

## Performance of coloured synthetic broiler fed dried *Azolla* as protein substitute

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The experiment was conducted in Instructional Livestock Farm complex, OUAT, Bhubaneswar during January-March, 2014 to study the performance of coloured synthetic broiler fed with dried *Azolla* as protein substitute. 150 day-old chicks were reared and distributed randomly in five dietary treatments with 3 replicates each. The five dietary treatments of the experiment were: C1: Basal diet, T1: Basal diet+10% dietary protein from *Azolla*, T2: Basal diet+10% dietary protein from *Azolla*+k-Enzyme<sup>TM</sup>, T3: Basal diet+15% dietary protein from *Azolla*, T4: Basal diet+15% dietary protein from *Azolla*+k-Enzyme<sup>TM</sup>. Each of the *Azolla* fed group compared to control, showed significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) higher body weight and feed consumption in every week from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> week. The antibody titres (log<sub>2</sub>) against SRBC (sheep red blood corpuscles) inoculation of 6<sup>th</sup> week old broiler chicks were insignificant ( $P > 0.05$ ) difference among different groups. However, each of *Azolla* fed groups had numerically higher titre values than the control. The CBH (cutaneous basophil hypersensitivity) responses were  $135.51 \pm 2.53$ ,  $169.35 \pm 0.86$ ,  $158.08 \pm 3.82$ ,  $181.82 \pm 0.97$  and  $178.35 \pm 15.19$  for C1, T1, T2, T3 and T4, respectively with significant ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) differences between the treated groups. Each of the *Azolla* fed group, except T2 had significantly higher CBH response than the control. On basis of net return/kg live weight, each of *Azolla* fed groups showed higher economic efficiency than the control. T3 showed the highest efficiency followed by groups T4, T2 and T1.

### Biography

Jessy Bagh is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Livestock Product Management at College of Veterinary Science and Animal Health, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, India

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