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RECYCLING OF WASTES – AN EVALUATION OF DISTILLERY RESIDUES AS POULTRY FEED SUPPLEMENTS

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By-products of the distilling and fermenting industries have been used in animal feeding to supplement protein, vitamins, minerals and some unidentified growth factors. Fodder yeast and yeast as single cell protein are being increasingly used at present. Considerable quantities of yeast becomes available as toddy sediment and spent wash in the local coconut arrack distilling industry. Experiments were conducted to evaluate dried distillery residue (DDR) as a poultry feed supplement.

The DDR used in these experiments analysed 9.75% moisture, 20.87% crude protein, 1.20% ether extract, 2.20% crude fibre, 10.10% ash and 55.88% N–free extractives.

Initially DDR was added to a commercial ration at 5 and 10% levels and fed to broiler finishers and compared with two commonly used protein supplements namely local fish meal and milk powder added at the same levels. The performance of the birds supplemented with DDR was better than the other two groups. DDR fed group had significantly better ($P>0.05$) weight gains and feed efficiency compared to local fish meal.

In the second experiment rations were formulated incorporating 5, 10 and 15% DDR to be isocaloric and isonitrogenous as the control. The differences in the performance of broiler starters fed with these rations were not significant ($P>0.05$), indicating that DDR could be used in broiler rations up to 15%. A fifth ration containing 5% DDR in addition to the control showed slightly better results suggestive of the presence of an unidentified growth factor.