Effects of Roxazyme -G on Growth Indices and Haematological Variables of Broilers Fed Maize Offal-based Diets

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Abstract

Influence of roxazyme -G on the utilisation of maize offal in place of maize was investigated using 420 broiler chicks. Seven diets were used in which the control diet (diet 1) contained 529 g kg\textsuperscript{-1} and 569 g kg\textsuperscript{-1} maize at starter and finisher phases, respectively. In diets 2, 3 and 4, twenty five percent of the maize components of diet 1 were replaced with maize offal while in diets 5, 6 and 7, fifty percent maize component of diet 1 was replaced with maize offal. Roxazyme-G was added to the diets at levels of 100, 200 and 300 mg kg\textsuperscript{-1} in diets 2 & 5, 3 & 6 and 4 &7, respectively. At the close of the starter (2–4 weeks of age) and finisher (5–8 weeks of age) phases 5 chicks and 5 chickens per replicate, respectively were sacrificed conventionally and their blood collected for blood analysis. Only the final weight of chicks were significantly (P≤0.05) influenced while growth indices were not in finished birds. The entire haematological indices measured were not significantly (P≥0.05) influenced by dietary treatment in both starter and finisher birds. At starter phase, the optimum level of maize offal substitution for maize could be achieved at 132.3 g kg\textsuperscript{-1} + 200 mg kg\textsuperscript{-1} roxazyme -G while 142.3 g kg\textsuperscript{-1} maize offal + 200 mg kg\textsuperscript{-1} roxazyme -G was the optimum level for finisher birds. Conclusive, the use of maize offal and roxazyme -G at these optimal levels could lead to more of maize offal being included in broiler diets in tropical countries.

Keywords: Blood indices, broilers, finisher, roxazyme -G, starter

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