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Use of broiler offal silage-rice bran pellets in a qualitative feed restriction strategy for mature broilers

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Broilers show a compensatory growth when a high quality feed is offered *ad libitum*, following growth retardation either due to qualitative or quantitative feed restriction. This study used the pellets of broiler offal silage-rice bran mixture (BOSRBP) in a qualitative feed restriction strategy to evaluate the production and economic performance of broilers. Twenty seven day old broiler chicks (n=54) in 18 pens were subjected to three dietary regimens; 1 - birds were fed BOSRBP during day time and commercial finisher feed during night time until day 34 (BOSRBP_d), 2 - same as regimen 1 except BOSRBP were fed during night (BOSRBP_n) and 3 - fed the same broiler finisher diet *ad libitum* (control). From day 35-41, birds in all three treatments were fed the same commercial feed *ad libitum*. Rice bran and broiler offal silage were mixed at 2:1 and dried (BOSRB). Dried BOSRB mixture was mixed with water (1:1), pelleted and, then dried. The total commercial feed intake was significantly reduced when BOSRBP were given either day or night time from day 27-34. When birds were offered the commercial feed in night or day time following a session of BOSRBP feeding, their commercial feed intakes were significantly higher than the commercial feed intakes of the respective sessions of the birds who received commercial feed uninterruptedly. Both during day time and night time, water:feed ratio was significantly higher when BOSRBP were given. Birds in BOSRBP_d and BOSRBP_n feeding regimen showed significantly lower live weight on day 34 and weight gain from day 27-34. Those birds were unable to show a compensatory growth sufficient enough to equate the final live weight with the birds in control group. Although the total feed cost of the birds in control group significantly reduced from Rs.181 to Rs.166 under BOSRBP_n feeding regimen and to Rs.161 under BOSRBP_d feeding, the feed cost per unit live weight gain showed no benefits. It was concluded that restricted feeding strategy which used BOSRBP has no beneficial effects on growth or financial performance of mature broiler chicken.