

Ajwain (*trachyspermum ammi*)-As Herbal Feed Additives in Broiler Chicken and its Effect on Mortality Reduction

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Abstract—The present investigation was conducted to analyze the effect of supplementation of Ajwain on the performance of broiler chicken. Two hundred and twenty five one-day old unsexed broiler chicks were used on a completely randomized design in 5 groups with 3 replicates, each consisting of 15 broilers. The treatments included the control group [T₁] (basal diet) and four groups with basal diet + Ajwain powder @ 0.1% in feed [T₂], basal diet + Ajwain powder @ 0.2% in feed [T₃] and basal diet + Ajwain seeds soaked in drinking water over nightly @ 0.1% [T₄] and basal diet + Ajwain seeds soaked in drinking water over nightly @ 0.2% [T₅] respectively. No effect of Ajwain supplementation on broiler diet was observed on mortality. The mortality percent for experiment was 0 %. The Nil mortality may be attributed to better managerial practices followed with proper vaccination schedule and conducive macro and micro environment during the period of study. Mortality pattern indicates that Ajwain, as an additive to broiler chicken feed, has great potentials for improving intestinal health, immune system response and growth performance.

Thus, it can be inferred that Ajwain can be promoted as a non-antibiotic growth promoter (NAGP) in broiler industry for producing quality meat without antibiotics in a very cost effective way.

Keywords: Ajwain, broiler chicken, NAGP, mortality pattern