

Growth Rate and Condition of Bream, *Abramis brama* (Linnaeus, 1758), in the Danube River

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Abstract: The growth rate of bream shows the tendency to increase from the upper course of the Danube River in Slovakia, to its delta in Romania. The growth rate of bream from different water bodies was compared by the average values of body length calculated at the same age. Compared were 464 populations from the whole species range. Mean weights (W) calculated by the equation $W=aL^b$ at the same round length (L) values were used as condition factors of different populations. The populations were arranged according to their average “initial” weights calculated at the same initial lengths (50 mm) (W_{50}). The following tendency is observed: with the increase of L values (50, 100, ...etc., mm) the values of W come closer to each other, then become equal, and at L over 400 mm the first populations have the highest W values and the last populations - the lowest W values. This negative relation can be described by the equation $W_{400} = 1566 - 72.17 W_{50}$, $r = -0.80$, $n = 26$, $P = 0.001$.

Key words: bream, comparative analysis, growth rate, condition factors.