

Effect of neem leaf (*Azadirachta indica*) powder on growth performance in cage system of broilers

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ABSTRACT : The present experiment was undertaken at the Livestock Production and Management(unit),Mahatma Gandhi Chitrakoot Gramodaya Vishwavidyalaya, Satna (M.P.). The day-old broiler chicks divided into three weight groups, to study the effects of day-old weight on the growth up to sixth week of age. The data collected on body weight, gain in weight, feed consumption and feed conversion ratio, etc., were subjected to statistical analysis. The data so collected, have been presented and discussed in the preceding chapter. The experiment was conducted to determine the comparative growth performance and dressing yield of broilers as influenced by three weight groups of day-old chicks, viz., low day-old weight group (30 – 35 g), middle day-old weight group (35 –40 g) and high day-old weight group (40 – 45 g), reared separately in cages during Summer season of high humidity. Highest dressed yield was observed in broilers of MDOW (77.16%) followed by HDOW (58.22%) and LDOW (53.29%). The differences in these were also non-significant. It may be concluded that weight groups of day-old broiler chicks had no significant effect on growth performance of broilers. Rearing chicks of day-old weight group of 40 – 45 g may be beneficial for getting higher dressed yield though not significant.

Key Words : Neem leaf Powder, broilers and growth, performance.