Effect of Feeding Cabbage Waste on the Reproductive Performance of Broiler Rabbits


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An experiment was carried out to evaluate the effect of feeding cabbage waste on reproductive performance of New Zealand White breed of Broiler Rabbits. Thirty weaned New Zealand White rabbits aged between seven to eight weeks were randomized into 5 treatments with 6 replicates (one male and five females) in each treatment. Concentrate feed was offered @ 30 per cent of the dry matter intake and the remaining 70 per cent of the dry matter supplied through green fodder (Desmanthus virgatus). The treatments were concentrate (rabbit) feed with desmanthus (T1), concentrate with 50% cabbage and 50% desmanthus (T2), concentrate with 100% cabbage (T3), concentrate with 50% cabbage and 50% desmanthus with 100 μg of iodine supplementation per day per animal (T4), concentrate and 100% cabbage with 100 μg of iodine supplementation per day per animal (T5). The age of successful mating was between 153 to 174 days and the number of mating per conception was not significantly different between treatments. The litter size at birth (4.88 to 5.39), litter weight at birth (218.4 to 244.3 g), litter size at weaning (4.58 to 4.92), litter weight at weaning (2650 to 2799 g) and weight of the individual bunnies at weaning (564 to 578 g) in the treatment groups were not statistically significant. Hence, cabbage waste can be fed up to 100 per cent level of replacing Desmanthus virgatus in rabbits.

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