

# **Effect of physical form of diet and conditioning temperature on performance, relative weight of different organs and microbial flora of the cecum in broiler chickens**

Yaghoob Saei\*,

**The aim of this study was to investigate the effect of physical form of diet and conditioning temperature on performance, carcass characteristics and microbial flora of the cecum in broiler chickens. In order to do this experiment, two hundred and forty day-old male broiler chickens, Ross 308 strain were used in a completely randomized design arrangement with four types of treatment or diet regime (mash diet without conditioning, mash diet conditioned in 75° C, pellet diet conditioned in 75° C and pellet diet conditioned in 85° C) with six replicates and 12 birds in each replicated. The results showed that Processing mash diet (conditioning in 75°) alone had not a significant effect on the average daily gain and feed intake ( $P>0.05$ ). Deformation of the feed physical form along with processing at 75 and 85 ° C increased the average daily weight and feed intake, but did not affect the feed conversion ratio. The heating of the mesh feed with and without pelleting had no effect on the relative weight of the components of the carcass. Of course, feeding broiler chickens with heated pellets led to an increase in relative weight of the ventricular fat and gizzard weight loss. The change in conditioning temperature in pellet rations did not affect any of the factors measured in this test. In general, the results of this study showed that the heat treatment of mesh feed alone and the increase of heat in the conditioning did not affect the performance of broiler chickens. But the physical deformation of the feed along with the thermal processing in the conditioning improves daily gain and feed in the processed pellet diets compared to the unprocessed mesh.**

**Keywords : Broiler chickens, conditioning, Pellet, feed processing, microbial flora**

