SEMI FAT SOYBEAN MEAL AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR SOYBEAN MEAL IN BROILER RATIONS

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Price of imported Soybean Meal (SBM) has been increasing over the years and no any local substitute to replace it in animal feeds is forthcoming. A study was conducted to investigate the possibility of replacing SBM with Semi Fat Soybean Meal (SFSBM) in commercial broiler rations. Four nutritionally comparable diets with varying levels of SFSBM (0, 10, 20 and 30%) were formulated. Two hundred Hubbard (F 15) day old broiler chicks were randomly assigned into four treatments with five replicates of ten birds each. Measurements; body weights, feed intakes and calculations; body weight gains, feed conversion ratio (FCR) were done for a period of 42 days. Apparent retentions of nitrogen, fat, dry matter (DM) and energy were calculated during starter period by total collection method. Carcass yields were calculated at the end of experiment. Feed intakes were significantly higher *($p<0.05$)* in birds fed with 0% SFSBM diet compared to birds fed with other treatment diets in finisher period. Although, birds fed with 0% SFSBM diet were slightly heavier than other birds, the difference was statistically not significant *($p>0.05$)*. Carcass yield and FCR were not altered by addition of SFSBM to the rations. Birds fed with diet containing 30% SFSBM showed significantly higher *($p<0.05$)* energy and fat retention, whereas DM retention was significantly higher *($p<0.05$)* in birds fed with 20% SFSBM diet. However, there were no differences *($p>0.05$)* in nitrogen retention among the treatments. Results revealed that SFSBM can be used as a substitute for SBM in broiler rations and it can be incorporated up to 30% of the diet safely with no adverse effect in a commercial perspective, especially when the SBM price is high.

Keywords: Apparent retentions, Body weight, Broiler, Semi fat soybean meal, Soybean meal