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EFFECT OF SELENIUM AND (OR) TURMERIC POWDER ON GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF BROILER CHICKENS REARED UNDER HEAT STRESS CONDITION

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An experiment was conducted using 180 (Ross * Ross) broiler chickens to evaluate the effect of different levels of sodium selenite (Se) and turmeric powder (TP) on growth performance of broilers. One day old chickens were randomly allocated to 6 treatments (T1= control, T2= control + 5 g TP /kg, T3= control + 10 g TP /kg, T4= control + 0.3 mg Se /kg, T5= control + 0.3 mg Se + 5 g TP /kg, and T6= control + 0.3 mg Se + 10 g TP /kg), 3 replicates and 10 birds each. The air temperature was increased (32-35°C) from day 28 to day 42. Feed intake, daily gain and feed conversion rate (FCR) was recorded weekly until the end of experiment. The results showed final body weight and weight gain was the highest for T3 ($P < 0.05$). At the end of experiment FCR in T4 (1.88) was significantly lower ($P > < 0.05$) than those the others. Interactions between Se and TP was significant ($P > < 0.05$) for body weight, weight gain, and FCR at the different weeks. Concluded that supplementation the broiler chicken diets with selenium and turmeric powder is important for heat stress suppression.

Keywords: Broiler, Selenium, Turmeric, Heat stress