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### STUDIES ON SOME BACTERIAL DISEASES IN *OREOCHROMIS NILOTICUS* WITH SPECIAL REFERENCES TO TREATMENT

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#### ABSTRACT

The present research carried out to study the common bacterial infections in *Oreochromis niloticus* (Nile tilapia) in Manzala area at Dakahlia governorate and possible antimicrobial agents used for treatment. A total number of 400 fish were randomly collected from Manzala private farms at Dakahlia governorate and subjected to the clinical, bacteriological and histopathological examination.

The highest prevalence of bacterial isolates during the whole period of examination of naturally infected *O. niloticus* was recorded for *A. hydrophila* (22.66%), followed by *V. alginolyticus* (19.01%), *V. parahemolyticus* (13.80%), *Streptococcus* spp. (12.24%), *A. caviae* (11.72%), *V. cholera* (10.16%), *A. salmonicida* (7.55%), while the lowest prevalence was recorded for *Klebsiella oxytoca* (2.86%).

The seasonal highest total prevalence of bacterial isolates from examined naturally infected *O. niloticus* was recorded in spring (30.21%), followed by autumn (28.39%), then summer (22.40%) and the lowest prevalence was recorded in winter (19.01%).

Histopathological findings of the tissue samples which collected from different organs of naturally infected *O. niloticus* revealed that spleen show marked hemosiderosis and sever hemorrhage, gills show sever congestion of lamellar capillaries with marked aneurysm, necrosis and hemorrhage of lamellar epithelium and liver show sever hydropic degeneration and necrosis of hepatocytes, Ciprofloxacin was the most effective antibiotic against all isolated bacterial strains.

**Keywords:** *Oreochromis niloticus*- bacterial diseases- antibiogram

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#### INTRODUCTION

Tilapia represents the second major group of fresh fish Produced from aquaculture after Cyprinidae in the world (Mjoun et al., 2010). Among tilapia species, the Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*) is the most widely cultured fish due to rapid growth, acceptance of natural foods and dietary supplements is easy, propagation is simple, its large size, tolerance to environmental conditions, and resistance to diseases are features that make tilapia a desirable food fish (Pech et al., 2017).

The bacteria that had been associated with lethal consequences in *O. niloticus* were *Aeromonas* spp., *Vibrio* spp. and *Streptococcus* spp. (Daskalov, 2006; Najiah et al., 2012 and Marcel et al., 2013).

Vibriosis is considered one of the most prevalent fish diseases caused by bacteria belong to the genus *Vibrio*; *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, *V. alginolyticus*, *V. cholera* (non-O1) which represent the major fish pathogens (Kim and Bang, 2008).

The most bacterial diseases in freshwater aquaculture, including furunculosis (*Aeromonas salmonicida*) and some types of streptococcosis that responsible of main economic losses in cultured fish worldwide. (Toranzo et al., 2005).

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

A total number of 400 fish (*Oreochromis niloticus*) were randomly collected from private Manzala farms at Dakahlia governorate during the period of October 2015 to November 2016. Fish samples transferred as soon as possible to the laboratory of fish Disease and Management, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Mansoura University.

For clinical, post-mortem (P. M) and bacteriological examination, fish were subjected to both clinical and post-mortem examination according to methods described by (Schaperclaus, 1992).

### Bacteriological examination:

Samples from liver, kidney, spleen and gills cultured on tryptone soya broth (Oxoid, CM 0129).

Identification of bacterial isolates: according to the methods described by (Austin and Austin, 2007).

### Biochemical characters using conventional tests:

The biochemical tests used in our investigation were: Catalase test, Oxidase test, Indole test, Voges - Proskauer test ( V. P) , Methyl Red test ( M.R), Citrate utilization test, Urease test , Sugar fermentation test, H<sub>2</sub>S

production test, Nitrate reduction test, O/129 susceptibility test , and Gelatin liquefaction according to (Austin and Austin, 2007).

### API 20NE system for identification of bacterial strains:

Final confirmation of each strain achieved using the identification by using the analytical profile index of API 20NE system (Buller, 2004).

### Histopathological Studies:

Tissue specimens were taken from (Liver, kidney, spleen and gills) of naturally infected *Oreochromis niloticus* and gently removed, then fixed in 10% neutral buffered formalin for 24 hours, processed by a conventional method, sectioned and stained with Haematoxyline and Eosin (H&E) in accordance with (Roberts, 2012).

### Antibiogram sensitivity test:

The antimicrobial sensitivity of some isolated bacteria species against the following antimicrobial agents (Ciprofloxacin CIP (5mg), Nalidixic acid NA(30mg) , Colistin sulphate CT(25mg), Lincomycin MY(10 ug), Oxytetracycline T(30 mcg), Nitrofuration F(300 mcg), Erythromycin E(15 mcg) , Flumequine UB (30 ug) ) were carried out by the disc diffusion method on Muller Hinton agar (Oxoid CM0337). Antibiotic discs obtained from (Oxoid). Each species of bacteria categorized as Sensitive(S), Resistant (R) or Intermediate (IM) according to the interpretive limits for Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (NCCLS, 2003).

**Table (1):** Total prevalence of bacterial isolates from examined naturally infected *O. niloticus*.

Type of Bacteria	Bacterial isolates	
	No.	%
<i>A. Hydrophila</i>	87	22.66
<i>A. Caviae</i>	45	11.72
<i>A. salmonicida</i>	29	7.55
<i>V. alginolyticus</i>	73	19.01
<i>V. parahemolyticus</i>	53	13.80
<i>V. cholera</i>	39	10.16
<i>Streptococcus spp.</i>	47	12.24
<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	11	2.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Table (2):** Seasonal prevalence of bacterial isolates in naturally infected *O. niloticus*.

Season	Bacterial infection	
	No.	%
Autumn	109	28.39
Winter	73	19.01
Spring	116	30.21
Summer	86	22.40
Total	384	100.00

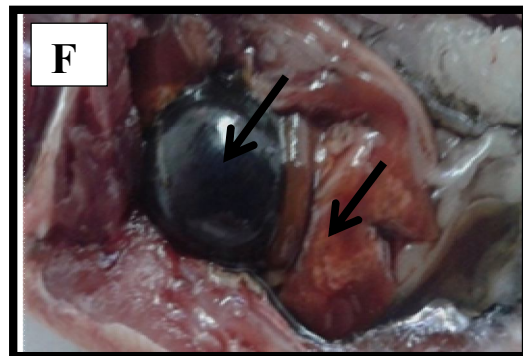
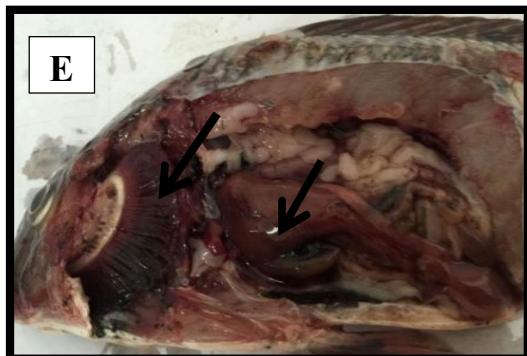
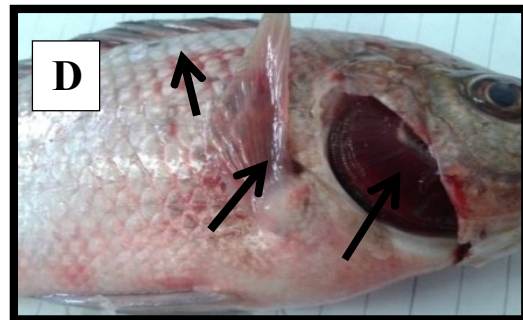
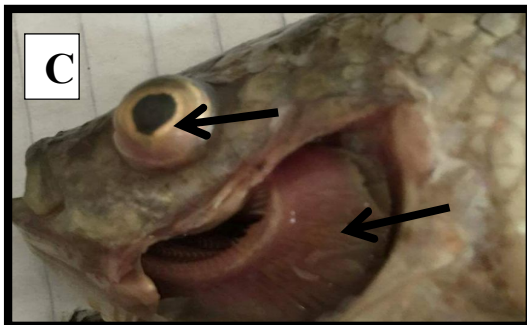
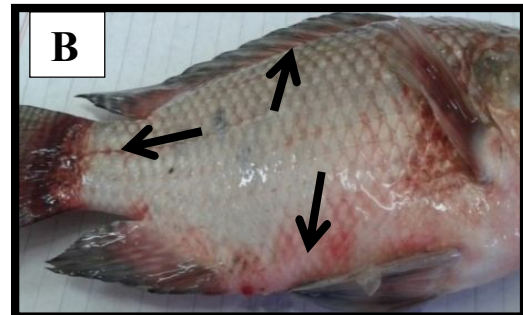
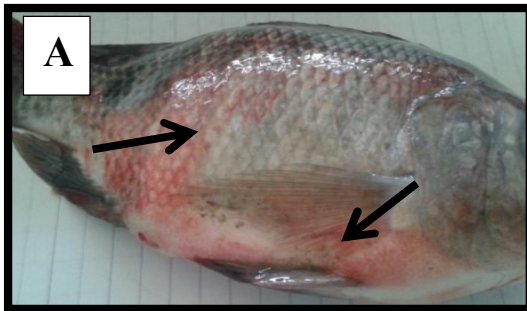
**Table (3):** Antibiogram of most important bacterial isolates.

Types of M.O Type of Antibiotic	<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	<i>Aeromonas salmonicida</i>	<i>Vibrio parahemolyticus</i>	<i>Streptococcus species</i>
Ciprofloxacin CIP (5mg)	S	S	S	S
Nalidixic acid NA(30mg)	R	S	S	R
Colistin sulphate CT(25mg)	S	R	R	S
Lincomycin MY(10ug)	R	S	R	R
Oxytetracycline T(30mcg)	R	S	R	S
Nitrofurantoin F (300mcg)	S	S	R	S
Erythromycin E(15mcg)	S	S	IM	IM
Flumequine UB(30ug)	30mm	39mm	35mm	25mm

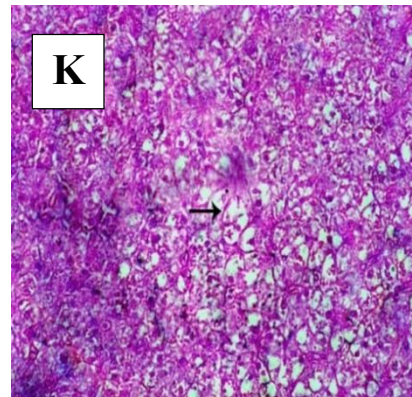
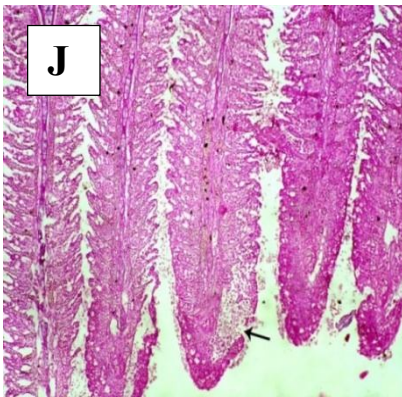
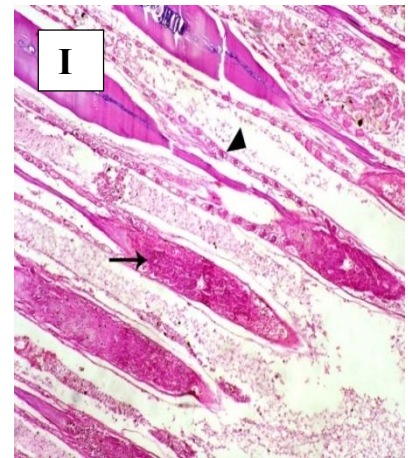
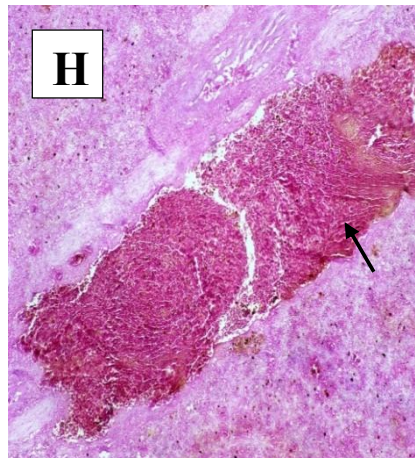
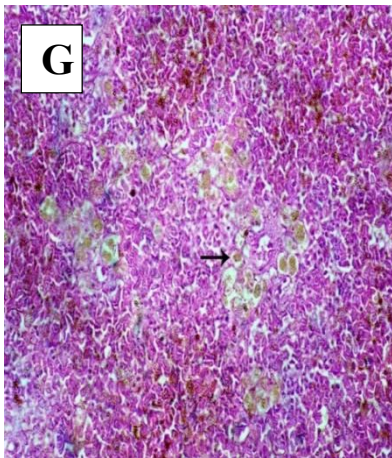
R:Resistant

S:Sensitive

IM:Intermediate



- Photo(A)** Naturally, infected *Oreochromis niloticus* show hemorrhagic patches on ventral and lateral aspect of fish.
- Photo( B)** Naturally, infected *Oreochromis niloticus* show hemorrhagic patches on ventral and lateral aspect of fish, dorsal fin, and caudal fin.
- Photo(C)** Naturally, infected *Oreochromis niloticus* show exophthalmia and pale gills.
- Photo (D)** Naturally, infected *Oreochromis niloticus* show general congestion of the body including pectoral fin, dorsal fin and the gills.
- Photo(E)** Naturally, infected *Oreochromis niloticus* show congested dark hemorrhagic gills and congested liver.
- Photo(F)** Naturally, infected *Oreochromis niloticus* show distended gall bladder and congested liver with hemorrhagic patches.



**Photo (G)** Spleen show marked hemosiderosis (arrow) (H&E 400x).

**Photo(H)** Spleen showing severe hemorrhages (H&E 100x).

**Photo(I)** Gills showing sever congestion of lamellar capillaries (arrow) with marked aneurysm (arrow head) (H&E, 100x).

**Photo(J)** Gills showing necrosis and hemorrhage of lamellar epithelium. (H&E, 100 x).

**Photo(K)** Liver showing severe hydropic degeneration and necrosis of hepatocytes. (H&E, 100 x).

## RESULTS & DISCUSSION

In regards to the clinical signs and post-mortem lesions of the examined naturally infected *Oreochromis niloticus* were hemorrhagic patches on ventral and lateral aspect of fish, dorsal fin, caudal peduncle, caudal fin, pectoral fin, dark congested gills, exophthalmia and pale gills, general congestion of the body include gills, the eye and under the lower jaw. (Photo A, B, C, D). Such clinical signs and post-mortem findings were described by (Toranzo et al., 2005; Austin and Austin, 2007; and Salati, 2011).

Post-mortem examination results show distended gall bladder and congested liver with hemorrhagic patches as shown in (Photo E, F). Similar post-mortem findings were described by (Salvador et al., 2005 and Younes et al., 2016).

Interpretation the prevalence of the isolated bacterial isolates the highest prevalence of bacterial isolates during the whole period of examination of naturally infected *O. niloticus* was recorded for *A. hydrophila* (22.66%), followed by *V. alginolyticus* (19.01%), *V. parahemolyticus* (13.80%), *Streptococcus spp.* (12.24%), *A. caviae* (11.72%), *V. cholera* (10.16%), *A. salmonicida* (7.55%), while the lowest prevalence was recorded for *Klebsiella oxytoca* (2.86%) recorded in (Table 1). These results agree with Younes et al., (2016) who isolated *Vibrio spp.* by prevalence of (87.5%); followed by *Aeromonas hydrophila* by prevalence (25%), also isolate *Streptococcus spp.* and *Klebsiella oxytoca* with few numbers from apparently healthy *O. niloticus* around Qarun lake.

Regarding the seasonal highest total prevalence of bacterial isolates from examined naturally infected *O. niloticus* was recorded in

spring (30.21%), followed by autumn (28.39%), then summer (22.40%) and the lowest prevalence was recorded in winter (19.01%) recorded in (Table 2) These results agree with similar results recorded by (Pech et al., 2017) who recorded that the highest incidence of bacterial genera occurs in spring. These results disagreed with (Salem, 2015; Abd El-Maksoud, 2016) and (El-Son, 2016) who recorded the total prevalence of bacterial infections during different seasons, actually the highest rate of infections (36.94%) was detected in winter season in comparison to (33.49%) in summer season, (17.24%) was detected in autumn and (12.31%) was detected in spring.

Regarding the histopathological findings of the tissue samples collected from different organs of naturally infected *O. niloticus*, our results revealed that spleen show marked hemosiderosis (Photo G) and show severe hemorrhage (Photo H). Moreover, gills showing severe congestion of lamellar capillaries (arrow) with marked aneurism (Photo I). Gills showing necrosis and hemorrhage of lamellar epithelium (Photo J) and liver showing severe hydropic degeneration and necrosis of hepatocytes (Photo K). Our results were in agreement with (Hussein et al., 2003 and Rey et al., 2009).

On overview of the sensitivity of different isolated bacterial species to a number of antimicrobial agents during this study (Table 3), our results showed that Ciprofloxacin (CIP) is the most effective antibiotic against different isolated bacterial species. These results agree with (Abdel-Latif and Sedeek, 2017), on the other hand, *Aeromonas salmonicida* and *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* show resistance against to Colistin sulphate (CT). On the other hand, all isolated bacterial species show sensitivity against Nitrofurantoin (F) except *Vibrio*

*parahemolyticus*. These results were supported by (Abbass et al., 2000 and AL-Othrubí et al., 2014) who recorded that ciprofloxacin used as alternative treatment in severe cases of infection by *V. parahemolyticus*.

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## الملخص العربي

### دراسات على بعض الامراض البكتيرية في اسماك البلطي النيلي مع اشارته خاصة للعلاج

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أجريت هذه الدراسة للتعرف على اكثر الامراض البكتيرية انتشارا في اسماك البلطي النيلي في منطقة المنزلة التابعة لمحافظة الدقهلية وحساسيتها تجاه بعض المضادات الحيوية المستخدمة في العلاج وكذلك التغيرات الباثولوجية المصاحبة لهذه الامراض البكتيرية حيث تم تجميع عدد ٤٠٠ سمكة من مزرعة خاصة بالمنزلة في محافظة الدقهلية وبعد الفحص الخارجي والصفة التشريحية والعزل البكتيري وكذلك الفحص النسيجي للاسماك المصابة بالعدوى البكتيرية تبين من هذه الدراسة ان اعلى نسبة اصابه كانت لللايروموناس هايدروفيليا بنسبه (٢٢,٦٦%) ثم الفيبريو الجينولتكس (١٩,٠١%) يليها فيبريو باراهيموليتيكس (١٣,٨٠%)، يليها الاستربتوتوكوكس (١٢,٢٤%)، ايروموناس كافي (١١,٧٢%)، فيبريوكوليرا (١٠,١٦%)، ايروموناس سالمونيسيديا (٧,٥٥%)، بينما سجلت اقل نسبة اصابه للكليسيلا اوكسيوكا بنسبه (٢,٨٦%)، بالاضافه الى ذلك تم تسجيل اعلى نسبة اصابه موسميته عليه للبكتيريا المعزولة في اسماك البلطي النيلي كانت في فصل الربيع بنسبه (٣٠,٢١%)، يليها الخريف (٢٨,٣٩%) ، يليها فصل الصيف (٢٢,٤٠%)، بينما سجلت اقل نسبة اصابه بكتيرية في فصل الشتاء بنسبه (١٩,٠١%).

بدراسة التأثير الباثولوجي للبكتيريا المسببه للمرض التي عزلت من الانسجه المختلفه من اسماك البلطي النيلي المصابه طبيعيا كشفت النتائج ان الطحال اظهر نزيف شديد والخياشيم حدث موت للخلايا والتلف الشديد للخيوط الفرعيه وتجمع واحتقان الدم في الاوعيه الدمويه وتخر وموت الخلايا والانسجه والكبد عن وجود فجوات في الخلايا الكبدية، احتقان شديد في الوريد المركزي في الكبد وانحلال المياه ونخر في خلايا الكبد ، وظهرت المضادات الحيوية سيبروفلوكساسين لها تأثير فعال في منع نمو جميع الميكروبات المعزولة.