

EFFECT OF PERIOD OF SUPPLEMENTATION OF MULTI-ENZYME ON CARCASS YIELD AND SERUM MINERALS IN BROILERS DURING HOT HUMID WEATHER

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ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken to determine the effect of supplementation of multi-enzyme in the basal diet for a period of 0-2 (T2), 0-4 (T3) and 0-6 (T4) weeks of age on the carcass yield and serum minerals of broilers reared in hot humid weather. Two hundred and forty, one-day-old commercial broiler chicks were randomly divided into four groups of 60 chicks each. Each group was further subdivided into four replicates with 15 chicks in each replicate. Standard managemental practices were followed during the experimental period. Carcass yield and mineral levels in serum were studied. Addition of multi-enzyme in the ration of broiler chickens up to six weeks of age had no significant effect on carcass yield and serum calcium level. However, serum inorganic phosphorus level was significantly improved ($P < 0.05$) in T4 group.

Key words: Multi-enzyme, broilers, carcass yield, serum calcium and phosphorus

India, being a tropical country, has high environmental temperature during summer months, which has detrimental effect on growth, feed efficiency, liveability and overall performance of poultry. High temperature ($>30^{\circ}\text{C}$) accompanied by high humidity is one of the most important stress factors affecting the performance of broilers (Cahaner and Leenstra, 1992). Enzymes act as catalysts in different biochemical reactions taking place in the body. Enzymes can bring about difficult chemical changes in a specific way at body temperature and over a wide pH range.

The metabolizable energy (ME) of soybean meal is notably low for poultry due to non starch polysaccharides (NSP) in the cell wall matrix (Pierson *et al.*, 1980). Approximately 10 % of the protein in soybean meal is located in the dry matter (DM) within the cell wall matrix (Chesson, 2001). This source of protein and energy can be made available to broiler chickens by degradation of NSP by carbohydrases (Mandels, 1985). Indeed, digestibility of crude protein (CP) and energy sources increased when carbohydrases were added to the corn soybean meal diet (Mathlouthi *et al.*, 2003; Saki *et al.*, 2005). The present investigation was conducted to study the effect of supplementation of multi-enzyme on the performance of broiler chickens during hot humid climate from 0-6 weeks of age.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Two hundred and forty, one-day-old broiler chicks were randomly divided into four treatment groups (T1, T2, T3 and T4) of 60 chicks each. Each group was further subdivided into four replicates of 15 chicks each. The chicks were given corn soybean based mash diet *ad libitum* formulated according to the BIS specifications (BIS, 1992) from 0-6 weeks of age. The birds of all the groups were fed broiler starter diet (2800 Kcal ME/kg feed with 23% crude protein) from 0-4 weeks and broiler finisher diet (2900 Kcal ME/kg feed with 20% crude protein) from 4-6 weeks of age. The feed was supplemented with commercially available multi-enzyme containing amylase, xylanase, pectinase, glucanase, lipase, cellulase, protease and phytase @ 50g/100kg feed for a period of two, four and six weeks in group T2, T3 and T4, respectively. The birds of T2 and T3 groups were given control group diet (without multi-enzyme supplementation) for the rest of the experimental period i.e. for the last four and two weeks period, respectively. Birds in group T1 acted as negative control. After six weeks, eight birds per treatment (two birds from each replicate) were randomly selected and sacrificed on 43rd day of age after fasting for 12 h. The eviscerated weight, giblets weight (heart, liver and gizzard) and drawn weight were recorded. The musculature from breast area and the legs (thigh and

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drum-stick) was separated from the bones and meat bone ratios were recorded for these two parts. Different parameters were estimated by the formulae given below:

$$\text{Dressed weight} = \text{Live weight} - (\text{Weight of blood} + \text{feathers} + \text{shanks} + \text{head})$$

$$\text{Dressed \%} = (\text{Dressed weight}/\text{Live weight}) \times 100$$

$$\text{Eviscerated weight} = \text{Dressed weight} - \text{Weight of viscera}$$

$$\text{Eviscerated \%} = (\text{Eviscerated weight}/\text{Live weight}) \times 100$$

$$\text{Giblets weight} = \text{Weight of heart, liver and gizzard}$$

$$\text{Giblets \%} = (\text{Weight of giblets}/\text{Live weight}) \times 100$$

$$\text{Drawn weight} = \text{Eviscerated weight} + \text{weight of giblets}$$

$$\text{Drawn \%} = (\text{Drawn weight}/\text{Live weight}) \times 100$$

$$\text{Breast meat bone ratio} = \text{Breast meat weight}/\text{Breast bone weight}$$

$$\text{Leg meat bone ratio} = \text{Leg meat weight}/\text{Leg bone weight}$$

At the time of sacrificing, blood was collected from each bird. Serum was separated and analyzed for calcium (Ca) and inorganic phosphorus (P) levels following standard procedure (Fiske and Subbarow, 1925). Data obtained were subjected to statistical analysis as per Snedecor and Cochran (1994) using Completely Randomized Design and Randomized Block Design. Means were compared by calculating critical difference (C.D.) at $P < 0.05$.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Carcass yield: There were no significant difference among different treatment groups regarding carcass characteristics such as eviscerated weight, giblets weight and drawn weight (Table 1). The breast meat and leg meat bone ratios also had no significant differences among different treatment groups (Table 1).

The results of the present findings are in agreement with those of Azcona *et al.* (2000), Bharathidasan and

Chandrasekaran (2000) and Ahlawat (2007) who also observed a non significant effect of multi-enzyme supplementation on carcass yield of broilers. A non significant improvement in carcass weight of broilers on feeding enzyme supplemented diet was observed by Berwal *et al.* (2009). However, Ahmed *et al.* (2004), Tahir *et al.* (2006), Sarvestani *et al.* (2006) and Omojola and Adesehinwa (2007) reported that different carcass traits were significantly higher for multi-enzyme fed broilers as compared to controls which might be due to feeding of different types of feed supplemented with different dose rate of multi-enzymes.

Serum calcium and inorganic phosphorus: The concentration of serum Ca improved non significantly in birds fed multi-enzyme for a period of six weeks (Table 2). A significant increase ($P < 0.05$) in serum P concentration was observed in broilers of group T4 fed multi-enzyme supplemented diet up to six weeks of age as compared to all other groups. Whereas, no effect was observed in the birds of other two groups when they were deprived off feeding multi-enzymes after two or four weeks of age. The results of the present study are comparable to those of Rama Rao *et al.* (1999) who also reported non significant effect of phytase supplementation on serum Ca levels in broiler chickens. In contrast, Broz *et al.* (1994) and Sebastian *et al.* (1994) observed a decrease in plasma Ca level by phytase supplementation in broilers. The improved serum Ca concentration, as found in the present study, may be attributed to the release of Ca from Ca phytate complex, thus increasing the availability of Ca as reported by Ahmad *et al.* (2000). The findings of this study related to inorganic P are in agreement with the results of Broz *et al.* (1994) and Sebastian *et al.* (1994) who also reported an increase in plasma inorganic P as a result of phytase supplementation in broiler chickens. The increase in serum P level can be attributed to increased phytate hydrolysis by phytase as reported by

Table 1
Effect of multi-enzyme on mean carcass yield of broilers

Treatments	Eviscerated weight (%)	Giblets weight (%)	Drawn weight (%)	Breast meat bone ratio	Leg meat bone ratio
T1 (Control)	66.62±0.67	4.62±0.10	71.24±0.67	5.53±0.40	3.17±0.09
T2 (Multi-enzyme for 0-2 weeks)	67.24±0.52	4.68±0.14	71.93±0.57	5.88±0.64	3.23±0.11
T3 (Multi-enzyme for 0-4 weeks)	67.73±0.78	4.50±0.07	72.24±0.80	5.59±0.17	3.19±0.11
T4 (Multi-enzyme for 0-6 weeks)	66.56±0.53	4.67±0.10	71.23±0.53	5.47±0.30	3.11±0.09

Values are Means±S.E. of eight birds in each group

Table 2
Effect of multi-enzyme on serum calcium and inorganic phosphorus concentration in broilers

Treatments	Serum calcium (mg/dl)	Serum phosphorus (mg/dl)
T1 (Control)	10.07 ^a ±0.78	5.38 ^b ±0.11
T2 (Multi-enzyme for 0-2 wks)	10.07 ^a ±0.27	5.38 ^b ±0.16
T3 (Multi-enzyme for 0-4 wks)	10.14 ^a ±0.72	5.40 ^b ±0.05
T4 (Multi-enzyme for 0-6 wks)	10.83 ^a ±0.35	6.15 ^a ±0.14

Values are Mean±S.E. of eight birds; Values with in a column bearing different superscripts differ significantly (P<0.05)

Mohammad *et al.* (1991).

It can be concluded from this study that the supplementation of multi-enzyme in the broiler chickens diet may not be useful to enhance carcass yield and serum calcium concentration.

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