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Evaluation of Palm Kernel Cake Fermented by *Aspergillus niger* as Substitute for Soybean Meal Protein in the Diet of Broiler

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Abstract: An experiment was conducted for the evaluation of Palm Kernel Cake Fermented (PKCF) by *Aspergillus niger* as a substitute for soybean meal protein in the diet of broiler. The experiment used a Complete Randomize Design (CRD) with 6 treatments and 4 replications. The treatments were arranged as follows: 1) 0% basic ration (0% PKCF), 2) 20% substitution of soybean meal protein with PKCF, 3) 40% substitution of soybean meal protein with PKCF, 4) 60% substitution of soybean meal protein with PKCF, 5) 80% substitution of soybean meal with PKCF, 6) 100% substitution of soybean meal with PKCF. The ration were formulated in iso protein 22% and iso caloric 3000 k cal/kg ration. This study used a completely randomized design with six treatments and four replications. The parameters of this study were feed consumption, body weight gained, feed conversion and percentage of carcass. The result of this study showed that feed consumption, body weight gained, feed conversion and percentage of carcass were not significantly affected ($p>0.05$) by any treatment. In conclusion the Palm Kernel Cake Fermented (PKCF) by *Aspergillus niger* can be 100% a substitute of soybean meal protein or 17% in broiler ration.

Key words: Fermented, *Aspergillus niger*, palm kernel cake, soybean meal

INTRODUCTION

The price fluctuation of feedstuff is an obstacle that often causes the unstability of livestock husbandry in Indonesia. The price fluctuation is caused by some of the composition of feedstuff such as fish flour, corn and soybean meal are still imported. This condition causes the cost of feedstuff could reach 60% to 70% of production cost.

To decrease the cost of livestock, there are many efforts to be done such as the use of alternative feedstuff that comes from waste industry that is not useful for human being. One of the potential wastes to be used is the waste of oil palm processing such as Palm Kernel Cake (PKC). PKC is the side result of oil palm production that can be used as feedstuff for livestock. The nutrition content of PKC is: dry matter 87.30%, protein 16.07%, fiber 21.30%, fat 8.23%, Ca 0.27%, P 0.94% and Cu 48.04 ppm (Mirawati *et al.*, 2008).

Even though the crude protein content of PKC is quite high, but the usage of it is still low in livestock ration. The usage of PKC is around 10% in duck ration (Supriadi, 1997; Rizal, 2000). It is caused by the low quality Garcia *et al.* (1999); Perez *et al.* (2000); Odunsei *et al.* (2002); and Ezhieshi and Olomu (2004). The low quality of PKC is caused by the high crude fiber content and metal of Cu that is characterized as toxic to livestock. The high crude fiber decreases the energy usage and protects the

molecule protein so it will be hard to be degradation by protease of livestock. Meanwhile the high Cu of PKC will fasten the protein compound (amino acid that contains sulphur) that causes the quality of protein in PKC was still low (Babjee, 1989). Lysine and methionine have been reported to be deficient in PKC which also limits their use in poultry feed (Onwudike, 1986).

A research had been done by using humic acid in the fermentation method to use the microorganism of cellulose characteristic such as *Aspergillus niger* to increase the quality of protein in PKC. The research gave the improvement of protein, the decrement of crude fiber and low Cu of PKC. The nutrition content of PKC fermentation was: dry matter 42.38%, crude protein 23.20%, crude fiber 10.59% and Cu 0% (Mirawati *et al.*, 2010).

The objective of this research is to determine the percentage of PKCF to replace the soybean meal protein in broiler ration.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The materials are as follows: 1). 100 broilers. 2). The battery cage size 75 x 70 x 75 cm provided with a place to put foods and drinks. 3). Three 60 watt lamps. 4). OHause scale 2610 gram to scale the eggs. 5). This research is conducted by using 6 treatments of ration which are arranged based on the needs of protein and

Table 1: Ration composition of treatment (%)

Feedstuff	Treatment (%)					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Corn	50.0	48.0	47.9	44.5	42.7	38.0
Rice brand	10.0	6.8	1.1	0.5	1.0	2.0
Soybean meal	17.0	13.6	10.2	6.8	3.4	0.0
Coconut meal	3.0	8.0	14.0	18.0	18.0	22.5
Fish meal	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	18.0	18.5
PKCF	0.0	3.4	6.8	10.2	13.6	17.0
Oil	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.8	3.5
Top mix	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 2: Ingredient content and metabolic energy of ration treatment (%)

Ingredients	Treatment (%)					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Protein	22.21	22.03	22.07	21.92	21.77	21.85
Fat	4.96	5.31	5.28	5.48	5.78	6.66
Fiber	3.37	3.70	3.89	4.47	4.58	5.06
Calcium	1.23	1.19	1.13	1.33	1.11	1.09
Phosphor	0.28	0.34	0.40	0.48	0.50	0.57
Methionine	0.43	0.42	0.41	0.40	0.41	0.41
Lysine	1.32	1.23	1.14	1.07	1.04	0.98
Tryptophan	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
Energy (kcal/kg)	3013.00	3005.00	3001.00	2984.00	2977.00	2965.00

metabolism of broiler ration. It is arranged based on equal amount of energy and protein which are 3000 kcal/kg and 22% respectively.

The research was conducted with experiment methodology. It used a Complete Randomly Design (CRD) with 6 treatments and 4 replications. The data were analyzed by using analysis of variance. The differences in treatments are determined by Duncan's multiple range test (Steel and Torrie, 1991). The feed treatment was the replacement of soybean meal protein with PKC fermentation on the following rations:

- R1 0% PKCF
- R2 The replacement of 20% soybean meals protein with PKCF
- R3 The replacement of 40% soybean meals protein with PKCF
- R4 The replacement of 60% soybean meals protein with PKCF
- R5 The replacement of 80% soybean meals protein with PKCF
- R6 The replacement of 100% soybean meals protein with PKCF

The Measurement of the Changes: 1). Feed consumption, 2). Weight gain, 3). Feed conversion, 4). Carcase percentage. The Ration composition and ingredient content and metabolic energy of treatment is presented in Table 1 and 2.

Table 3: Average feed consumption of broiler chicken (gram)

Treatment	Feed consumption
A (Control)	1678.04
B	1678.63
C	1681.25
D	1680.04
E	1677.75
F	1682.88
SE	3.28

SE = Standard Error

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Feed consumption of broiler chicken: The average feed consumption of broiler chicken for each treatment is presented in Table 3.

The result of statistical analysis of variance showed no significant difference among treatments ($p > 0.05$) towards feed consumption of broiler chicken.

Feed consumption did not differ significantly in each treatment was due to a fermentation that PKC has suffered where a fermented material has a scent and flavor that are favorable to livestock which is in accordance with the opinion of Shurtleff and Aoyagi (1979) that fermentation can alter the unfavoured flavor and become favorable. In addition, fermented products are more palatable compared to the original materials as fermentation can produce preferred flavor and vitamin B such as B1, B2 and B12 and minerals (Murugesan *et al.*, 2005; Kubad *et al.*, 1997). Also, the extent to which an animal will consume a particular feed is dependent on the fiber source (Linderman *et al.*, 1986), palatability of

the diet (Cherry and Jones, 1982), its composition of the feed and chemical variation in fibre it self (Kass *et al.*, 1970).

The fact that feed consumption did not significantly in each treatment was also due to the addition of 100ppm humic acid during the manufacturing of the fermented products. According to Humin Tech (2004), humic acid can stabilize flora inside the gut and increase the usability of nutrients from ration without increasing the amount of consumption. This result was similar to the result obtained by Yoruk *et al.* (2004) that showed no significant difference the feed consumption with the addition of humic acid.

Body weight gain of broiler chicken: The average body weight gain of broiler chicken for each treatment is presented in Table 4.

The result of the statistical analysis of variance showed that treatments did not significantly affect ($p>0.05$) Body Weight Gain (BWG) of broiler chicken.

The fact that there was no significant difference of body weight gain among treatments was due to feed consumption of each treatment was not significantly different either. Besides, it also may be influenced by the use of PKC fermentation, in accordance with the opinion of Winarno *et al.* (1980) which stated that the quality of fermented materials is much better which is reflected in BWG that is not differ with the BWG of rations control, although giving PKCF as a 100% replacement for soybean meal protein in broiler ration. Dairo and Fasuyi (2008) can be used PKCF only 50% replacement for soybean meal protein in laying hens.

The actuality that there was no significant body weight gain in each of these treatments is attributable to the use of fermented products, where the fermented materials have a better quality, a higher digestibility and can eliminate toxic compounds (Winarno *et al.*, 1980) and increase the content of vitamins and minerals (Shurtleff and Aoyagi, 1979). This was reflected through nitrogen retention of palm kernel cake fermented was higher (65.30%) compared to before fermentation (55.99%). Therefore, treatments that use fermented products are easily absorbed by livestock and reflected through the equal amount of BWG with control despite the usage of PKCF as a replacement for soybean meal protein (soybean meal in ration was 17%). This is consistent with some findings in literature from (Aderolu *et al.*, 2002).

Moreover, the result of no significant difference of body weight gain on each treatment is also caused by the relatively higher and balanced amino acid content in PKC fermentation, especially amino acid methionine and lysine (Mirnawati *et al.*, 2009; Dairo and Fasuyi, 2008). Leeson and Summers (2001) that stated broiler chicken amino acid requirements are 0.4% methionine, 1.0% lysine and 0.24% tryptophan. Hence, it can be concluded that critical amino acid in ration treatments is within the normal limits of poultry needs.

Table 4: Average Body Weight Gain (BWG) of broiler chicken (gram)

Treatment	Body weight gain
A (Control)	973.75
B	942.50
C	948.13
D	949.06
E	930.31
F	943.13
SE	12.35

SE = Standard Error

Table 5: The average feed conversion of broiler chicken during research

Treatment	Feed conversion
A (Control)	1.72
B	1.78
C	1.77
D	1.77
E	1.80
F	1.78
SE	0.04

SE = Standard Error

The result of no significant difference of body weight gain in each of the conducted treatment was due to the addition of 100 ppm humic acid in the manufacture of fermented product PKCF, whereas humic acid has beneficial activity to livestock as it can increase micro flora activity in digestive system thus increase digestibility. In accordance with the opinion of Humin Tech (2004) that humic acid can stabilize flora and improve the usability of nutrients from fodder without increasing consumption. In addition, according to Kompiang (2000); Kompiang *et al.* (2002 and 2004) humic acid can increase microbe population in digestive system. The increment of microbe population will improve the performance of chickens that includes body weight gain.

Feed conversion of broiler chicken: The average feed conversion of broiler chicken for each treatment is portrayed in Table 5.

Based on the statistical analysis of variance, treatments did not significantly affect ($p>0.05$) feed conversion of broiler chicken. Feed conversion did not differ significantly in each treatment is due to the fact that body weight gain and consumption in each treatment were not significantly different either ($p>0.05$). This is in accordance with the opinion of Scott *et al.* (1982) that the value of ration conversion is determined by the amount ration consumption and BWG produced. The result showed that the average ration conversion ranged from 1.72-1.80. This result is lower compared to the result obtained by Ezhieshi and Olomu (2008) which stated that ration conversion of broiler chicken is 1.89-2.33. However, this result is higher compared to the result obtained by Ugwu *et al.* (2008) which ranged from 2.61-3.46. Kartasudjana and Suprijatna (2006) which ranged from 1.70-1.78.

Table 6: The average carcass percentage of broiler chicken over research

Treatments	Carcass percentage (%)
A (Control)	65.45
B	66.51
C	65.97
D	65.99
E	66.63
F	65.40
SE	0.67

SE = Standard Error

Furthermore, feed conversion did not differ significantly in each treatment is due to the usage of fermented BIS that has better quality than without fermentation (Winarno *et al.*, 1980), thus allows easier utilization by livestock and yields a better conversion that equals to feed conversion in treatment A (control). This is due to the ability of humic acid to stabilize flora in the gut and improve the usability of nutrients in fodder and increase the body weight of livestock without increasing the amount of consumption. In addition, Kocabagli *et al.* (2002), Yoruk *et al.* (2004) and Kucukersan *et al.* (2005) stated that the addition of humic acid over the growth period has benefited the broiler chicken performance which can be seen from the growth and feed conversion.

The carcass percentage of broiler chicken (%): The average carcass percentage of broiler chicken in each treatment is portrayed in Table 6.

Based on the statistical analysis of variance, treatments did not significantly affect ($p>0.05$) the carcass percentage of broiler chicken. The carcass percentage did not differ significantly among treatments such as A, B, C, D, E, F is due to the live weight that was not significantly different either. In accordance with Siregar (2001) which states that carcass percentage was a ratio between carcass weight and live weight multiplied by 100%. Based on the research, the carcass percentage obtained ranged from 65.40-66.63%. This result is in line with that recommended Wahju (1992) which states that the carcass percentage of broiler chicken ranged from 65-75%.

The result of no significant difference of broiler chicken carcass percentage in each treatment is due to the usage of fermented PKC that has better quality than without fermentation (Winarno *et al.*, 1980), thus allows easier utilization by livestock and yields a better carcass percentage. The high quality of feedstuffs provided had led to the sufficient protein and energy consumption to produce carcass weight. Likewise, the crude fiber content in each treatment still within broiler standard requirements (5-6%) and have not hindered protein and energy digestibility yet. This can be seen from the equal amount of feed consumption that results in the same carcass weight (Nurhayati, 2008). In contrast, a high crude fiber in ration can reduce the digestible components as well as to reduce enzyme activities that

assist the carbohydrate, protein and fat digestion (Parakkasi, 1983; Tulung, 1987).

Furthermore, the result of no significant difference of carcass percentage in each treatment is attributable to the addition of humic acid in the production fermented. This is due to the ability of humic acid to stabilize flora in the gut and improve the usability of nutrients in fodder and increase the body weight of livestock without increasing the amount of consumption. In addition, Kocabagli *et al.* (2002), Yoruk *et al.* (2004) and Kucukersan *et al.* (2005) state that the addition of humic acid over the growth period has benefited the broiler chicken performance which can be seen from the growth and carcass percentage.

The average carcass percentage in this research is ranging from 65.40-66.51%. This result was not significantly differ from the result obtained by Siregar (2001) that states the average carcass percentage of broiler chicken was ranged at 65-75% from live weight.

Conclusion: From the research, PKC fermented by *A. niger* can be a 100% substitute to soybean meal protein in broiler ration or 17% in broiler ration without adversely affecting the performance of broiler chickens.

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