



Utilization of *Citrullus lanatus* seed cake as feedstuffs: influence on broiler chicks' growth performance

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1 ABSTRACT

This work aims to evaluate the effect of the inclusion of *Citrullus lanatus* "Pistachio" seed cake (CSC) in the diet on the productivity of broiler chicks. This work has focused on 195 chicks of two (2) weeks of age. These were randomly distributed into 5 groups of 39 subjects each corresponding to 5 types of experimental diets A₀, A₁, A₂, A₃ and A₄ containing 0, 26.6, 30 and 39% seed cake of *C. lanatus* in substitution of soya seed cake (SSC). The corresponding proteins contents were as follow: 14.87, 19.63, 19.64, 20.04 and 19.61%. Feed intake was measured on daily basis and weighing on weekly basis. At the end of the study, body weights of the subjects under treatment were significantly higher (1160-1590 g). No significant adverse effects were observed in feed conversion, which increased from 0.63 to 1.71. All the results showed that incorporation of *C. lanatus* seed cake up to 26.6% in the diet could be an alternative way of improving food and income in the production of broilers.
