

Effect of Adding Different Dietary Levels of Distillers Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS) on Productive Performance of Laying Hens

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Abstract :

Adding distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS) as a feed ingredient in poultry diets has lately been increased. This study was conducted to evaluate the effect of adding different dietary levels of DDGS on the productive performance of laying hens. Three hundred twenty with 30-week-old Hisex laying hens were randomly distributed among four dietary treatments with twenty replicates of four laying hens each. Laying hens were fed four iso-energetic and iso-nitrogenous layer diets containing 0.0, 5.0, 10.0 or 20.0% DDGS for 12-week trial period from 30 to 42 weeks of age. Results obtained from the present study showed that there were no significant effects of adding either 0.0, 5.0, 10.0 or 20.0% DDGS into laying hen diets on egg production, egg weight, egg mass, feed consumption, feed conversion ratio per egg mass (kg feed/kg egg/hen), egg specific gravity, Haugh unit and egg yolk color. However, laying hens fed a diet containing 20% DDGS exhibited significantly the highest body weight loss compared to all the other dietary treatments. Therefore, it can be concluded that DDGS can be safely added into diets as an alternative source of protein and energy up to 20% without negative effects on productive performance characteristics of Hisex laying hens from 30 to 42 weeks of age.

Key Word :

Distillers dried grains with solubles, laying hens, productive performance

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