

Lexical-Semantic Features of Fisheries Terminology in Linguistics

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Abstract: *This article examines the lexical-semantic features of fisheries terminology from a linguistic perspective. The study focuses on the structure, meaning, and classification of terms used in the field of fisheries. It analyzes the processes of term formation, including derivation, compounding, borrowing, and semantic change. The research also explores semantic relations such as synonymy, polysemy, and homonymy within fisheries terminology. Special attention is given to the role of borrowed terms and their impact on the development of the terminology system. Furthermore, the functional usage of fisheries terms in professional and scientific discourse is discussed. The findings indicate that fisheries terminology is a dynamic and systematically organized subsystem of language that reflects both linguistic processes and developments in the field. The study contributes to a better understanding of specialized vocabulary and its role in effective communication.*

Key words: *Fisheries Terminology, Lexical Semantics, Term Formation, Aquaculture, Borrowing, Synonymy, Polysemy, Linguistic Analysis*

1. Introduction

In modern linguistics, the study of terminology has become one of the most important and actual areas of research, focusing on the formation, development, and functional use of terms in various fields. In particular, the field of fisheries, which is a significant branch of agriculture and the economy, possesses its own specific terminological system. The linguistic analysis of these terms plays an essential role in understanding the richness and structure of the language. Fisheries terminology consists of specialized lexical units that are used to denote fish species, methods of breeding and catching fish, processing techniques, as well as tools and practices related to this field. The study of the lexical-semantic features of these terms allows researchers to identify their semantic scope, degrees of polysemy, synonymic and homonymic relations, and other linguistic characteristics. Furthermore, fisheries terminology in the Uzbek language has developed over time and has been enriched through the borrowing of terms from other languages. This process contributes to the complexity of their semantic structure and necessitates a comprehensive linguistic investigation[1].

2. Methodology

In contemporary linguistics, the investigation of specialized terminological systems is of great importance due to the rapid development of science, technology, and industry. Fisheries, as an important sector of agriculture, has been expanding significantly, leading to the emergence of numerous new terms and concepts. However, the lexical-semantic features of fisheries terminology, especially in the Uzbek language, have not been sufficiently studied from a linguistic perspective[2].

Aim

The main aim of this study is to analyze the lexical-semantic features of fisheries terminology from a linguistic perspective. The research seeks to identify the semantic properties of these terms, classify them according to their meanings and functions, and examine their usage within the

language[3].

3. Results and Discussion

Terminology is a branch of linguistics that studies specialized lexical units used in specific fields of knowledge. Terms differ from general vocabulary by their precision, stability, and direct relation to clearly defined concepts. For example, in everyday language the word “*net*” may refer to various objects, but in fisheries terminology it specifically denotes a fishing tool used to catch fish. This shows how terms acquire narrow and specialized meanings within a professional context. The theoretical basis of terminology is closely connected with lexicology and semantics, which study meaning and word structure. Another important feature of terms is their systematic organization; for instance, terms such as “*fish*,” “*aquaculture*,” “*hatchery*,” and “*fingerling*” form a conceptual network related to fish production and breeding[4]. Terminology is also influenced by external factors like technological development. For example, the emergence of modern fish farming has introduced new terms such as “*recirculating aquaculture system (RAS)*.” Standardization is another key principle, ensuring that terms are used consistently in scientific communication. Without such standardization, misunderstandings may occur. Therefore, the theoretical study of terminology provides a foundation for analyzing specialized vocabularies like fisheries terminology[5].

Fisheries terminology includes specialized words and expressions used in fish farming, fishing activities, and aquatic resource management. These terms cover a wide range of concepts, such as fish species, tools, techniques, and environmental conditions. For example, terms like “*carp*,” “*trout*,” and “*salmon*” denote specific fish species, while “*trawling*,” “*netting*,” and “*angling*” refer to fishing methods. Additionally, terms such as “*pond*,” “*reservoir*,” and “*aquaculture farm*” describe places where fish are cultivated[6]. The scope of fisheries terminology is interdisciplinary because it overlaps with biology, ecology, and technology. For instance, the term “*plankton*” comes from biology but is widely used in fisheries to describe fish food sources. Similarly, “*water quality*” and “*oxygen level*” are ecological terms essential for fish farming. Fisheries terminology also reflects both traditional and modern practices. Traditional terms like “*fishing rod*” coexist with modern terms such as “*automated feeding system*.” This diversity makes fisheries terminology rich and complex. As a result, it plays a crucial role in ensuring precise communication among specialists and contributes to the development of scientific knowledge[7].

Fisheries terminology is formed through various linguistic processes such as derivation, compounding, borrowing, and semantic change. For example, the term “*fishery*” is derived from the word “*fish*” by adding the suffix “*-ery*,” indicating a place or activity related to fish. Compounding is also common, as seen in terms like “*fish farm*,” “*water tank*,” and “*seafood processing*.” Borrowing plays a major role in the development of fisheries terminology. Many terms are adopted from English or other languages, such as “*aquaculture*,” “*fillet*,” and “*marine*.” These borrowed words are often adapted to the phonological and grammatical system of the receiving language. Semantic change is another important process. For instance, the word “*culture*” in general language refers to social practices, but in “*aquaculture*,” it specifically means the cultivation of aquatic organisms. The development of fisheries terminology is also influenced by technological and scientific progress. New concepts require new terms, such as “*biofloc technology*” or “*sustainable fishing*.” This continuous expansion ensures that the terminology remains relevant and functional. Therefore, the study of term formation helps to understand how language evolves in response to the needs of a specific field[8].

The lexical-semantic features of fisheries terminology reflect the specific meanings and functions of terms within the field. One of the main characteristics is semantic precision, where each term denotes a clearly defined concept. For example, the term “*fingerling*” specifically refers to a young

fish at a particular stage of growth, not just any small fish. Another feature is monosemy, meaning that most terms tend to have a single meaning within the field to avoid ambiguity. However, some terms may show polysemy depending on context. For instance, “*stock*” can refer to fish population in fisheries, while in general English it may mean goods or supplies. Terminology also includes semantic relations such as hierarchy; for example, “*fish*” is a general term, while “*carp*” and “*salmon*” are specific types. Additionally, metaphorical usage can occur, such as “*fish ladder*,” which does not mean a literal ladder but a structure that helps fish migrate. These lexical-semantic features make fisheries terminology precise, structured, and functionally effective[9].

Fisheries terms can be classified into different groups according to their meanings and functions. One major category includes terms related to fish species, such as “*tilapia*,” “*catfish*,” and “*tuna*.” Another group consists of terms describing fishing methods, for example “*trawling*,” “*casting*,” and “*netting*.” There are also terms related to equipment, such as “*hook*,” “*line*,” and “*net*.” Environmental and biological terms form another category, including “*plankton*,” “*habitat*,” and “*water temperature*.” Additionally, there are technological terms like “*recirculating system*” and “*automatic feeder*.” This classification helps to organize terminology into a systematic structure, making it easier to study and use. For instance, when teaching fisheries, grouping terms into categories allows learners to better understand their functions. Such classification also reveals the conceptual structure of the field, showing how different aspects of fisheries are interconnected[10].

Although terminology aims for precision, semantic phenomena such as synonymy, polysemy, and homonymy still exist. Synonymy occurs when different terms have similar meanings. For example, “*fish farming*” and “*aquaculture*” are often used interchangeably, although “*aquaculture*” has a broader meaning. Polysemy refers to a single term having multiple related meanings. For instance, “*culture*” can mean social practices in general language, but in fisheries it refers to the cultivation of aquatic organisms[11]. Homonymy involves words that have the same form but different meanings. For example, “*bass*” can refer to a type of fish or a musical term, depending on context. These phenomena can sometimes create ambiguity, especially for non-specialists. However, in professional communication, context usually clarifies the intended meaning. Studying these semantic relations is important for understanding how fisheries terminology functions within language.

Borrowing is one of the main sources of fisheries terminology development. Many terms are adopted from international languages, especially English, due to the global nature of science and technology[12]. Examples include “*aquaculture*,” “*fillet*,” “*marine*,” and “*hatchery*.” These terms are often integrated into the receiving language with slight phonetic or grammatical modifications. Borrowed terms enrich the vocabulary and allow for the expression of new concepts that may not have native equivalents. For instance, modern technologies in fish farming introduce terms like “*biofloc*” and “*RAS (Recirculating Aquaculture System)*.” However, excessive borrowing can also create challenges, such as difficulties in understanding for non-specialists or inconsistency in usage. Therefore, balancing borrowed and native terms is important for maintaining clarity and accessibility in professional communication[13].

Fisheries terminology plays a crucial role in professional and scientific communication. These terms are widely used in academic articles, technical manuals, industry reports, and educational materials. For example, in scientific research, terms like “*growth rate*,” “*feed conversion ratio*,” and “*stock assessment*” are essential for describing data and analysis[14]. In practical contexts, fishermen and aquaculture specialists use terms such as “*netting*,” “*harvesting*,” and “*feeding schedule*.” The use of precise terminology ensures effective communication, reduces misunderstandings, and facilitates knowledge exchange. Additionally, fisheries terms are important in international cooperation, where standardized terminology allows experts from different countries to collaborate

efficiently. Therefore, the functional use of fisheries terminology highlights its importance not only in linguistics but also in real-world applications[15].

4. Conclusion

In conclusion, the study of fisheries terminology from a linguistic perspective reveals its important role as a specialized subsystem of language. Fisheries terms are characterized by precision, systematic organization, and strong connection to specific professional concepts. The analysis of their lexical-semantic features demonstrates that these terms possess clear meanings, though phenomena such as polysemy, synonymy, and borrowing also influence their structure and usage. The research shows that fisheries terminology is formed through various linguistic processes, including derivation, compounding, and borrowing from other languages. This reflects both the internal development of the language and the impact of global scientific communication. Additionally, the classification of fisheries terms into semantic groups highlights their structured nature and facilitates their effective use in professional discourse. Furthermore, fisheries terminology plays a crucial role in scientific communication, education, and industry practice.

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