3.1 EFFECT OF GARLIC IN FEED ON 0 – 8 WEEK PERFORMANCE IN BELTSVILLE SMALL WHITE TURKEY POULTS

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Garlic is known for medicinal properties traditionally. Garlic is also used in the human diet as health promoting property. Biological experiment was conducted to find out the effect of garlic inclusion at two levels of 2% and 4% on wet weight basis in feed along with a control in pre-brooder and brooder rations on 0 to 8th week performance in Beltsville Small White poults. Straight run turkey poults were allotted to three treatment groups with two replicates. Randomization of turkey poults was carried out based on the hatch weight. Isocaloric and isonitrogenous levels were maintained in all the experimental rations. Identical management conditions were provided up to eight weeks of age. The metabolizable energy of 2800 KCal/Kg and 28% of crude protein in pre-brooder and 2900 KCal/Kg and 26% of crude protein in brooder ration were maintained. Performance of turkey poults was evaluated based on the biweekly bodyweight, feed consumption and livability. The inclusion of garlic both 2% and 4% resulted in highly significant (P<0.01) improvement in the eighth week body weight in Beltsville Small White turkey poults. There was no significant difference in body weight between the two treatment groups. This improvement in body weights gain was observed since fourth week of age. However no significant differences were seen in feed efficiency and livability. Positive effect that was seen could be due to some medicinal principles seen in the garlic.