

## Detection of Tetracycline Resistance Genes in *Lactococcus garvieae* Strains Isolated from Rainbow Trout

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**Abstract :** The present study was done to evaluate the presence of tetracycline resistance genes in *Lactococcus garvieae* isolated from cultured rainbow trout, West Iran. The isolates were examined for antimicrobial resistance using disc diffusion method. Of the 49 strains tested, 19 were resistant to tetracycline (38.7%), 32 to enrofloxacin (65.3%), 21 to erythromycin (42.8%), 20 to chloramphenicol and trimetoprim-sulfamethoxazole (40.8%). The strains were then characterized for their genotypic resistance profiles. The results revealed that all 49 isolates contained at least one of the tetracycline resistance genes. Tet (A) was found in 89.4% of tetracycline resistant isolates and the frequency of other gene were as follow: tet (E) 42.1%, tet (B) 47.3%, tet (D) 15.7%, tet (L) 26.3%, tet (K) 52.6%, tet (G) 36.8%, tet (34) 21%, tet (S) 63.1%, tet (C) 57.8%, tet (M) 73.6%, tet (O) 42.1%. The results revealed high levels of antibiotic resistance in *L. garvieae* strains which is a potential danger for trout culture as well as for public health.

**Keywords :** *Lactococcus garvieae*, tetracycline resistance genes, rainbow trout, antimicrobial resistance

**Conference Title :** ICVBS 2015 : International Conference on Veterinary and Biomedical Sciences

**Conference Location :** Istanbul, Türkiye

**Conference Dates :** February 16-17, 2015