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Dietary inclusion of *Pistacia terebinthus* (terebinth) seed in layer diet and its impact on internal egg quality parameters during different storage time

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Statement of the Problem: Egg quality losses during storage period from laying to transportation pose hazardous damage to farm economics. Sustainability and maintenance of internal egg quality can be achieved by alternative therapy like herbal and plants products. Current study was designed to investigate the effects of dietary supplementation of *Pistacia terebinthus* seed meal in laying hens on egg quality traits during different storage time. Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: For this purpose a total of 192 Babcock white laying hens were divided into 6 groups with 4 subgroups in each and fed diets containing 0, 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 g kg⁻¹ terebinth (*Pistacia terebinthus*) to each group accordingly. At the end of experiment, 48 eggs were collected from each group at 2 consecutive days. From the first day collection, 12 eggs from each group was analysed on the same day without storage. Remaining eggs were stored at +4°C. Then after 10, 20 and 30 days of storage, 12 eggs from each group were analyzed for internal egg quality parameters. Findings: Results revealed that terebinthus has shown significantly positive effect ($P < 0.05$) on haugh unit values at 20 g kg⁻¹ and 40 g kg⁻¹ inclusion rate at days 30 of storage. Similarly, yolk color index value was also increased ($P < 0.05$) at 3% inclusion level of terebinthus at days 20 of storage while egg shell breaking strength and egg weight remained unaffected ($P > 0.05$) at various dose levels during different storage duration. Conclusion & Significance: It is concluded that terebinthus seed meal could be used to extend the storage time of eggs without adverse effects on quality of eggs.

Biography

Abdur Rahman is Lecturer in Animal Nutrition section at College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Jhang (Sub Campus UVAS, Lahore) and holds DVM Degree, MPhil and PhD in Animal Nutrition. He has more than seven years teaching experience at UVAS, Lahore and CVAS, Jhang. He is actively engaged in teaching and research. He has worked in many research projects at Pakistan and Turkey. He has published more than 15 research papers in international journals. He is providing services to different livestock farmers as well.

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