Broilers performance as affected by early feeding

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Abstract:

The influence of some water additives at early ages on growth performance and carcass characteristics was studied in 120 broiler chicks. The experimental chicks assigned to four groups (30 birds /each). Birds were supplied with drinking tape water, and considered as control group (C). While, the first, second and third treatment (T1, T2 and T3) were supplied with drinking water containing 10% of skim milk, molasses and dried egg, respectively. All experimental birds were raised under similar environmental and managerial conditions. Results indicated that supplementing water with skim milk, molasses and fresh egg significantly (P≤ 0.05) increased body weight &body weight gains and improved feed conversion compared to control birds. Birds supplied with drinking water contained molasses significantly (P≤ 0.05 increased body weight gains and improved feed conversion compared with that obtained from birds either supplied with drinking water contained skim milk and fresh whole egg. Also, molasses supplementation groups had superior dressed carcass, gizzard and liver percentages and immune responses. Otherwise, no significant differences (P>0.05) existed in abdominal fat, carcass cutup parts, meat quality traits, most blood parameters, bone measurements and mortality rate. It could be concluded that birds supplied with drinking water containing 10% of molasses during growing period had high performance and economical efficiency. Consequently, it could be recommended to present the drinking water containing 10% of molasses for broiler chicks during early feeding period.

Keywords:

Early feeding, growth performance, carcass traits, broilers

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