PRODUCTION PERFORMANCE OF BROILERS FED WITH MAIZE BRAN

S. Byju, M. Moorthy, S.C. Edwin and B. Mohan*
Department of Poultry Science, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal - 637 002, Tamil Nadu
* Associate Professor and Head, KVK, VC&RI., Namakkal – 2.
namakkalmoorthy@yahoo.com

An experiment was conducted to study the inclusion of maize bran with and without non-starch polysaccharide hydrolyzing enzyme (NSPHE) on production performance viz. body weight gain, feed intake and feed conversion ratio for a period of six weeks with two hundred and eighty commercial, straight run day-old Vencobb broiler chicks. These chicks were randomly grouped into seven treatments with four replicates of ten chicks each. The treatment groups consisted of control (T₁), 2.5 per cent maize bran (T₂), 2.5 per cent maize bran + NSPHE (T₃), 5 per cent maize bran (T₄), 5 per cent maize bran + NSPHE (T₅), 7.5 per cent maize bran (T₆) and 7.5 per cent maize bran + NSPHE (T₇). All treatment groups fed maize bran with and without NSPHE had significantly (P<0.05) higher mean body weight compared to control group at 6 weeks of age. Inclusion of maize bran at 2.5 and 5.0 per cent with enzyme supplementation (T₃ and T₅) and maize bran at 7.5 per cent without enzyme supplementation showed significantly (P<0.05) higher body weight gain than control at six weeks of age. No significant difference was observed in overall feed consumption and feed conversion ratio at 6 weeks of age. The overall feed conversion ratio was numerically better (1.67) in 5 per cent maize bran fed group with enzyme when compared to control group (1.72). The overall return over feed cost was significantly (P<0.05) higher in T₅ and T₆ when compared to control group.