Effect Of Light Intensity On Broiler Performance In Summer Season

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Abstract

This study was conducted at poultry farm of the College of Agriculture, University of Baghdad, during the period from the 21st of June to the 15th August. The aim of the study to indentify the effects of low light intensity on broiler performance during summer season.

One day old 360 Fawbro broilers chicks were divided randomly into two groups (6 replicates) to study the effects of light intensity on body weight, weight gain, feed efficiency, feed conversion, percentage of mortility and carccase measurements. All chicks were exposed to 14.5 LX at the first week, then each group exposed to one of the following treatments:

Treatment 1: Light intensity 0.5 LX for 12 hr. and followed by 14.5 LX for 12 hr.

Treatment 2: Light intensity 14.5 LX for 24 hr.

The results could be summerized as following:

1- Low light intensity 0.5 LX increased the average of body weight at 8 weeks of age significantly (P < 0.05) (1485 gm) in contrast with (1448 gm) for high light intensity 14.5 LX.

2- Low light intensity increased significantly (P < 0.05) feed efficiency, it was (3716 gm) comparison with (3682 gm) to high light intensity.
3- Low light intensity was not effecting in feed conversation in contrast with the high light intensity.

4- Breeding of broilers under low light intensity led to reduce (P < 0.05) the percentage of weekly mortality, and total mortality, it was 5.1% comparison with 14% for high intensity.

5- The results appeared that there are increasing (P < 0.05) in weight of thighs and breast in low light intensity (166.9 and 308 gm) comparison with (141.6 and 285 gm) to high light intensity consequently.