

Original Research Article

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## The Relationship of Gonadosomatic Index and Hepatosomatic Index in Two Different Age Groups of Common Carp

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

Age, Common carp,  
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#### Article Info

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In the present study, the Gonadosomatic index and Hepatosomatic index of common carp (*Cyprinus carpio* var. *communis*) broodstock was evaluated. Both sexes of two different age groups (virgin and 1+ year) were selected for the study. It was observed that all the physico-chemical conditions were optimum. The GSI and HSI values were maximum during March which is supposed to be the spawning season of common carp in India. It was also reported that GSI and HSI had a significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) inverse relationship. So, present study shows that both GSI and HSI can be used as an indicator of maturity and spawning season of common carp.

### Introduction

Fish is a vital source of protein as well as micronutrients, and enhances the quality of protein in largely starch-based and vegetable diets by providing essential amino acids (FAO, 2006). Study and understanding of fish reproductive biology is a very important aspect to understand its management as well as to increase the commercial aquaculture production (Brewer *et al.*, 2008; Grandcourt *et al.*, 2009; Muchlisin *et al.*, 2010). Reproduction in most teleost fishes in general is a seasonal phenomenon and is limited to a relatively brief longevity (Meijide *et al.*,

2005; Gopurappilly *et al.*, 2013). Spawning in fish occurs during a particular stage of the reproductive cycle. Fish can spawn once or multiple times annually and the determination of spawning can be identified by Gonadosomatic index (GSI) and Hepatosomatic index (HSI) (Jackson *et al.*, 2006; Alonso *et al.*, 2009; Tubert *et al.*, 2012).

The GSI is used to detect hydrated ovaries in females as well as testis in males and therefore it helps in detection of the reproductive period from weight increase (Hunter and Macewicz, 2001). High value of

GSI is an indicative of mature stage of gonads i.e; ovary and testis in the fish. The mature ova/ egg are round and heavily laden with yolk (Misra and Saksena, 2012) and due to this reason hepatosomatic index (HSI) is usually used as an indicator of energy reserves in the liver HSI is related with GSI because of vitelogenesis process that synthesizes vitelogenin and in fish, vitelogenin is yolk precursor that synthesized in liver (Cerda *et al.*, 1996). As earlier so many studies were conducted on relation of GSI and HSI, in present study authors aimed to establish the relationship of GSI and HSI in common carp, being the third most widely cultivated freshwater fish of two different age groups (FAO, 2013).

### Materials and Methods

The experimental fishes were collected from Instructional Fish Farm of College of Fisheries, Govind Ballabh Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand, India. Water quality analysis was also done of the respective pond. Sample of 10 (5 males and 5 females) of *Cyprinus carpio* var.*communis* of two different age groups. Length and weight measurements were done and specimens were sacrificed in the laboratory for both male and female gonads and liver collection.

Gonadosomatic index (GSI) of the male and female fishes was determined separately.

$$\text{GSI} = \frac{\text{Weight of gonads (g)}}{\text{body weight of fish (g)}} \times 100$$

(Parmeswaran *et al.*, 1974).

Hepatosomatic index (HSI) was calculated as the ratio between liver weight and body weight in grams.

$$\text{HSI} = \frac{\text{Weight of the liver (g)}}{\text{Weight of the fish (g)}} \times 100$$

(Parmeswaran *et al.*, 1974).

### Results and Discussion

The basic objective of the study epitomizes the effect of age on GSI as well as HSI of common carp (*Cyprinus carpio* var. *communis*) and also the relation between GSI and HSI. The physic-chemical parameters like temperature, dissolved oxygen and pH were in optimum range as given in table 1.

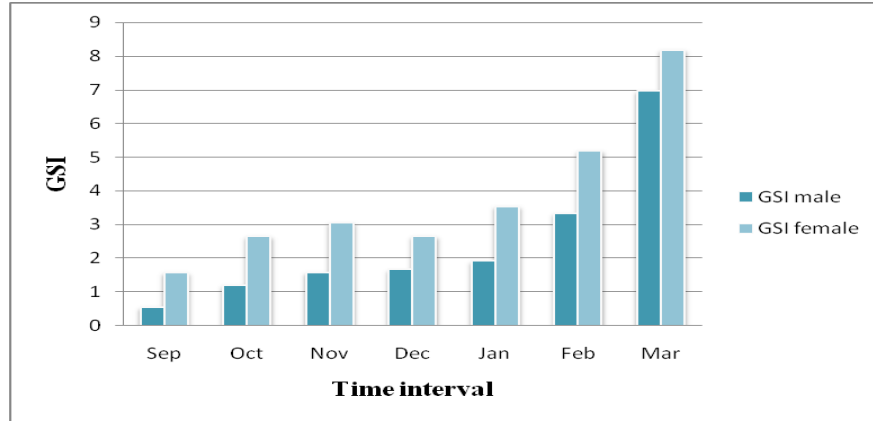
In fig. 1it is shown that in virgin group GSI (%) rises continuously in males from September (0.54±0.18) to March (6.96±1.09). And in females a steady increase from September (1.57±0.29) to March (8.18±1.32) was observed. In 1+ year group, the female GSI ranged from 2.81±0.65% December (min.) to 9.81±1.32 % March (max.)similarly, in males it was observed that GSI (%) ranges between 3.58±0.31 to 7.20±1.17, maximum in March during spawning period as presented in fig. 2. There was a significant difference (p<0.05) in GSI values of both groups age wise as well as month wise.In present study it was also found that there was no much difference in GSI of males of both groups, which is supported by Liley *et al.*, (2002) who stated that there was no differences in the gonadosomatic indices of 3 years old and 1 year old (precocious) male rainbow trout.

In case of virgin group, hepatosomatic index (HSI) ranged between 0.49±0.41% to 0.83±0.06% in males while in females it varied between 0.67±0.06 to 1.54±0.52 shown in fig.3. In 1+ year class, HSI ranged between 0.54±0.24% to 1.45±0.13% and 0.65±0.52% to 1.77±0.65%, in males and females respectively as shown in fig.4. HSI values shown significant (p<0.05) difference between two age groups for both sexes.And also by the comparative analysis it was observed in following investigation that there exist a significant (p< 0.05) negative relation between GSI and HSI of the age groups. As GSI was maximum during March while in

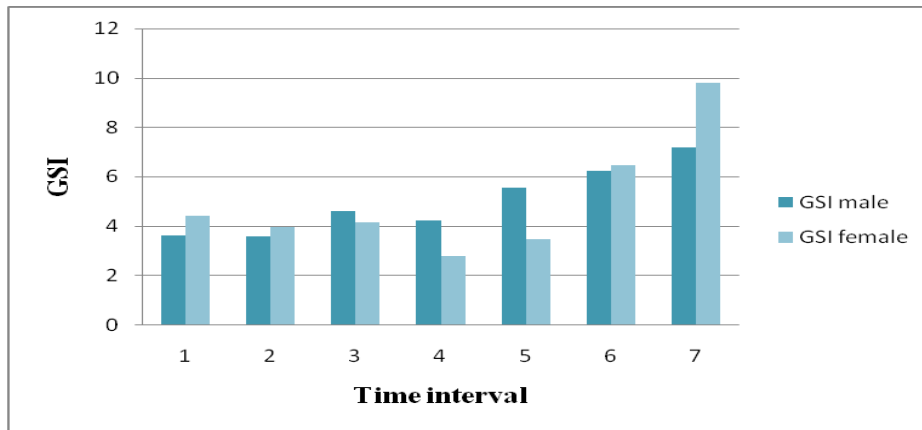
contrast to it HSI was observed to be minimum during the month of March. Singh *et al.*, (2008) also made similar observations

of reared and wild female *Labeodyocheilus* and reported that HSI and GSI had an inverse relationship.

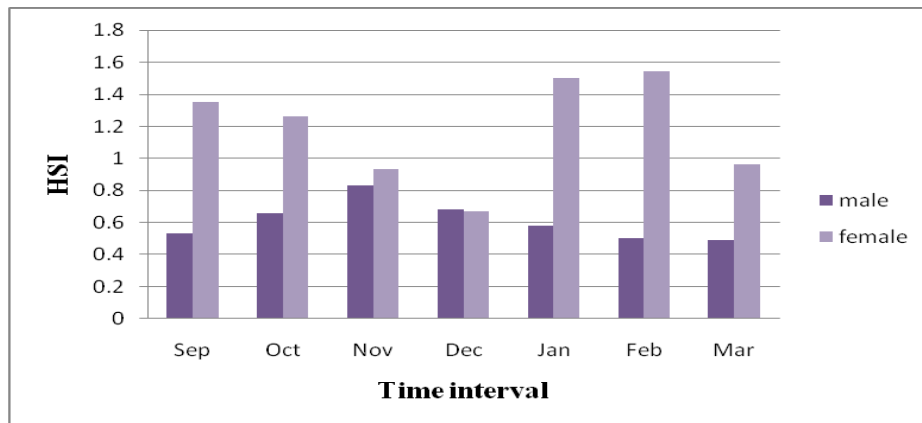
**Fig.1** Gonadosomatic index of virgin group of different months



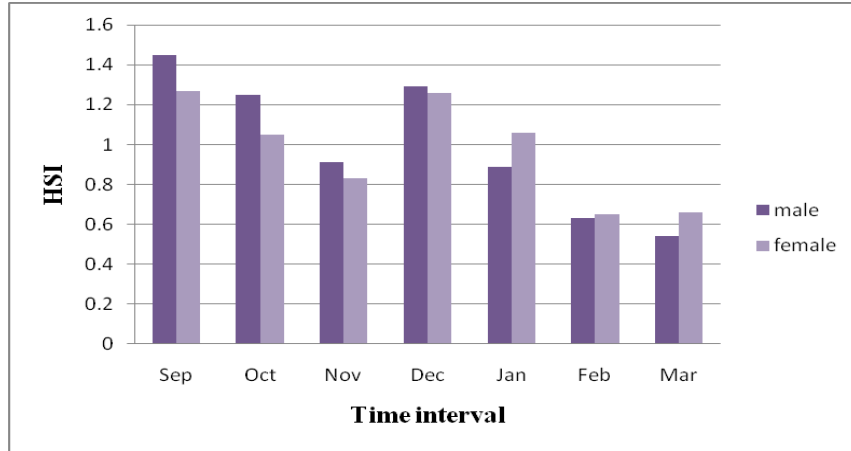
**Fig.2** Gonadosomatic index of 1+ year class of different months



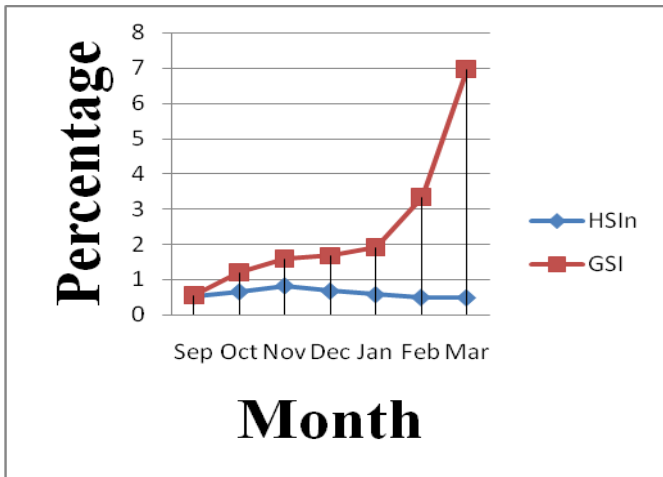
**Fig.3** Hepatosomatic index of virgin group of different months



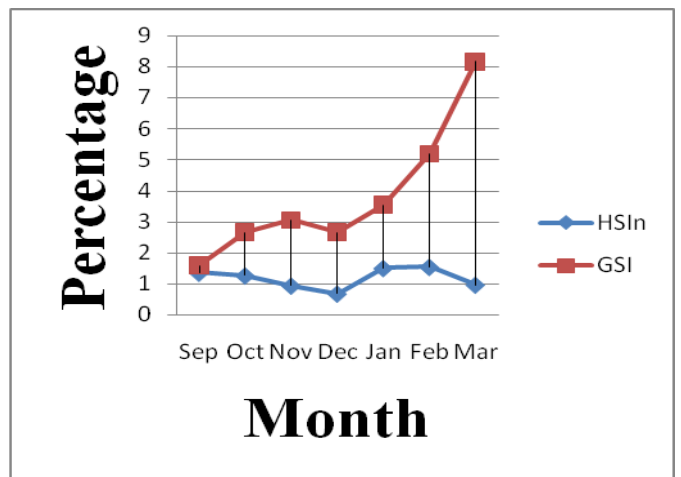
**Fig.4** Hepatosomatic index of 1+ year class of different months



**Fig.5** Relationship of GSI and HSI in virgin male (Fig.5a) and female (Fig.5b)

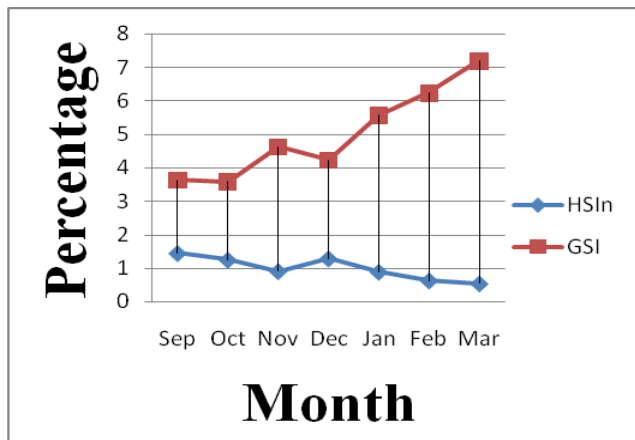


**Fig. 5a**

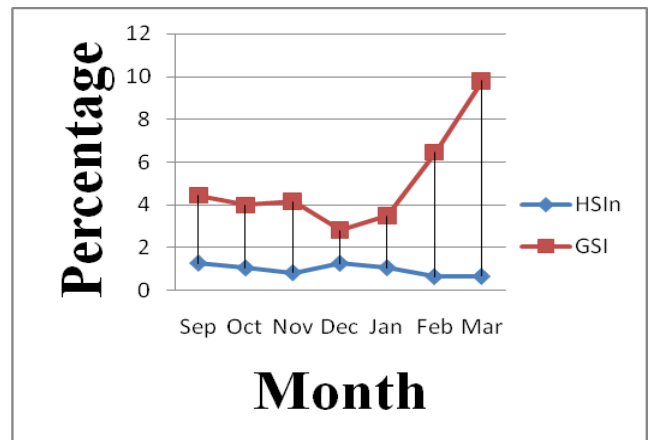


**Fig. 5b**

**Fig.6** Relationship of GSI and HSI in 1+ year male (Fig.6a) and female (Fig.6b)



**Fig. 6a**



**Fig. 6b**

In conclusion, the present study depicts that there was significant difference in gonadosomatic index (GSI) in both male and female (sexes) of both groups i.e.; virgin and 1+ year, month-wise. Hepatosomatic index (HSI) also showed significant differences month-wise. It was also revealed from the results that there was a negative relationship between GSI and HSI in common carp.

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