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ARTICLE

## Effect of feed supplement on the performance of commercial broiler

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**Abstract :** The effect of liquid feed supplementation on the performance of commercial broiler has been studied for a period of six weeks. The average bodyweight at six weeks for different groups were found to be  $1.52 \pm 0.07$ ,  $1.57 \pm 0.08$  and  $1.56 \pm 0.08$  kg. for  $T_0$ ,  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  groups, respectively. The groups treated with feed additives through drinking water has increased body weight significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) than the control group. The feed conversion efficiency was also found to be significantly better ( $P < 0.05$ ) in the groups treated with liquid feed supplement in comparison to control groups resulting less cost of production. The cost of production per kg live broiler was found to be 4.70 and 3.78 per cent lower in treated groups than control group. Better livability per cent was found in the groups treated with additive than the control group. The performance index was also found to be better in feed supplemented groups.

**Key words :** Feed supplement, Broiler, Performance

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### INTRODUCTION

The cost of feed alone is worked out to be 70-80 % of the total cost of poultry production. There is also a competition with the human being for cereal grains which often force the nutritionist to formulate cheaper diets. Non availability of quality feed especially protein sources and its cost is a major constraint for poultry production. The cost of production per kg live broiler is higher in Kashmir valley than other parts of the country because the feed has to be brought from other states of the country. The cost of per kg live broiler ranges from Rs. 60-80. Feed additives are generally used to improve appetite, as production enhancer and also as antistress. Feed additive increases the efficiency of feed utilization, growth and improved survivability in broilers (Narayanswami *et al.*, 2003). Herbal liver tonics supplemented in broiler diets may serve as effective growth promoters and help in better weight gain in broiler chicks (Ramappa and Devegowda, 1975). Without addition of feed additives full benefits of the nutrients present in the diets may not be obtained. Therefore, the present study has been carried out to investigate the effects of feed

supplement *viz.*, liv-100 on the performance of commercial broilers up to six weeks of age.

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in a private farm near Faculty of Agriculture, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Wadura during 2007. A total of 360 commercial day old broiler chicks having identical body weights ( $40 \pm 5$  g) were divided into three groups having 120 chicks in each. Group-I was kept as control ( $T_0$ ) without providing any feed additives and Group-II ( $T_1$ ) and Group-III ( $T_2$ ) were provided with Liv-100 (liver stimulant) @ 20ml and 30ml per 100 birds daily, respectively, through drinking water which is a herbal product of AROSOL Pharmaceuticals Ltd. indicated for fighting aflatoxin, restores reduced feed intake, improve liver function, better feed conversion efficiency, faster growth, livability and production and helps better utilization of nutrients. The birds from all the groups were fed standard commercial broiler ration *ad libitum* containing 21% CP and 2900 kcal ME/kg diet up to six weeks of