

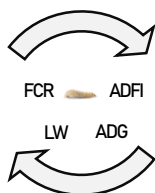
Black Soldier Fly live larvae as environmental enrichment in medium-growing chicken diet

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Introduction

Various studies on live larvae provision effects as poultry feed ingredient have been already conducted. However, a long-term provision of live larvae in chicken reared for meat consumption has never been tested before. This research evaluated *Hermetia illucens* (H) live larvae provision effects on growth performance of medium-growing chicken.

Materials and methods

A total of 240 Label naked neck birds were reared from 28 to 81 days. Four experimental groups (10 birds/pen, 6 replicates/treatment). The live weight (LW g) was calculated and the feed consumption recorded. The feed conversion ratio (FCR, g/g), average daily feed intake (ADFI, g/d) and average daily gain (ADG, g/d) were considered for each week and the overall period (28-82d). Data were analyzed by GLM (SPSS software, P<0.05).

Control female (CF)



Control male (CM)



Larvae female (LF)



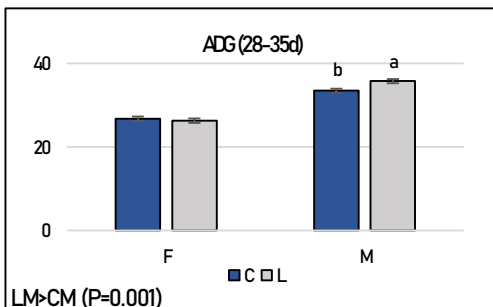
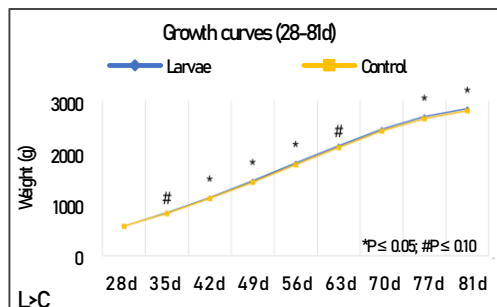
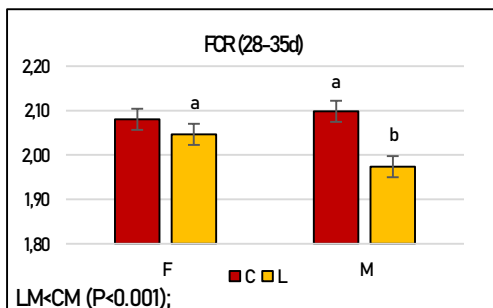
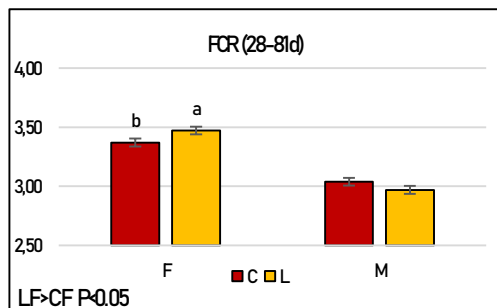
Larvae male (LM)



Results

Expected consumption 10% → Real consumption → ♀ 10,41% → ♂ 8,01%

Significant differences were reported for the following parameters:



Conclusions

In conclusion, the live H provision could ameliorate the chickens' LW as well as the ADG and FCR of young birds, despite the advantages were observed mostly in males.