Supplementation of maize-soybean-meat cum bone meal based broiler diets with different levels of proteases

T Srilatha¹, V Ravinder Reddy¹, Chinni Preetam¹, S V Rama Rao² and Y Ramana Reddy¹
¹Sri P.V. Narasimha Rao Telangana State University for Veterinary, Animal and Fishery Sciences, India
²Directorate of Poultry Research, India

An experiment was conducted to evaluate the effective combinations of proteases (acid, neutral and alkaline) and their concentrations on performance and carcass traits in commercial broilers fed on diets containing sub-optimal protein levels. A total of 320 broilers were used in completely randomized design with eight treatments and eight replicates in each treatment. Maize-soybean meal based control diets (CD) were formulated to contain 23, 21 and 19.5% crude protein (CP), maize-soybean-meat cum bone meal based diets (BD) with sub optimal CP were formulated with 19.5, 18 and 17.5% CP respectively during pre-starter (1-11 days), starter (12-28 days) and finisher (29-42 days) phases and fed ad libitum from 1 day to 42 days of age. The low protein BD were supplemented with two different combinations of proteases (1:1:1 and 2:1:1 acidic, neutral and alkaline proteases, respectively) with total activity of 2000, 4000 and 6000 u/kg. The results showed that the broilers fed CD had significantly higher body weight gain compared to those fed BD. Supplementation of proteases to the BD significantly (P<0.005) improved the body weight gain and feed efficiency during 1-21 and 1-28 days of age but not during the latter phase (35 and 42 days of age) of growth. The broilers fed on CD had significantly (P<0.005) higher ready to cook and breast yields compared to those fed the BD or BD with protease supplementation. The relative weight of abdominal fat was significantly (P<0.005) reduced in broilers fed with 1:1:1 (acidic, neutral and alkaline proteases) at 4000 u protease/kg diet as compared to BD. In conclusion, it is suggested that addition of proteases to low protein diets had a significant positive effect in young chicken fed on maize-soybean meal based-meat and bone meal based diets.

Biography

T Srilatha is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Poultry Science at College of veterinary Science, SPVNR Telangana State University for Veterinary animal and Fisheries sciences, India

srilatha.mangalam@gmail.com

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