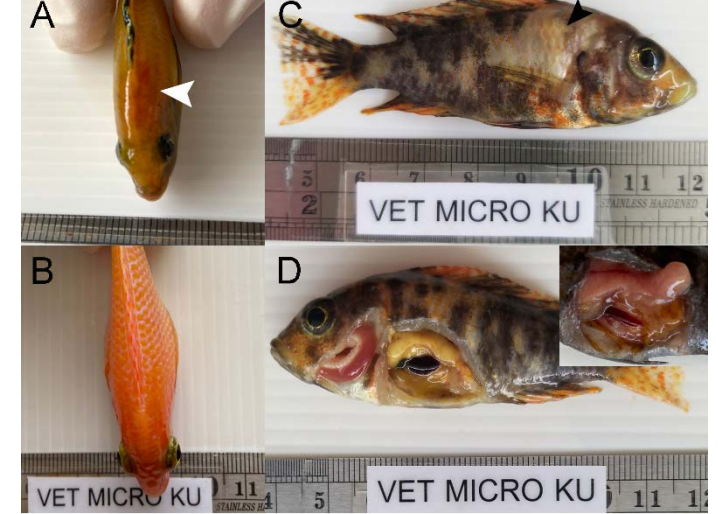
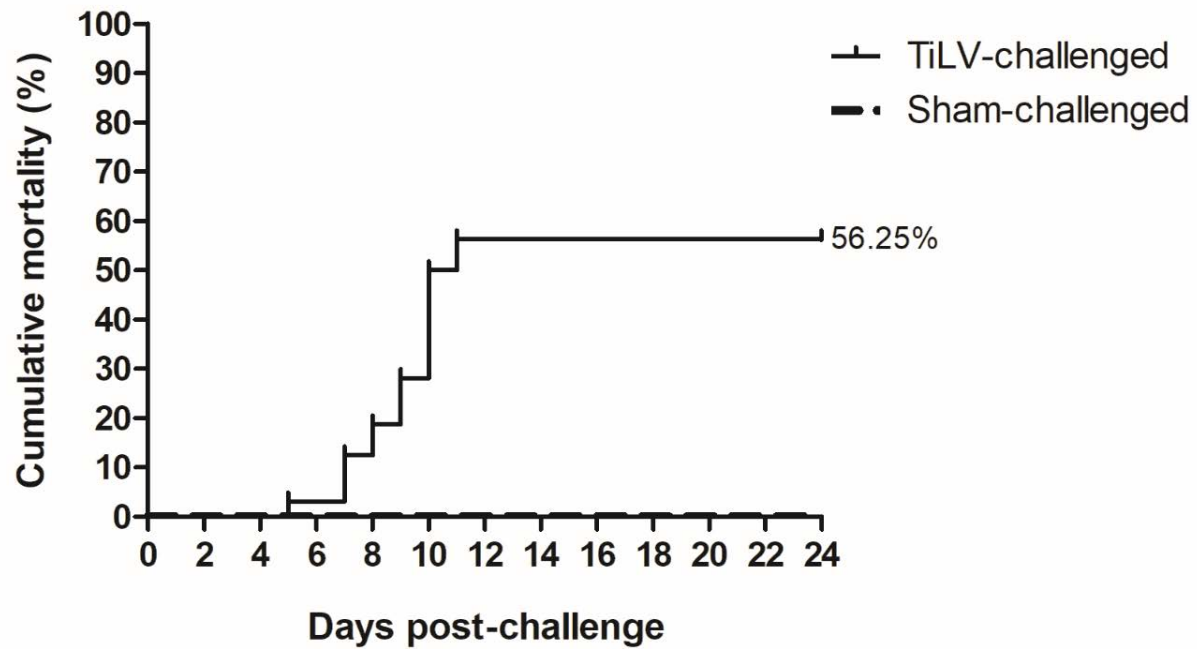
Samples	Origin	Amplicon selected for sequencing	% identity to the type strain Til-4-2001 (KU751816)
2*	Farm 1- batch 1	250 bp	97.2
3*	Farm 1- batch 2	250 bp	96.8
5*	Farm 1-batch 2	250 bp	98.0
8*	Farm 1- batch 3	250 bp	94.0
9*	Farm 1-batch 3	250 bp	97.6

FIGURE 3 A. Representative PCR detection results of liver samples collected from Nile tilapia and blood samples collected from red tilapia and giant gourami. M, marker (NEB); -ve, no template control; +ve, positive control using RNA extracted from TiLV-infected fish as template; 1-10, tested fish samples; * represents the samples that were sent for sequencing. B. Selected 250-bp amplicons (asterisks) were sequenced, and per cent identity to the type strain Til-4-2001 (KU751816) was indicated



TiLV can infect ornamental African cichlids

- High mortality, virus detected in tissues



Yamkasem et al., 2021 (under review)



Additional fish species susceptible to TiLV?

Turk. J. Fish. & Aquat. Sci. 21(4), 205-209
http://doi.org/10.4194/1303-2712-v21_4_05

PROOF
SHORT PAPER



- No virus isolation and histopathology

Detection of Tilapia Lake Virus (TiLV) in Healthy Fish from the Pre-Existing Disease Environment Using Different RT-PCR Methods

Patharapol Piamsomboon¹, Janenuj Wongtavatchai^{1,*}

Table 2. TiLV detection in wild Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*, n=29), Climbing perch (*Anabas testudineus*, n=12), snakeskin gourami (*Trichogaster pectoralis*, n=9) and farmed barramundi (*Lates calcalifer*, n=20)

Samples	TiLV RT-PCR result*
Collection Site 1	
Nile tilapia	2/5
Climbing perch	0/5
Collection Site 2	
Nile tilapia	5/5
Climbing perch	0/3
Snakeskin gourami	0/2
Collection Site 3	
Nile tilapia	0/6
Snakeskin gourami	0/4
Collection Site 4	
Nile tilapia	0/10
Collection Site 5	
Nile tilapia	0/3
Climbing perch	0/4
Snakeskin gourami	0/3
Farmed barramundi	2/20

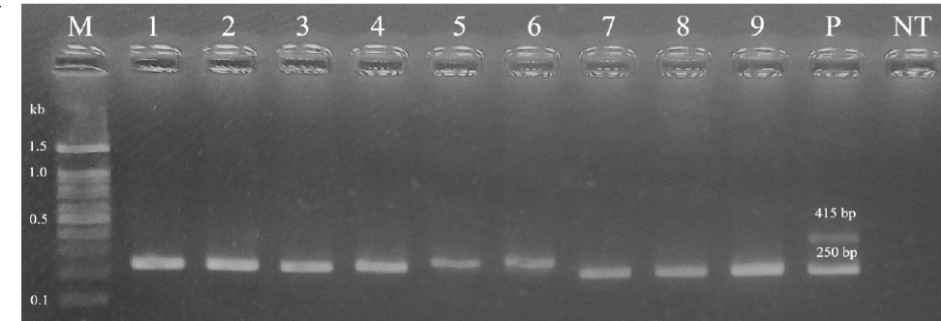



Figure 1. TiLV detection of samples obtained from Nile tilapia in the natural reservoir (Lane 1-7) and farmed barramundi (Lane 8 - 9) using semi-nested RT-PCR. M, 100 bp DNA ladder; NT, negative control; P, positive control.

First detection of tilapia lake virus (TiLV) in wild river carp (*Barbonymus schwanenfeldii*) at Timah Tasoh Lake, Malaysia

- No virus isolation and histopathology

Azila Abdullah¹  | Rimatulhana Ramly¹ | Mohammad Syafiq Mohammad Ridzwan¹ | Fahmi Sudirwan¹ | Adnan Abas² || Kamisa Ahmad¹ | Munira Murni¹ | Beng Chu Kua¹

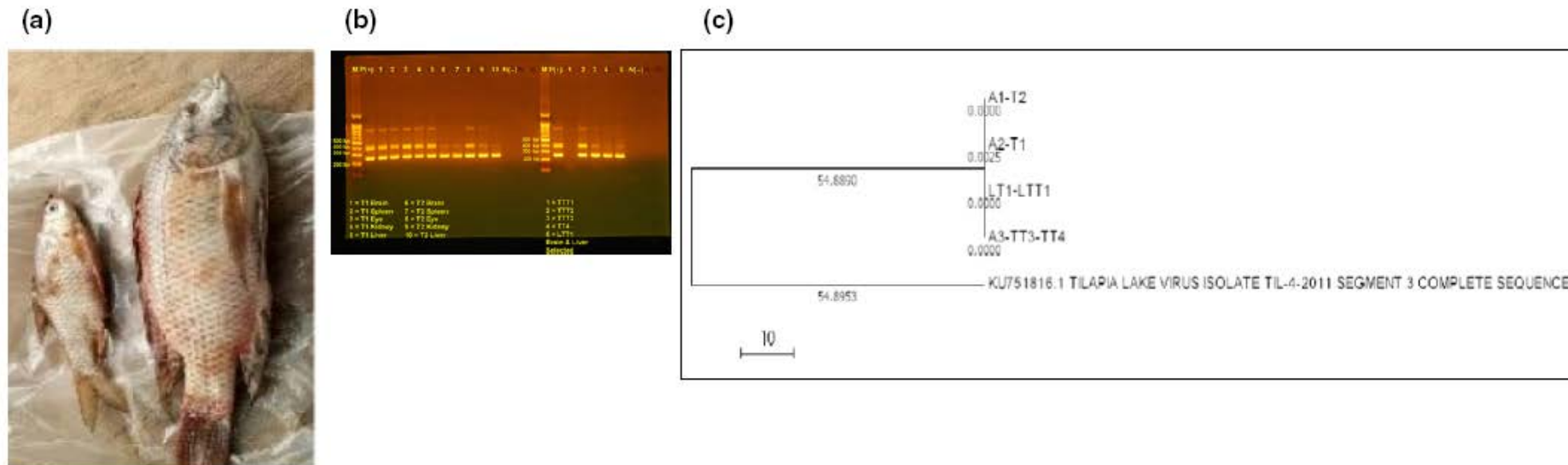


FIGURE 1 (a) Clinical signs observed in river carp (left) and wild tilapia (right) showing reddish discoloration of fins, body and scales. Photo courtesy: Perlis Biosecurity Division, Department of Fisheries Malaysia. (b) Gel electrophoresis–polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technique showed infected tilapia (TT) and river carps (LTT). N = negative control; M = DNA marker; P = positive control; 1 = TT1; 2 = TT2; 3 = TT3; 4 = TT4; 5 = LTT1. Photo courtesy (b): Lab-Ind. Resources Sdn. Bhd. (c) Phylogenetic tree showing similarity of the sequence from this study with Israel strain

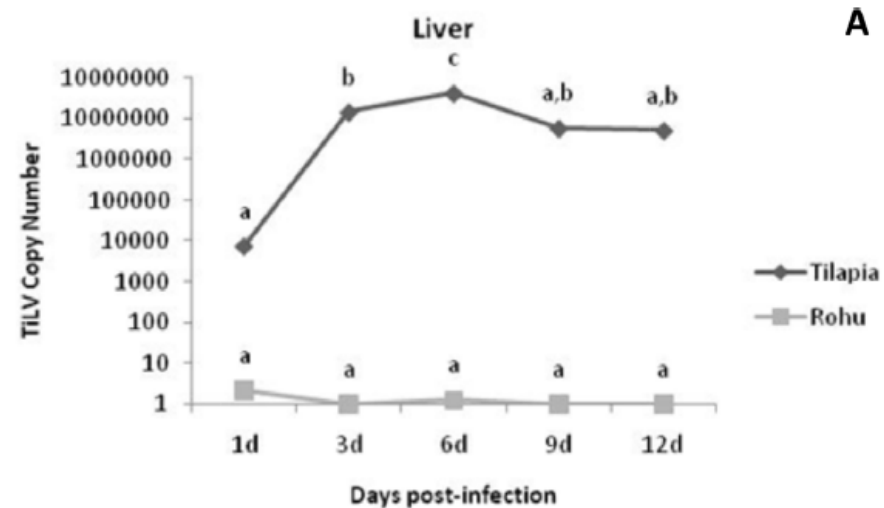
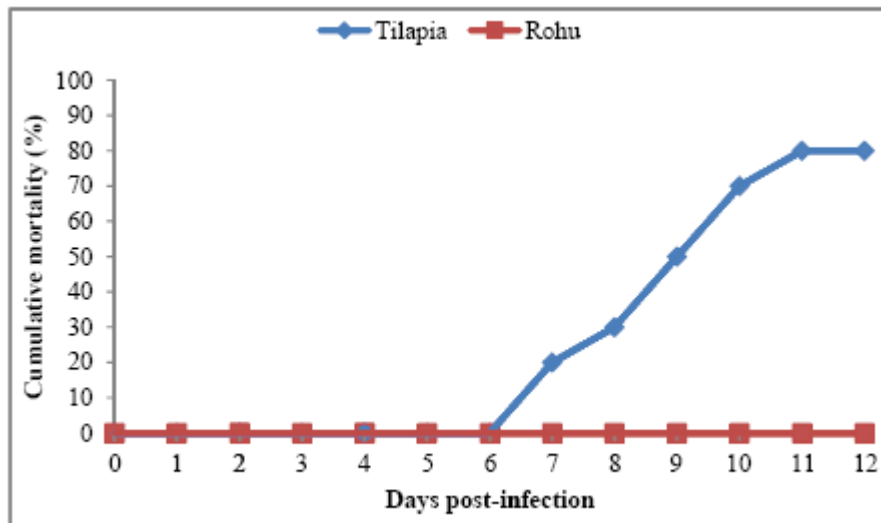


Susceptibility of Indian major carp *Labeo rohita* to tilapia lake virus

Pravata K. Pradhan^{a,*,1}, Anutosh Paria^{a,1}, Manoj K. Yadav^a, Dev K. Verma^a, Shubham Gupta^a, T.R. Swaminathan^b, Gaurav Rathore^a, Neeraj Sood^{a,**}, Kuldeep K. Lal^a



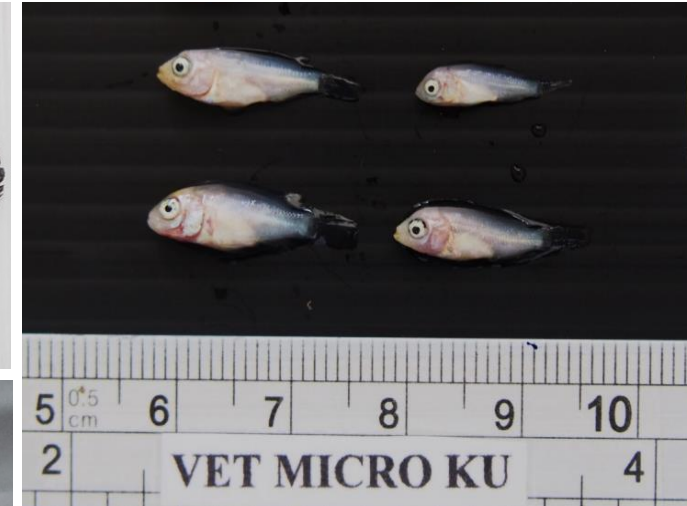
- No infection in Indian major carp





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All life stages are susceptible to TiLV





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Production-level risk factors for syncytial hepatitis in farmed tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus* L)






R M Kabuusu¹  | A T Aire² | D F Stroup³ | C N L Macpherson⁴ | H W Ferguson¹

TABLE 3 Linear regression model for severity of excess tilapia mortality associated with syncytial hepatitis viral infection as function of production factors

Excess mortality	Coefficient	SE	F test	p-Value
Stocking density	365.651	59.599	37.6400	<.000001
Initial weight	-258.106	84.566	9.3154	.002405
Temperature	-1,025.331	122.099	70.5191	<.000001
Dissolved oxygen	5,768.980	749.898	59.1825	<.000001
# of pond cycles	340.179	82.853	16.8578	.000048
CONSTANT	-41,152.417	3,456.541	141.7449	<.000001

Correlation coefficient: $r^2 = .24$; no confounding or interaction was established in both models.

- Chitralada strain had higher risk 
- Stocking density 
- Pond production cycles 
- Higher initial weight 



Minimize handling to reduce stress that predisposes to disease

Grading or stress factors

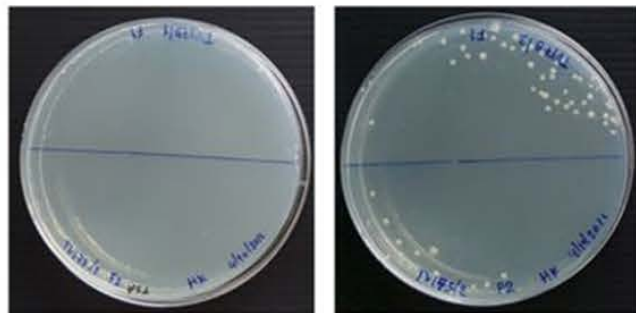
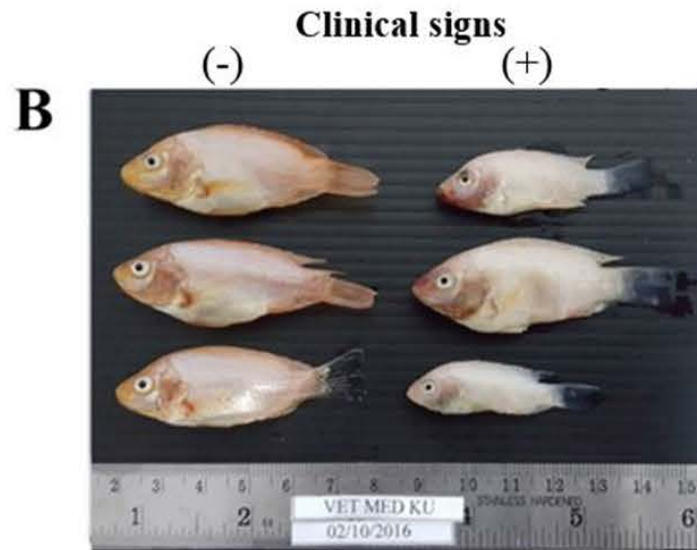
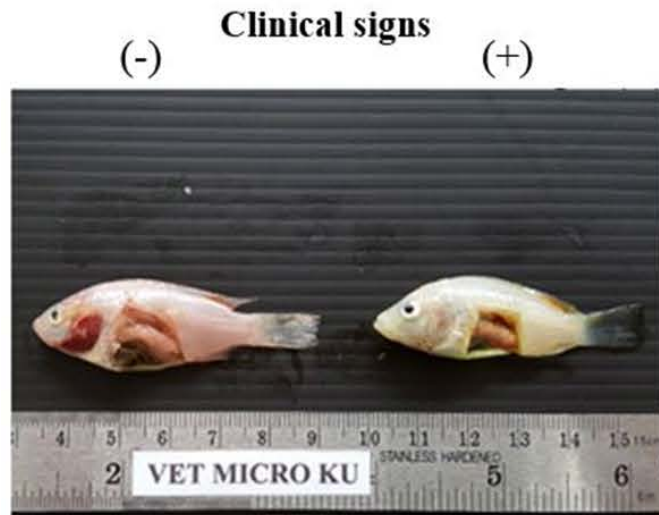
e.g. poor water quality, overcrowding

→ predispose fish to TiLV infection

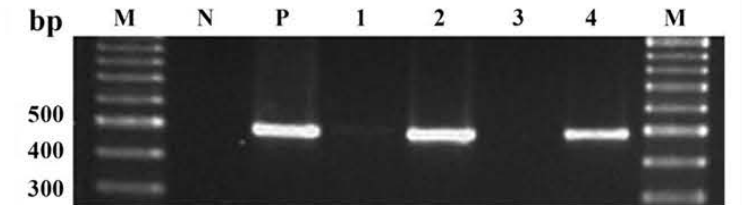




Co-infections of TiLV and bacteria worsen the clinical outcome



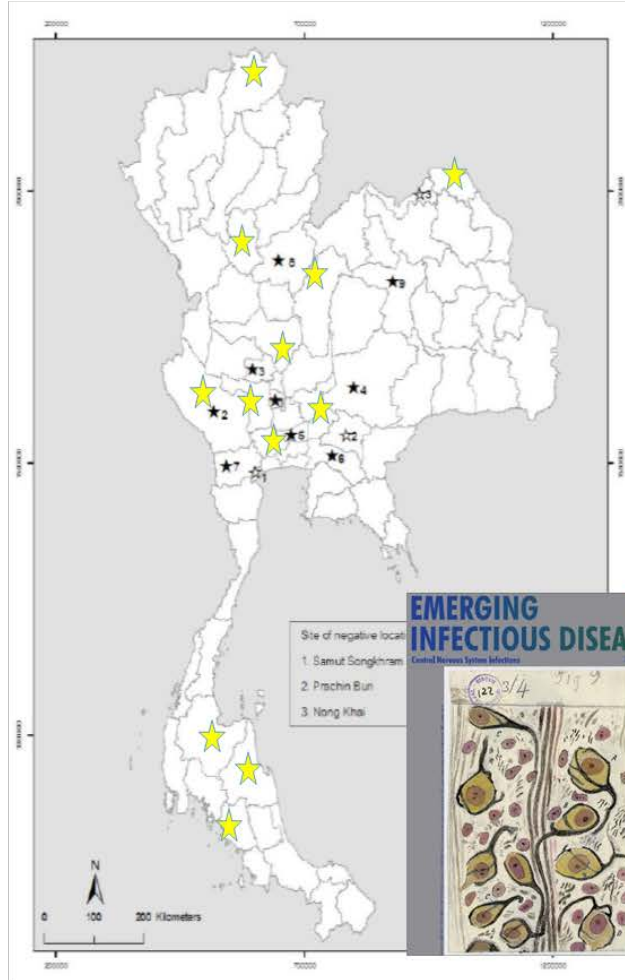
Bacteria and TiLV are frequently found in the moribund fish.



Nicholson et al., 2020 Aquaculture. 734746



Multiple infections of TiLV and other pathogens



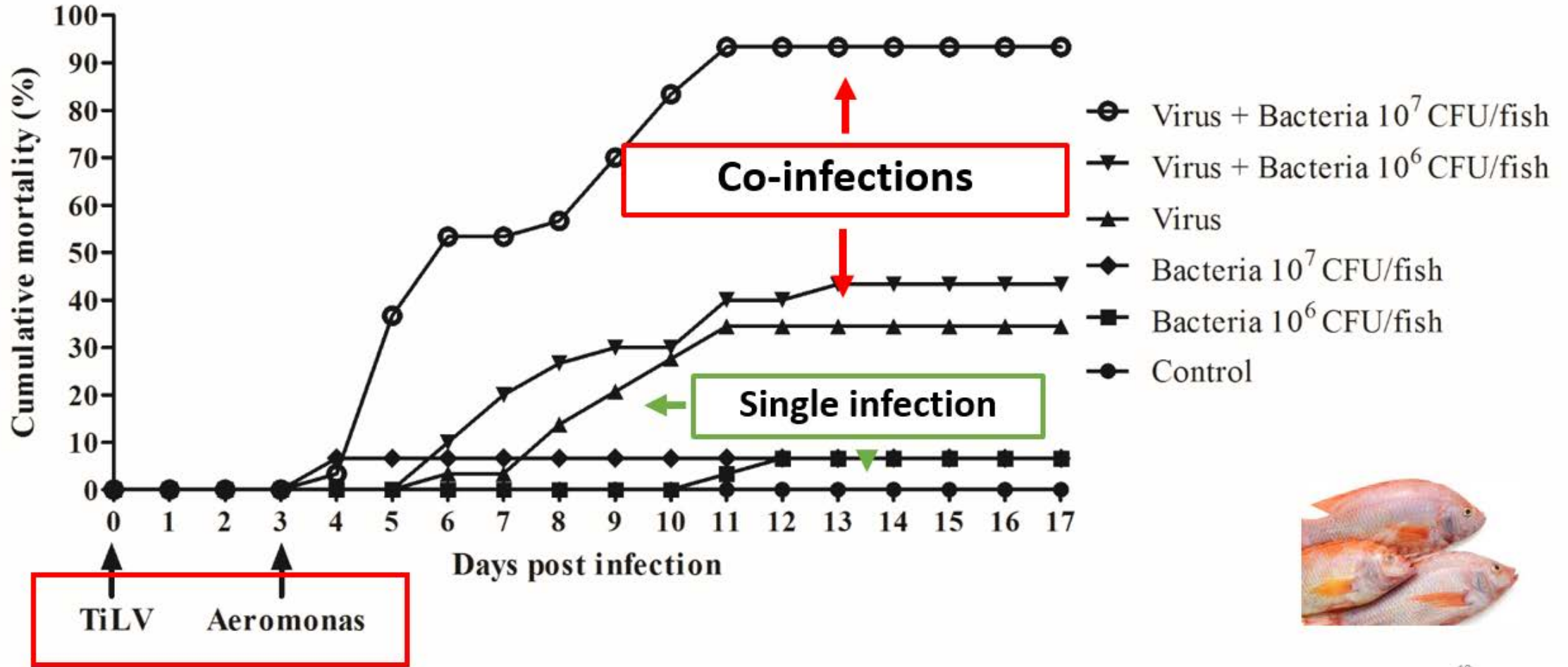
Technical Appendix Table 1. Description of TiLV outbreaks in Thailand*

Outbreak	Date	Location	Species	Ectoparasite†	Laboratory diagnosis	
					Bacteria identification‡	TiLV Identification§
1	15/10/2015	Ang Thong	RT	ND	ND	+
2	30/10/2015	Ang Thong	RT	ND	ND	+
3	11/11/2015	Ang Thong	RT	ND	ND	+
4	29/12/2015	Kanchanaburi	RT	ND	No growth	-
5	29/12/2015	Chai Nat	RT	ND	Flavobacterium	+
6	29/12/2015	Kanchanaburi	RT	ND	Flavobacterium, Aeromonas	+ (TV2)
7	29/12/2015	Chai Nat	RT	ND	Flavobacterium	-
8	05/01/2016	Nakhon Ratchasima	RT	1+	Flavobacterium	+ (TV3)
9	05/01/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	ND	No growth	+
10	15/01/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	2+	Aeromonas	+
11	15/01/2016	Chachoengsao	T	3+	Aeromonas	+ (TV4)
12	15/01/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	ND	ND	-
13	19/01/2016	Ratchaburi	RT	1+	Aeromonas	+ (TV5)
14	04/02/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	0	Aeromonas	+
15	05/02/2016	Kanchanaburi	RT	ND	Aeromonas	+
16	09/02/2016	Kanchanaburi	RT	1+	Aeromonas	+
17	16/02/2016	Samut Songkhram	RT	2+	ND	-
18	16/02/2016	Samut Songkhram	RT	3+	Aeromonas	+
19	18/02/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	3+	Aeromonas	-
20	26/02/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	2+	Flavobacterium, Aeromonas	+ (TV1)¶
21	27/02/2016	Samut Songkhram	RT	1+	No growth	+
22	30/03/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	ND	Aeromonas	+
23	28/04/2016	Nakhon Ratchasima	RT	ND	ND	+
24	28/04/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	ND	ND	+
25	06/05/2016	Pathum Thani	RT	2+	Aeromonas	+
26	06/05/2016	Prachin buri	T	0	Streptococcus	-
27	10/05/2016	Pathum Thani	T	1+	ND	-
28	13/05/2016	Nong Khai	T	3+	ND	-
29	20/05/2016	Phitsanulok	RT	0	Aeromonas	+ (TV6)
30	20/05/2016	Phitsanulok	T	0	Streptococcus, Aeromonas	-
31	23/05/2016	Chai Nat	RT	0	Aeromonas	-
32	24/05/2016	Khon Kaen	T	2+	Aeromonas	+ (TV7)

*Outbreaks of massive tilapia death were investigated in 9 provinces during Oct 2015 to May 2016. Epidemiologic information and laboratory findings were shown.



Co-infections of TiLV and bacteria worsen the clinical outcome





Environment :

- Season and climate
- Contacts, locations



Permissive temperature for TiLV

- Normal temperature for tilapia aquaculture **24-28°C**
- In Israel, outbreak occurs during **hot season** (May to October) Eyngor et al., 2014
- TiLV associated with "**Summer mortality**" in Egypt
- In Thailand, the disease could be found throughout the year



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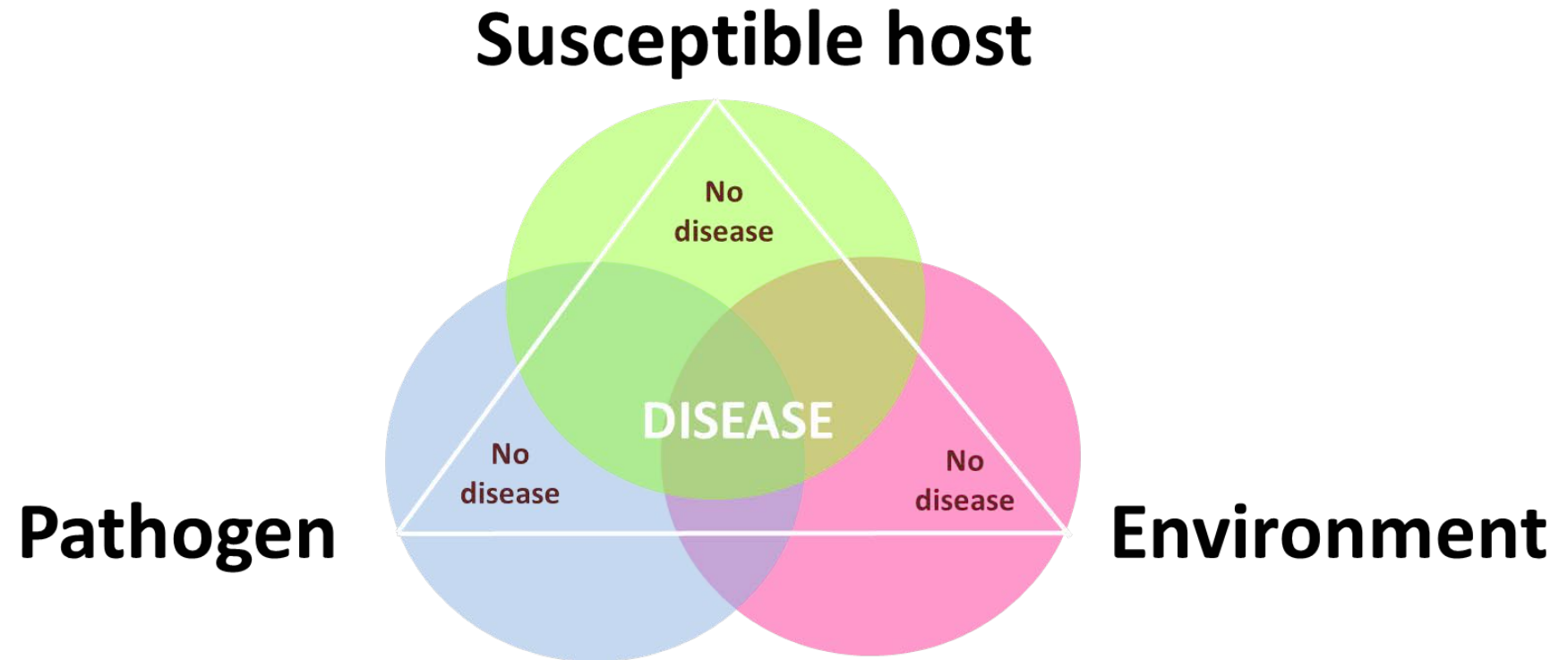
Permissive temperature for TiLV

TiLV-affected countries	Mortality impact	Onset of mortality	Susceptible life stages (weight in grams)	Susceptible temperature (Celsius scale)	References
Israel	Mass mortality	N/A	N/A	22-32°C	Eyngor et al. (2014)
Ecuador	>80%	4-7 days post-transfer from hatchery to a farm facility	3 g	25-27°C	Ferguson et al. (2014)
	90%	N/A	3 g	N/A	Del-Pozo et al. (2017)
Egypt	5%-15%	N/A	>100 g	>25°C	Fathi et al., (2017)
Thailand	20%-90%	Peak in 14 days	1-50g	N/A	Surachetpong et al., (2017)
	20%-90%	N/A	Fertilized egg, yolk sac larvae, fries, and fingerlings	N/A	Dong, Ataguba, et al. (2017))
Philippines	33.79%	N/A	Fingerlings	N/A	OIE (2017a)
Chinese Taipei	6.40%	N/A	N/A	N/A	OIE (2017b)
Malaysia	0.7%-15%	N/A	N/A	N/A	OIE (2017c)
	25%	Peak in 5-9 days after the first death	7-20 g	N/A	Amal et al. (2018)
India	80%-90%	N/A	20-80 g	N/A	Behera et al. (2018)
Mexico	0%-2.71%	N/A	N/A	N/A	OIE (2018)
Peru	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	OIE (2018c)
	Low mortality	N/A	Fingerlings < 2g, 80 g	N/A	Pulido et al. (2019)



Impact of environment and farm locations

The disease triangle



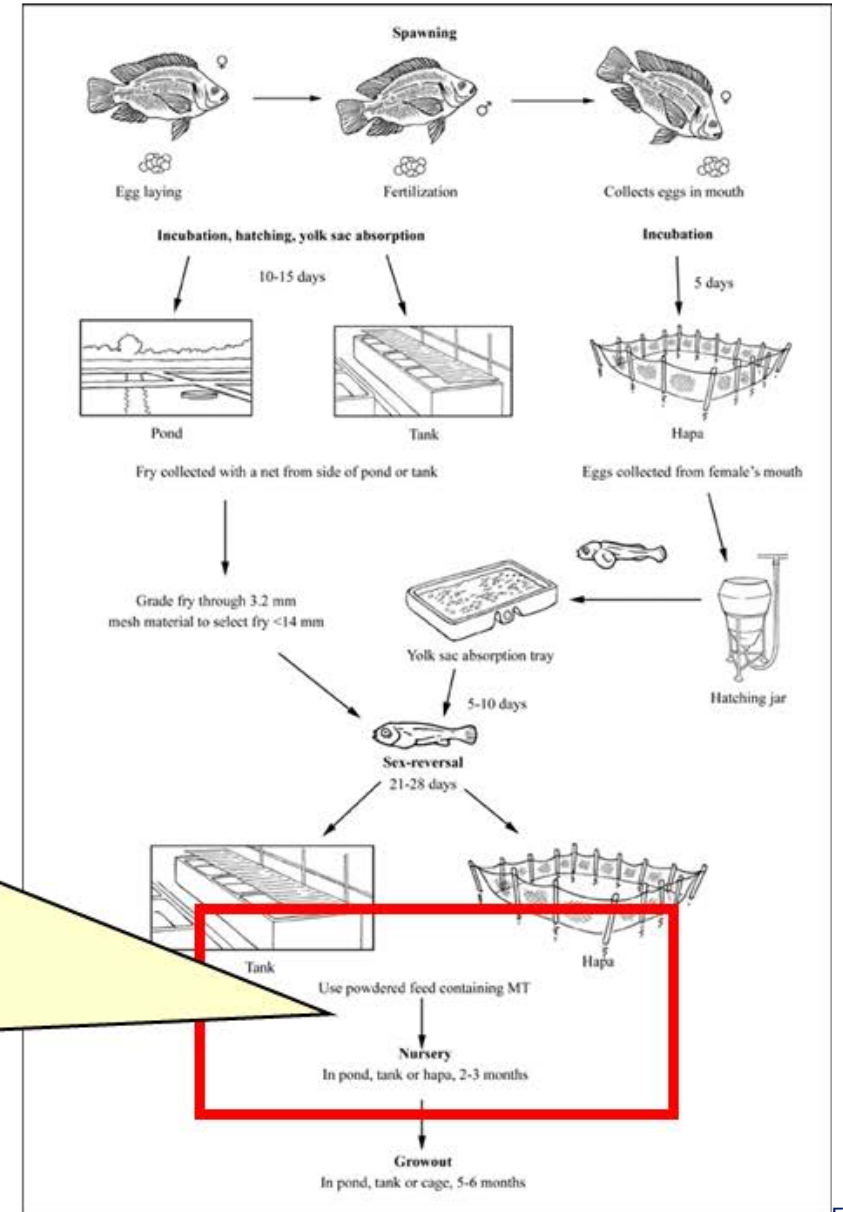


Critical control points

Tilapia production cycle
Fish transfer to grow out pond

Nursery
(in ponds, tanks, hapas)
2-3 months

Growout
(in ponds, tanks, cages)
5-6 months





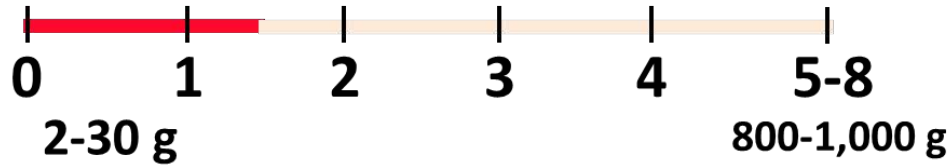
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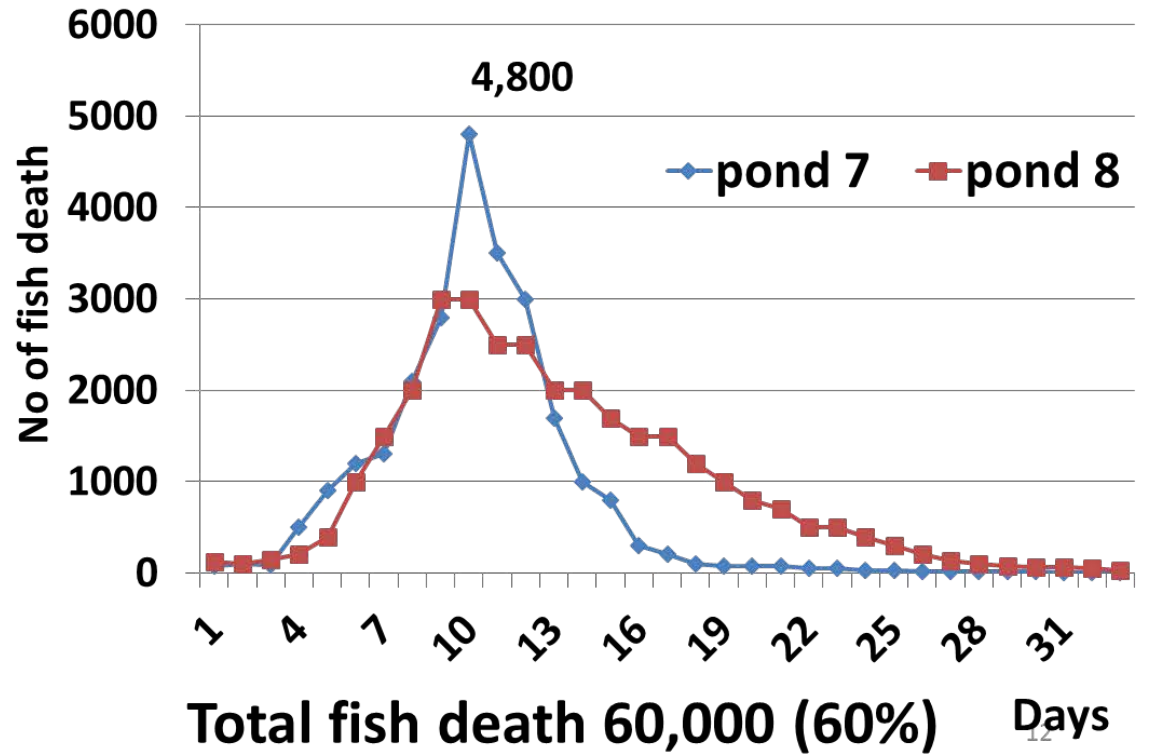


Tilapia One Month Mortality Syndrome (TOMMS)

Months in cage/pond culture



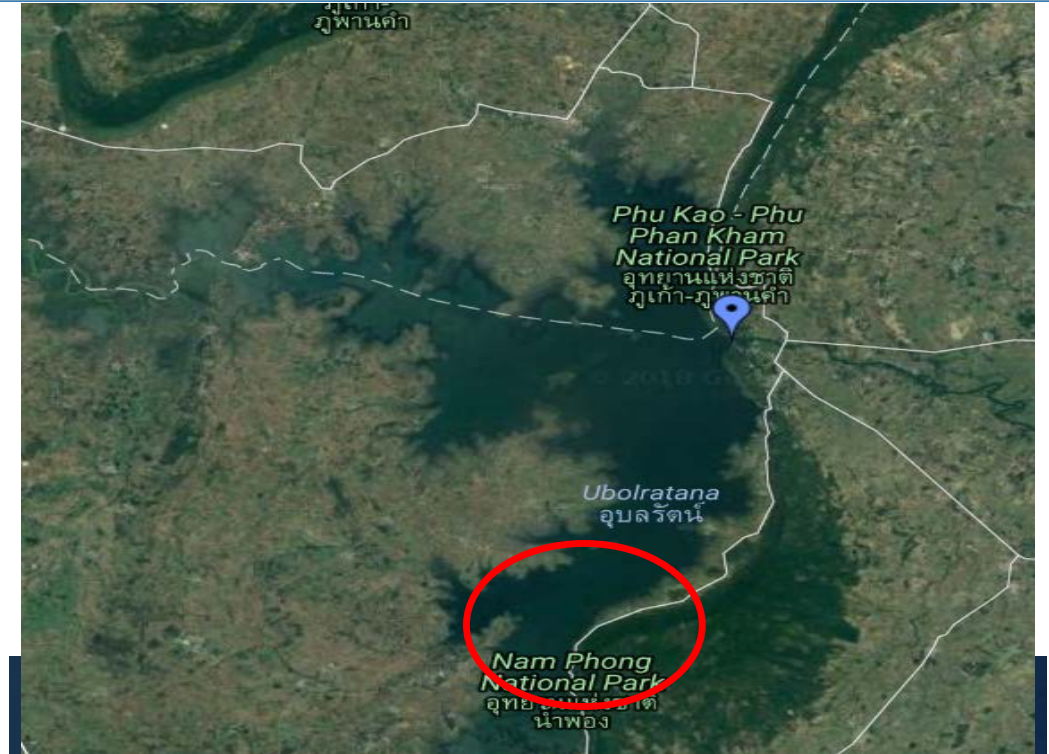
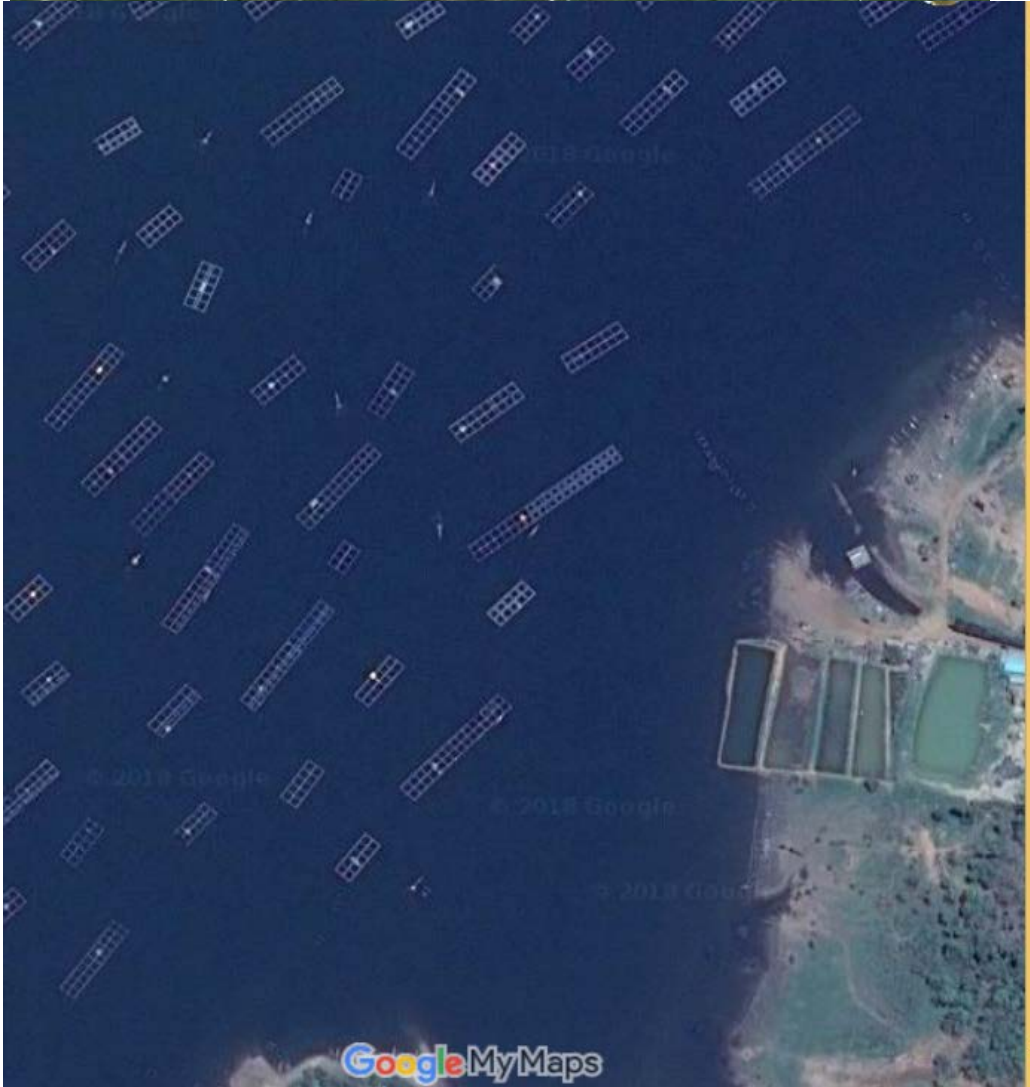
Pattern of fish death



Important of farms location and disease spreading



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Stocking fish at different ages/size



Disease circulation in the farm/environment



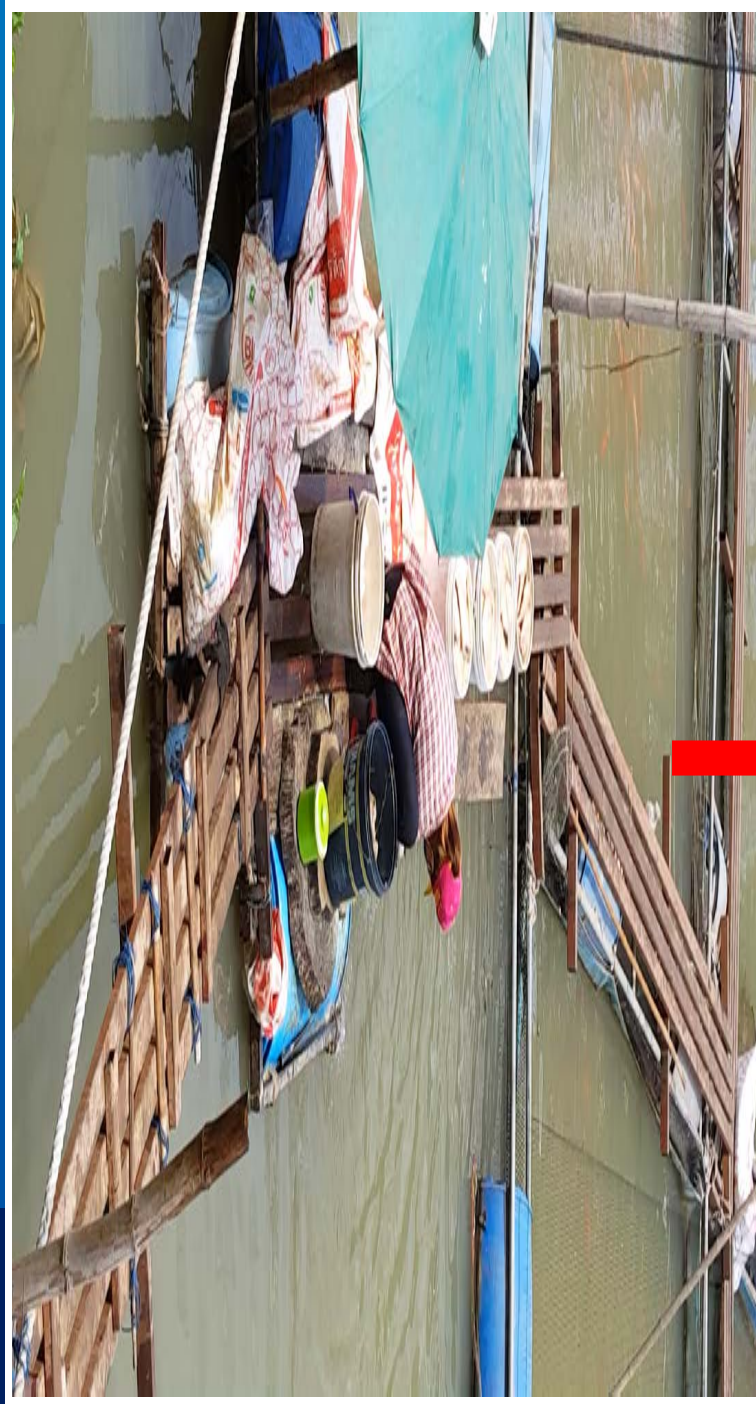
Farm with good biosecurity is less likely to have TiLV



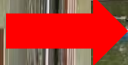
Farm with clear boundary

Surrounding wall





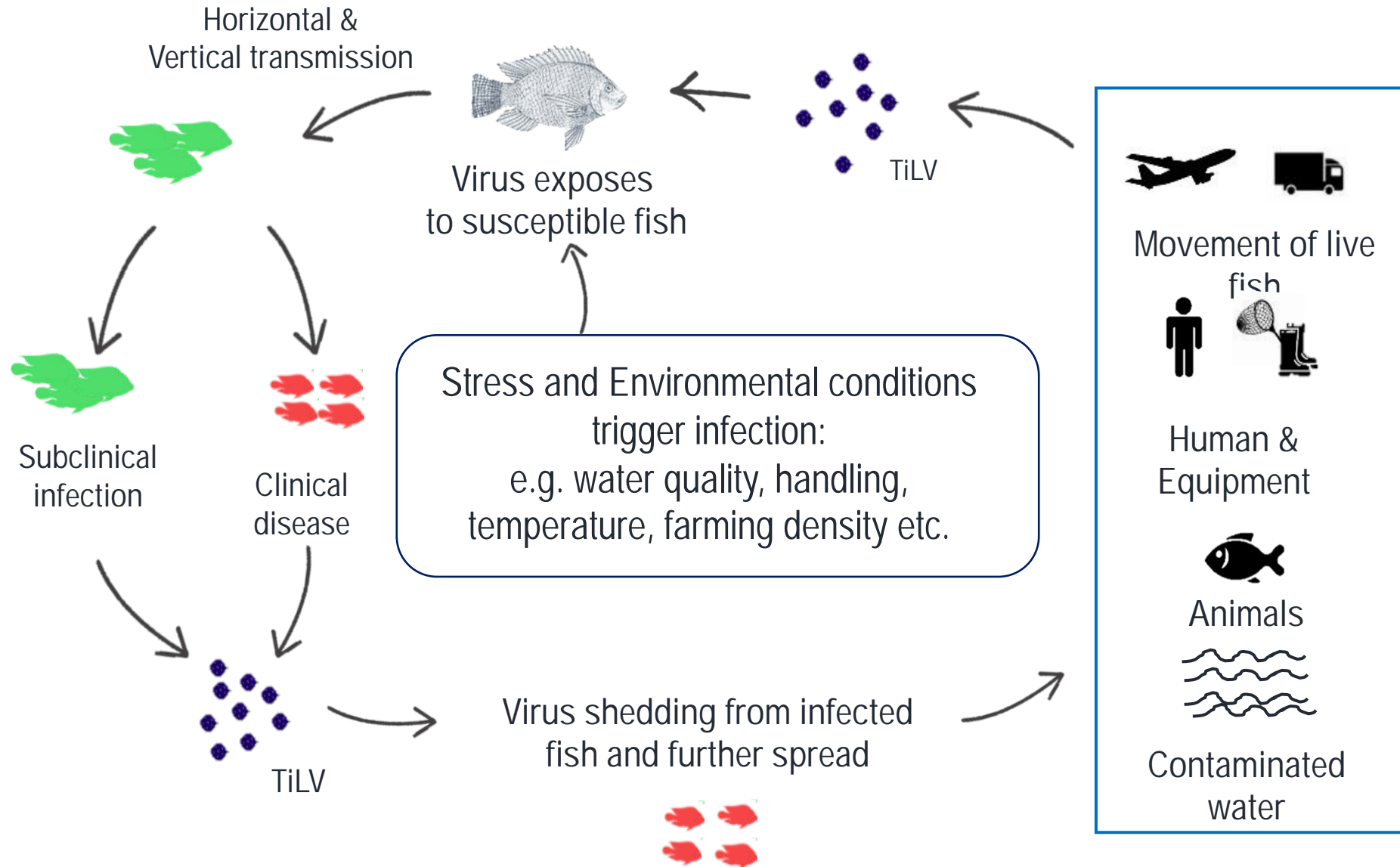
Important of Biosecurity



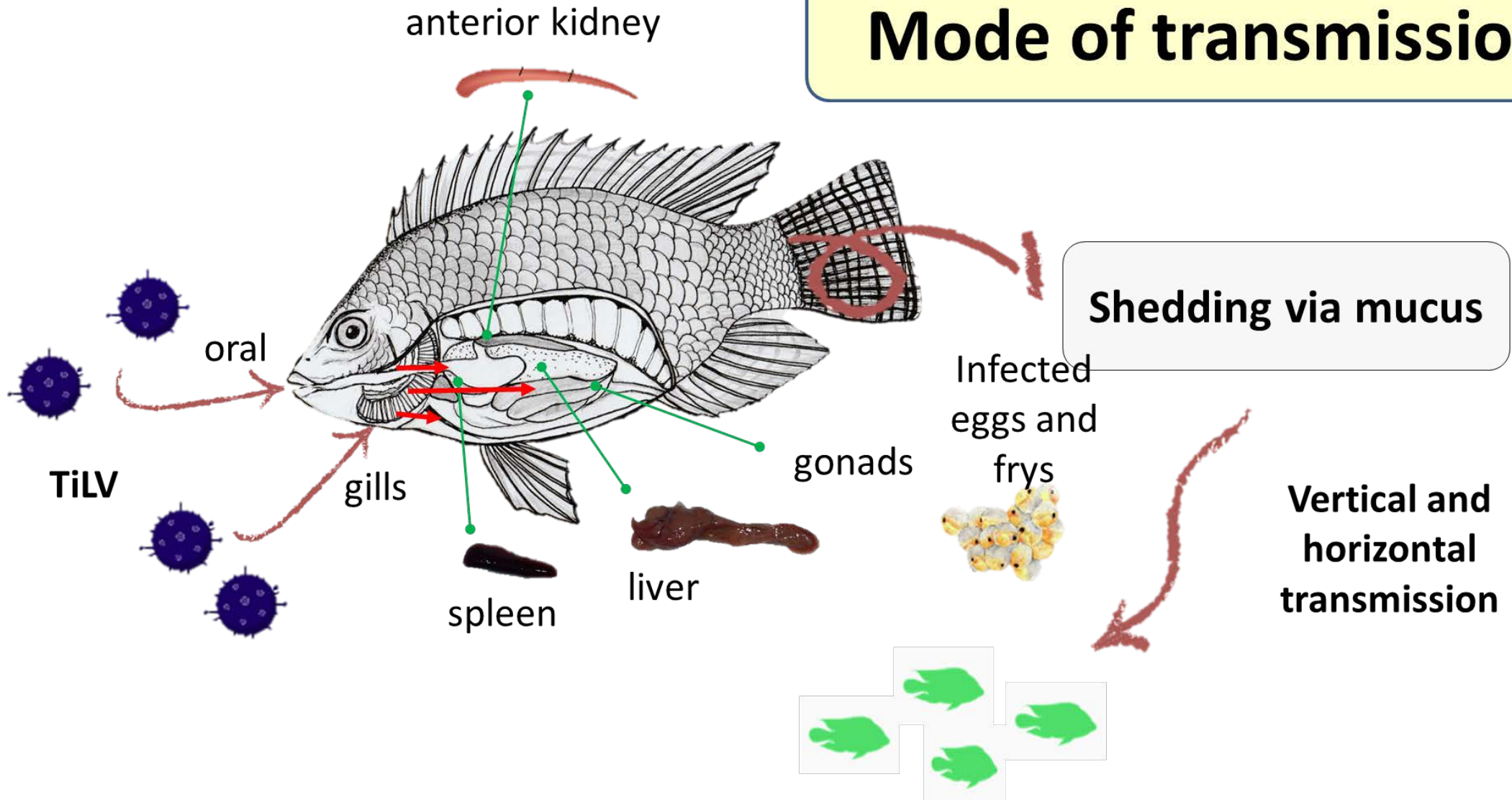


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TiLV distribution and risk of disease introduction in fish farms



Mode of transmission





How quickly the farmers manage moribund/dead fish





Transmission by vectors or carriers?



No detection of TiLV in
fish parasite and mollusk
(manuscript in preparation)

Spread the virus?



Agent (TiLV):

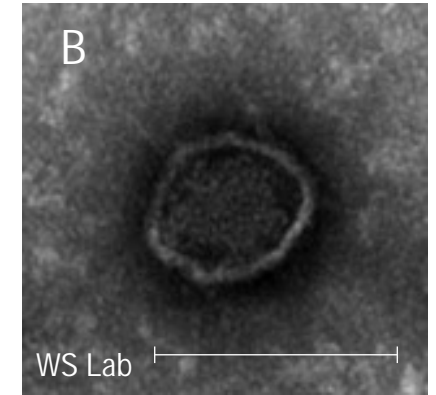
- Virulence
- Survivability



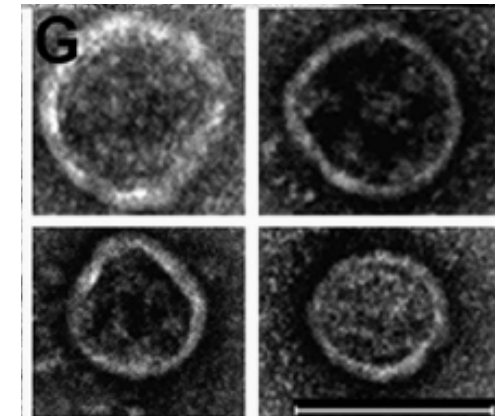
Sequence comparison between Thai and Israel TiLV

Isael	TTGCTCTGAGCAAGAGTACCAGCAGATTTGTAAGGTACAATTCAAGGATTATTT GG GAGAT	60
Thailand	TTGCTCTGAGCAAGAGTACCAGCAGATTTGTAAGGTACAATTCAAGGATTATTT AG GAGAT *****	
Isael	CGACGGGGTTGTTAAAGTTGGGCACAAGGCATCCTACGATGCTGAGCTAAGGGAACGGCT	120
Thailand	CGACGGGGTTGTTAAAGTTGGGCACAAGGCATCCTACGATGCTGAGCTAAGGGAACGGCT *****	
Isael	ATTGGAACTACCACATCCAAAGAGTGGCCCGAAGCCTCGTAT T GAGTGGGTGGCACCACC	180
Thailand	ATTGGAACTACCACATCCAAAGAGTGGCCCGAAGCCTCGTAT C GAGTGGGTGGCACCACC *****	
Isael	CAGACTTGCGGACATATCCAAGGA A ACAGCTGAGCTAAAGAGGCAATATGGATTCTTCGA	240
Thailand	CAGACTTGCGGACATATCCAAGGA G ACAGCTGAGCTAAAGAGGCAATATGGATTCTTCGA *****	
Isael	GTGCTCAAAGTTCCTCGCCTGCGGTGAGGAGTGTGGTCTTGACCAAGAGGCAAGAGA A ACT	300
Thailand	GTGCTCAAAGTTCCTCGCCTGCGGTGAGGAGTGTGGTCTTGACCAAGAGGCAAGAGAG G CT *****	
Isael	TATACT G AACGAGTACGCACGTGATAGAGAATTTGAGTTCGCAAT T GGAGGGTGGATAACA	360
Thailand	TATACT A AACGAGTACGCACGTGATAGAGAATTTGAGTTCGCAAT C GGAGGGTGGATAACA *****	
Isael	AAGGTATACAGTTGCTT C T C ACAAGCCTGCTACACAGAAGATATTACCTCTACCGGCTAG	420
Thailand	GAGGTATACAGTTGCTT C C A TAAGCCTGCTACACAGAAGATATTACCTCTACCGGCTAG *****	
Isael	TGCT C CACTTGCTCGTGAGCTTTTGATGTTGATTGCTAGAAAGCACA A ACTCAGGCAGGGAA	480
Thailand	TG C CCCACTTGCTCGTGAGCTTTTGATGTTGATTGCTAGAAAGCACA A ACTCAGGCAGGGAA *** *****	
Isael	AGTACTGCATA	
Thailand	AGTAC G GCATA *****	

98% identity



Thai isolate



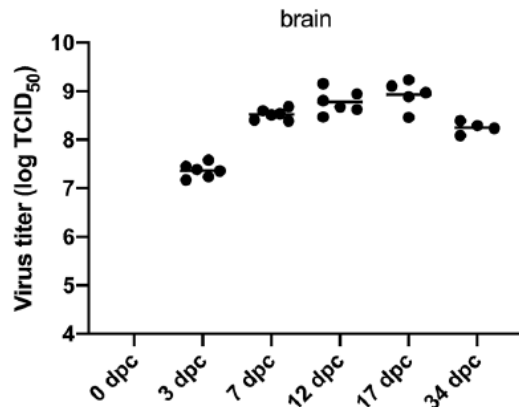
Israel isolate



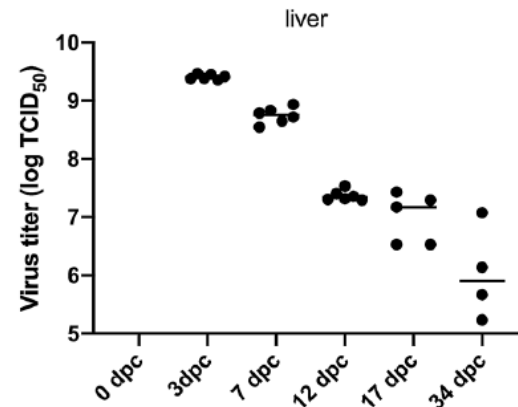
Persistence of TiLV in fish and survival in environment



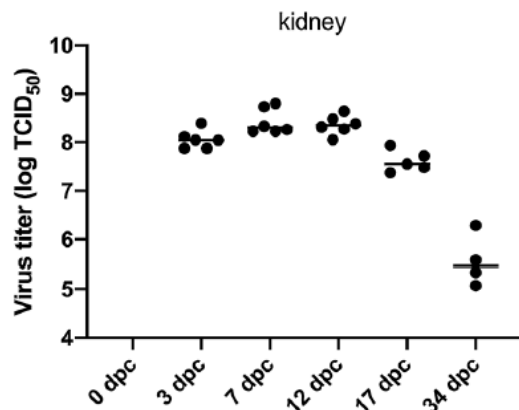
TiLV persists in multiple organs of challenged fish until 34 days



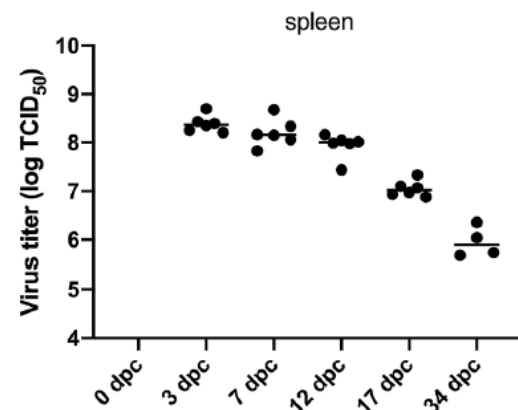
(a)



(b)

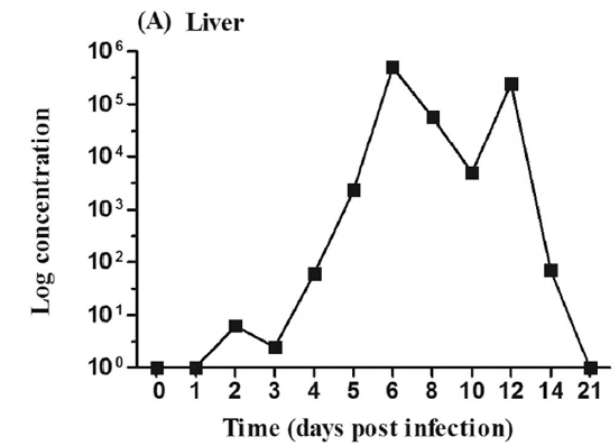
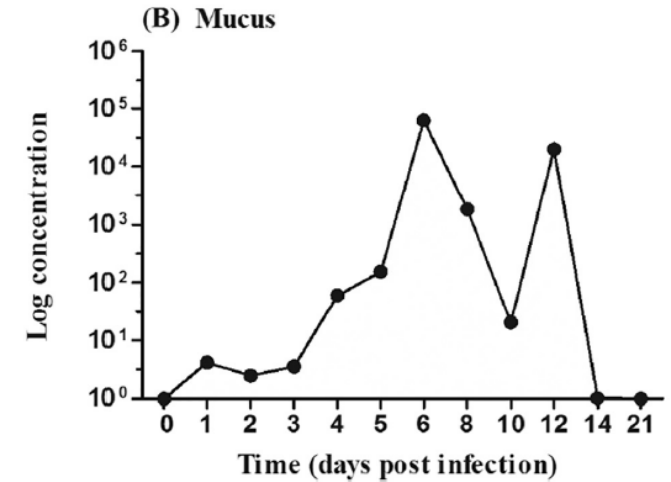


(c)



(d)

TiLV could be detected in mucus of cohabitation fish until 12 days





TiLV is detected in faeces and water of TiLV challenge fish/tank.

TABLE 2 Quantification of tilapia lake virus in faeces and water of intragastric and intracoelomic injection-exposed fish 10 days post-infection

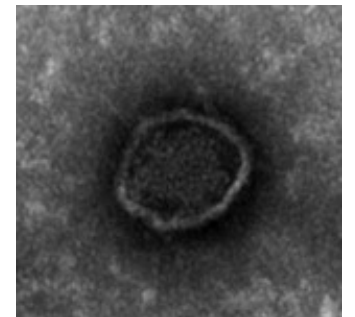
Sample ID	Status	Cycle threshold	LOG _{GE} /1 ng RNA
Faeces IC _{ch} 7	Moribund	20.18	5.71
Faeces IC _{ch} 8	Survivor	23.76	4.72
Faeces IC _{ch} 9	Survivor	19.96	5.77
Faeces IC _{ch} 10	Survivor	19.90	5.78
Faeces IG _{ch} 4	Dead	25.98	4.11
Faeces IG _{ch} 5	Survivor	22.77	4.99
Faeces IG _{ch} 6	Survivor	ND	ND
Faeces IG _{ch} 7	Survivor	22.39	5.10
Faeces IG _{ch} 8	Survivor	29.84	3.05
Faeces IG _{ch} 9	Survivor	31.40	2.62
Faeces IG _{ch} 10	Survivor	ND	ND
Water IC _{ch}	NA	31.95	2.30
Water IG _{ch}	NA	32.56	2.47
Water IC _{con}	NA	ND	ND
Water IG _{con}	NA	ND	ND

Abbreviations: IC_{ch}, intracoelomic challenge; IC_{con}, intracoelomic control; IG_{ch}, intragastric challenge; IG_{con}, intragastric control; NA, not applicable; ND, no fluorescence detection.



Conclusion

- **TiLV risk profile**
- **Host:** Susceptible species, life stage
- **Environment:** Stress, temperature and factors that affect the disease progression
- **Agent:** Virulence and Persistence in fish and environment





Food and Agriculture
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Thank you for your attention!

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Norad

TCP/INT/3707:
Strengthening biosecurity
(policy and farm level) governance
to deal with Tilapia lake virus