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Comparative growth performance of turkey strains at different ages

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A biological experiment was conducted to evaluate the comparative performance of three strains of turkeys' viz., Beltsville Small White (BSW), Desi and Nandanam Turkey-I (NTI) at different ages. The experimental design comprises of three treatments and two replicates with twenty five numbers each. The computed rations were isocaloric and isonitrogenous. Birds were reared under deep litter system and standard managemental condition was followed throughout the experiment. The body weight, feed intake and livability were recorded monthly from 0 day to 16th week of age. The results revealed that the BSW (1110.49±24.57; 2191.26±54.93 and 2683.43±77.01 g) had significantly (p<0.01) higher body weight at 8th, 12th and 16th week than desi (919.26±24.07; 1783.64±37.56 and 2082.79±74.97 g) and NT-I (1052.50±31.75; 1827.41±45.25 and 2235.34±69.35 g). There were no significant differences in feed conversion ratio and livability between the strains at 16th week of age. It can be concluded that Beltsville Small White (BSW) can be reared for meat purpose as it had higher growth performance than desi and Nandanam Turkey-I under tropical climatic conditions.

Biography

Premavalli K is currently working as an Assistant Professor at Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Science University, India.

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