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The effect of the using different levels of dried tomato pulp on performance of laying hens

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An experiment was conducted to determine the effect of different dried tomato pulp level on commercial layer performance. One hundred and ninety two Hy- Line strain laying hens, 65 to 73 weeks of age, were randomly assigned to 4 dietary treatments. In the week 8 of experiment, hens were allocated to four dietary treatments being: 0, 5, 7.5 and 10 percent of tomato pulp. The hens received a dietad libitum. The results obtained in the experiment showed that: The egg production rate was significantly different between treatments ($P<0.05$). Highest level of egg production rate (70.7 %) was obtained in treatment with 7.5% of tomato pulp and lowest level of egg production rate (61.81 %) was obtained in control group. Feed intake was significantly different between treatments ($P<0.05$). The highest amount of feed intake (121.45 g) was observed in treatment with 10% of tomato pulp and the lowest (117.34 g) was observed in control group. A significant difference was observed about egg weight among experimental groups ($P<0.05$). The highest amount of egg weight (64.55 g) was obtained in treatment with 10% of tomato pulp and the lowest egg weight (62.78 g) was obtained in control group. There were significant differences in egg mass production among treatments ($P<0.05$). The Highest egg mass (45.16 g) was observed in treatment with 7.5% of tomato pulp and the lowest egg mass (40.93 g) was observed in control group. Significant differences were observed in eggshell weight between experimental groups ($P<0.05$). The highest eggshell weights (7.15 g) were observed in treatment with 5% of dried tomato pulp. It was concluded that inclusion of dried tomato pulp as an alternative feedstuff in laying hens diets up to 10 % has beneficial effects on performance of laying hens.

Keywords: Laying hens, dried tomato pulp, performance, egg quality

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