EFFECT OF LIGHT SOURCE AND TYPE ON GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF SHARKASI CHICKENS

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Abstract:

The present study was designed to investigate the effect of light source and type on growth performance, carcass traits and blood constitutes of Sharkasi chickens. Three hundred and sixty birds were randomly assigned to 6 groups and housed in floor pens under two light source and type from 4 wk till 24 wk of age. The first, second and third groups were reared under incandescent bulbs with continues light for 12 hours per day (C), 6 h continues light +6 h flash light/day (T1) and 12 hours flash light per day (T2), respectively. While the fourth, fifth and sixth groups were reared under fluorescent bulbs with continues light for 12 hours per day (T3), 6 h continues light +6 h flash light/day (T4) and 12 hours flash light per day (T5), respectively. Feed and water were available ad lib. and all the other conditions were the same during the experimental period. The results showed that light type significantly affected body weight, daily weight gain, feed conversion and carcass traits. However, it had insignificant effects on blood traits. In addition, birds reared under light source had significantly (P≤0.05) body weight, daily weight gain and feed conversion as compared to the other two groups. No significant differences (P≤0.05) were found between groups in leg problems and carcass traits. Finally, the economical efficiency of the birds reared under fluorescent bulbs was better than the incandescent light groups. However, the economical efficiency of the birds reared under flash light bulbs was better than the continues light groups.

Keywords:

light source, Sharkasi chickens, growth performance

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