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An investigation of Cymothoid Isopod invasion in Lake Qarun Fishes with preliminary trial for biological control

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Abstract : Lake Qarun, Egypt was subjected to the problem of isopod infestation with the beginning of year 2015. the problem was gradually propagated reaching a catastrophic invasion causing fish mass loss, great marketing problem and decline of fish stock that consequently lead to economic losses in addition to the great impact on fishermen livelihood working in this area. Treatment and control of crustacean parasites is a complicated process especially isopods and using chemical therapeutics is not applicable when the infestation being as epidemic and in large water basin as in lake Qarun. The present work was to continue our previous investigation of the isopod invasion problem in lake Qarun, and also to estimate the possibility of using marine crabs as a biological agent to control cymothoid isopods through preliminary laboratory trial.

Key words : Lake Qarun, Fish, Cymothoid, Isopods, Biological Control.

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