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# The Effect of Using Different Levels from Date Palm Pollen in Diet on Productive Performance and Some Eggs Quality Measurements for Layer Hens Lohman

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**Abstract:** This study was conducted in poultry farm in animal resources department, College of agriculture, Diyala University during period 1/2 to 1/4 2015 to determine the effect of adding different levels of date palm pollen in productive performance and some eggs quality of layer hens chicken by use of 156 hens of lohman brown 50 weeks age. The treatments was 0, 6, 8, 10 gm/kg diet (T1, T2, T3 and T4) respectively. The results shows that there was a significant different ( $p \leq 0.01$ ) in hen day production which was 84.59, 82.39, 81.53, 77.37 % for T4, T3, T2, T1 respectively, the cumulative eggs, eggs weight, eggs mass, feed conversion were have a significant different for T4 compared with experiment and control treatments. There was a significant decreased in body weight and feed consumption for T2, T3 and T4 compared with T1 (cont), there were no significant different in eggs quality except shell weight and thickness which have significant different for date palm pollen treatments.

**Keywords:** Date Palm Pollen, Hens, Egg Production

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## 1. Introduction

The use of herbal medicine has become increasing worldwide and many ancient records of herbal medical plants. Suspension of *Phoenix dactylifera* date palm pollen DPP is an herbal mixture that is widely used as a folk remedy for curing male infertility in traditional medicine<sup>1,2</sup>. It is a good source of natural antioxidants<sup>3</sup>. Flavonoid is the major class of phytoestrogen. It is functionally and structurally similar to estrogen<sup>4</sup> that affects Spermatogenesis. Flavonoids also act as antioxidant<sup>5</sup>. Antioxidants can also protect testis<sup>6,7</sup>. This component also protects sperm and is associated with semen quality as well<sup>8</sup>. The use of DPP as feed additive to animal diet lead to more daily gain<sup>9</sup> and the use of water extract of DPP record a significant different in production and weight of eggs compared to control group and in ovary tract weight<sup>10</sup>. The DPP have estrogen hormone play a very important effect in gonads<sup>11,12</sup>. The fertility effects of DPP in traditional medicine are not supported by scientifically and

the literature does show little reports on its effects on fertility. Therefore, the aim of this study is to determine the effects of DPP on the productive of layer hens lohman chicken.

## 2. Materials and Methods

The flock used in this experiment consist of 156 hens (average body weight 1990gm) lohman brown, 50 weeks of age and randomly divided into four groups for treatments practice, each group consist of 39 hens each group divided into three subgroup represent three replicates (13 hens for each replicate) the treatments referred as following: T1 as control group (received standard diet without any additives), T2, T3, and T4 represented additives of 6, 8 and 10 gm of date palm pollen /kg diet. Hens were housed on floor pens (150×200 cm). The diet used in this experiment as showed in Table1. The data were collected for production characteristics were: Percentage of hen day production (HD%), egg weight, eggs mass, cumulative eggs production, feed consumption, feed conversion, body weight and for eggs quality

characteristics were: shell thickness, shell weight, yolk height, Huh unit, yolk weight, albumen weight, yolk index color. The experimental design for this experiment was Completely Randomized Design, each treatment with three replicates and the significance of differences between means detected by Duncan's Multiple Ranges test<sup>13</sup>, and the analysis of variance performed by used SPSS programme<sup>14</sup>.

**Table 1.** Diet composition and Calculated analysis.

Ingredient and analysis	(%)
Corn	66.4
Soybean meal (48% CP)	19.2
Wheat	6
Dicalcium phosphate	1.2
Limestone	6.1
Mineral premix1	0.05
Vitamin premix2	0.1
Salt (NaCl)	0.41
Coccidiostat	0.05
D,L-Methionine	0.07
Selenium premix3	0.1
Mold inhibitor	0.05
Lysine HCl	0.05
Choline chloride	0.12
Total	100
Calculated analysis	
Crude protein, (%)	16.03
AME,( kcal/kg)	2.918
Lysine, (%)	0.82
Methionine + cysteine,(%)	0.63
Calcium, (%)	2.7
Available phosphorus,(%)	0.42

1 Mineral premix contained the following in milligrams per kilogram of diet: manganese, 120; zinc, 120; iron, 180; copper, 10; iodine, 2.5; Cobalt, 1.0.

2 Vitamin premix contained the following per kilogram of diet: vitamin A, 13,200 IU; cholecalciferol, 4,000 IU; vitamin E, 66 IU; vitamin B12,

3 4.6 ug; riboflavin, 13.2 mg; niacin, 110 mg; pantothenic acid, 22 mg; vitamin K, 4 mg; folic acid, 2.2 mg; thiamine, 4 mg; pyridoxine, 8 mg; And biotin, 252 ug.3Selenium premix contained sodium selenite (Na2SeO3), providing 0.3 mg/kg.

4Data expressed on a percentage of dry matter basis. Formulations Confirmed by proximate analyses

### 3. Results and Discussion

The results in Table 2 showed there was a significant different ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in HD production for DPP treatments compared with control and for all experiments period for T4 and for period 2 , 3 , 4 for T2 and T3 but in general means and that mean all DPP treatments have a significant differences compared with control group. This differences may be caused by increasing of FSH and LH hormones<sup>15</sup> because DPP have high concentration of estradiol and estrogen hormone<sup>10</sup> and DPP have ability to increasing

growth of ovary, ovary ducts and them functions and that caused in HD production increasing as seen in table2.

**Table 2.** Effect of DPP on percentage of hen day eggs production (HD %).

Treatment Period	T1*	T2*	T3	T4
1	76.81 ± 1.45 B	77.29 ± 3.46 B	79.75 ± 2.84 AB	80.25 ± 1.78 A
2	77.71±2.18 C	81.29±1.11 B	82.69±1.96 B	82.43±2.28 A
3	78.94±1.463 C	82.02±3.77 B	83.04±4.43 B	85.12±1.93 A
4	80.79±0.8 C	84.66±2.61 B	85.52±1.34 B	87.44±0.39 A
General mean	77.94 ±0.37 C	81.74±1.53 B	82.32±1.39 B	84.91±0.59 A

\* T1 control without any additive

\*T2, T3and T4 feed with DPP 6,8and 10 gm/kg diet

\* Means with different letters significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

Table 3 refers to a significant effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in cumulative eggs production (egg/layer) for all DPP treatments in general means and for all experiments period this result came by increasing hormones lead to high laying sequences<sup>10</sup>and that results in increasing in eggs laying number and seen especially in general mean and that increasing feed metabolic.

**Table 3.** Effect of DPP on cumulative eggs production (egg/layer).

Treatment Period	T1*	T2*	T3	T4
1	10.20±0.60 B	10.37±0.87 B	10.99±0.23 B	11.76±0.34 A
2	10.86±0.27 C	11.04±0.33 B	11.37±0.17 B	12.14±0.14 A
3	10.39±0.70 C	11.38±0.24 BC	11.21±0.77 B	12.15±0.86 A
4	11.12±0.19 B	11.42±0.58 B	11.40±0.94 B	12.67±0.79 A
General mean	10.13±0.84 C	11.19±0.43 B	11.16±0.62 B	12.56±0.61 A

\* T1 control without any additive

\*T2, T3and T4 feed with DPP 6,8and 10 gm/kg diet

\* Means with different letters significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

**Table 4.** Effect of DPP on eggs weight production (gm).

Treatment Period	T1*	T2*	T3	T4
1	66.83±1.22	68.71±0.78	67.84±1.27	1.44±67.3
2	66.83±0.87	67.34±0.59	68.95±0.72	69.96±0.56
3	64.19±0.78 C	67.58±0.95 B	70.38±0.94 A	72.14±0.88 A
4	63.87±0.85 B	70.92±0.57 A	71.51±0.03 A	72.44±0.14 A
General mean	65.66±0.27 C	68.40±0.51 BC	69.47±0.49 B	70.74±0.47 A

\* T1 control without any additive

\*T2, T3and T4 feed with DPP 6,8and 10 gm/kg diet

\* Means with different letters significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

There were a significant effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in eggs weight in Table 4 for all DPP treatments in third and fourth period and

an general means that effect may be caused by increasing of estrogen effect on liver secretion of lipids proteins and the hormone caused increasing in growth of epithelium of ovary16.

In Table 5 there were a significant effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) in eggs mass for all DPP treatments in period 3 and 4 as well as in general mean. These differences came from the increasing in eggs production. There was no significant effect in feed intake in all experiment period.

**Table 5.** Effect of DPP on eggs mass (gm egg/layer/day).

Treatment	T1*	T2*	T3	T4
Period				
1	50.8 ± 0.61	52.11 ± 2.78	53.0 ± 2.72	58.2 ± 2.56
	B	AB	AB	A
2	51.66 ± 1.13	57.60 ± 1.15	56.21 ± 1.98	63.31 ± 2.41
	C	B	B	A
3	49.76 ± 1.31	54.63 ± 2.04	60.20 ± 1.55	66.80 ± 0.95
	C	BC	B	A
4	51.74 ± 0.2	58.11 ± 2.38	58.59 ± 1.76	65.18 ± 1.91
	C	B	B	A
General mean	50.10 ± 0.44	55.01 ± 1.47	57.44 ± 1.52	63.44 ± 1.71
	C	B	B	A

\* T1 control without any additive

\*T2, T3 and T4 feed with DPP 6,8 and 10 gm/kg diet

\* Means with different letters significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

Feed conversion in Table 6 showed a significant effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) for all DPP treatments in period 2, 3 and 4 as well as in general mean, that results came from increasing in eggs without increasing in feed intake 17 in Table 7 there was significant decreasing in body weight in all experiment period and for all DPP treatments, that result may cause by high production of eggs make body energy go for production mainly. Effect of treatments on eggs quality characteristics there were no significant effect ( $p \leq 0.05$ ) except shell weight and thickness as seen in Table 8 and this result came from increasing in calcium observation and metabolic.

**Table 6.** Effect of DPP on feed conversion (gm. egg/gm. feed).

Treatment	T1*	T2*	T3	T4
Period				
1	2.20 ± 0.05	2.15 ± 0.06	2.20 ± 0.08	1.82 ± 0.08
	A	A	A	B
2	2.33 ± 0.03	2.06 ± 0.04	1.97 ± 0.09	1.82 ± 0.08
	A	B	AB	C
3	2.41 ± 0.08	2.10 ± 0.08	1.85 ± 0.15	1.73 ± 0.03
	A	B	BC	C
4	2.33 ± 0.03	2.05 ± 0.07	2.04 ± 0.10	1.74 ± 0.08
	A	B	B	C
General mean	2.32 ± 0.04	2.10 ± 0.03	2.02 ± 0.12	1.78 ± 0.04
	A	B	B	C

\* T1 control without any additive

\*T2, T3 and T4 feed with DPP 6,8 and 10 gm/kg diet

\* Means with different letters significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

**Table 7.** Effect of DPP on body weight (gm).

Treatment	T1*	T2*	T3	T4
Period				
1	66.83 ± 1.22	68.71 ± 0.78	68.84 ± 67.27	1.44 ± 67.3
2	66.83 ± 0.87	67.34 ± 0.59	68.95 ± 0.72	69.96 ± 0.56
3	64.19 ± 0.78	67.58 ± 0.95	70.38 ± 0.94	72.14 ± 0.88
	C	B	A	A
4	63.87 ± 0.85	70.92 ± 0.57	71.51 ± 0.03	72.44 ± 0.14
	B	A	A	A
General mean	65.66 ± 0.27	68.40 ± 0.51	69.47 ± 0.49	70.74 ± 0.47
	C	BC	B	A

\* T1 control without any additive

\*T2, T3 and T4 feed with DPP 6,8 and 10 gm/kg diet

\* Means with different letters significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

**Table 8.** Effect of DPP on eggs quality traits.

Treatment	T1*	T2*	T3	T4
Character				
Shell weight	5.61 ± 0.22	6.55 ± 0.39	6.84 ± 0.27	6.87 ± 0.33
	B	A	A	A
gm Shell thickness	0.31 ± 0.01	0.33 ± 0.01	0.34 ± 0.01	0.34 ± 0.01
	B	A	A	A
3	5.19 ± 0.78	67.58 ± 0.95	70.38 ± 0.94	72.14 ± 0.88
	C	B	A	A

\* T1 control without any additive

\*T2, T3 and T4 feed with DPP 6,8 and 10 gm/kg diet

\* Means with different letters significantly different at  $P < 0.05$ .

## 4. Conclusion

From the results of research which refer to that DPP have a significant effects in all characteristics included in the study, beside there was no side effect seen on chicken health or eggs quality therefore we conclusion that adding DPP in this concentration have a good benefits without any effects on human health and we can use it in this concentration safely.

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