

LIVESTOCK EXTENSION IMPERATIVES OF UTILIZING MATURED BROILER BEAK AS COMPOSITE FEED RESOURCE

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ABSTRACT

A study evaluated the livestock extension imperatives of utilization of matured broiler beak as composite feed resource. The study adopted both laboratory and qualitative research procedures to generate information based on specific objectives of the study. The proximate analysis of the nutritional composition of matured beak was investigated. Awareness of the feed millers on the utilization potentials of broiler beak by-product for macro elements and the livestock nutritional extension imperatives for the matured broiler as composite feed resources were analysed. Fifty(50) Amogbyn day-old birds reared to eight weeks with average mean weights between 2.75kg and 3.30kg were used for this research under good management practices. These matured broilers were slaughtered and their beaks extracted, processed and digested to obtain digesta which was read with Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS;BUCK 200A Model). Calcium absorption mode was read at a wavelength of 422.7NM while Mg absorption was read at wavelength of 362.4NM. Ca concentration range of 0.656-0.924 also varied from Magnesium concentration range of 0.066-0.269. The study revealed that there is a marked variability in the concentration of macro-minerals in the beaks of the same species. However, 36% of the study population was relatively high in concentration of Calcium and Magnesium. Despite their seeming small concentrations in the beaks, Calcium and Magnesium can still be used at composite level to replace limestone in alternative feed source for minerals. Therefore, the use of beak is promising and further investigation into its composite feed resource status for other macro minerals is recommended

Keywords: Macro-Minerals, Beak, Broilers, By-Products, Feed, Resource.