



## **OBSERVATION ON THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL SUBSTRATES FOR PERIPHYTON BASED CULTURE OF *SCHIZOTHORAX RICHARDSONII* (GRAY) IN RACEWAYS OF MOUNTANEOUS REGION OF KUMAON, UTTARAKHAND**

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Field experiments were conducted in three raceways of running water system with a view to find out the suitable substrate for periphyton based culture of *Schizothorax richardsonii* (Gray). Different artificial substrates; sugarcane bagasse, paddy straw, tree branches, bamboo poles (dead organic materials), plastic sheet, plastic pipes (non bio degradable) and other materials like stones and pebbles were used for the production of periphyton community. Bamboo poles and other non-biodegradable substrates were found suitable substrates having without any adverse effect on the water quality of the pond. Growth, survival and production performance of snow trout was evaluated in the 12 months field experiment using bamboo poles and plastic sheet. Periphyton based culture of *Schizothorax richardsonii* is profitable eco-friendly aquaculture practice for hills.