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THE EFFECT OF EARLY FEEDING OF *COPROCOCCUS EUTACTUS* ON GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF THE GUINEA FOWL

Abstract

Probiotics use in the poultry industry to increase the overall health benefits of birds is extensively researched. Studies have shown that the microflora in the gastrointestinal tract (GIT) of poultry is vast and varies in bacterial populations throughout the GI tract. Some of these bacteria commonly found in the GIT of birds have probiotics properties and potential alternatives to antibiotics. This is a biosafety measure in poultry to combat antibiotic-resistant bacteria. The purpose of this research is to observe the beneficial effects of *Coprococcus Eutactus* in guinea fowl diet and evaluate other bacteria present in the gastrointestinal tract of the Guinea fowl. *Coprococcus Eutactus* growth will be studied *in-vitro* and introduced into guinea fowl diet through encapsulation. The performance of the birds will be determined by measuring body weight, feed consumption, feed conversion, and carcass characteristics.