INFLUENCE OF TURMERIC POWDER (*CURCUMA LONGA*) ON EGG YOLK CHOLESTEROL LEVEL IN RHODO WHITE EGGS

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An experiment was conducted to study the influence of turmeric powder (*Curcuma longa*) on egg yolk cholesterol level of Rhodo White eggs. Seventy two Rhodo White layers were randomly divided into four turmeric treatment groups @ 0, 0.05%, 0.1% and 0.15% with three replicate of six birds each and reared with *iso-nitrogenous* and *isocalorie* diet for a period from 26 week to 39 weeks of age. The egg yolk cholesterol estimation was carried out at 32 and 39th week of age. At 32 weeks of age, the egg yolk cholesterol level was significantly (P<0.01) reduced in all groups fed turmeric at 0.05% (10.85 ± 0.19 mg/g of yolk), 0.1% (10.13 ± 0.05 mg/g of yolk) and 0.15% (9.22 ± 0.18 mg/g of yolk) respectively than control group (13.74 ± 0.42 mg/g of yolk). The maximum reduction of egg yolk cholesterol level (32.9 %) was observed in 0.15 % turmeric powder supplemented group compared to control. At 39th week, the egg yolk cholesterol level decreased significantly (P<0.01) in all turmeric supplemented groups (viz. 10.91 ± 0.24, 10.39 ± 0.17, 9.28 ± 0.09 mg/g of yolk in 0.05, 0.1 and 0.15 %, respectively) than control (13.54 ± 0.19 mg/g of yolk). The reductions of egg yolk cholesterol were 19.42 %, 23.26 % and 31.46 % in 0.05 %, 0.1 %, and 0.15 % turmeric supplemented groups respectively than control. It was concluded that the inclusion of turmeric powder (*Curcuma longa*) reduced the egg yolk cholesterol level of Rhodo White eggs.

Key words: Turmeric Powder, Laying hens, Egg yolk cholesterol