

## Nutrients and Cholesterol of Eggs Affected by Dried Tomato Meal in Laying Hens Diet

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**Abstract**— One hundred MB 402 laying hens (36 weeks of age) were used for the study. The birds were divided into five experimental diets and each was divided into four replicate groups of five birds per replicate. The control diet (based diet) was formulated to contain 51% corn, 14% rice bran, 7% fish meal, 6% CaCO<sub>3</sub>, and 22% commercial diet. Tomato meal was included in four experimental diets at levels of 2, 4, 6, 8% to substitute based diet. The treatments were: R0 = 100% based diet (BD) + 0% tomato meal (TM); R1 = 98% BD + 2% TM; R2 = 96% BD + 4% TM; R3 = 94% BD + 6% TM; and R4 = 92% BD + 8% TM. Chemical composition of tomato meal were: 16.73% crude protein, 1.53% fat, 30.94% crude fiber, 0.98% Ca, 1.20% P, and 2416 Kcal/kg ME. Feed and water were provided for ad libitum. The study was conducted over a period of 8 weeks, and data were collected on nutrients of eggs: crude protein, fat, carbohydrate, and cholesterol of eggs. Proximate analysis eggs was determined by the methods of AOAC (1990), and cholesterol was determined by Libermann and Burchard method. Data were analyzed by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). The treatment means were compared using Duncan's multiple range test. The results showed that no differences in hen egg nutrients and cholesterol between treatments R1, R2, R3, and R4 compared to treatment R0 (control). It can be concluded that tomato meal can be used as an alternative feedstuff in laying hen diets to substitute based diet, at inclusion levels up to 8% without negative effects on egg quality.

**Keywords**— Egg, tomato meal, nutrient, cholesterol

### I. INTRODUCTION

Egg consumption has decreased in some parts of the world in the last decades. However, the value of eggs as human food has not. Moreover, there has been an increasing effort to improve its nutritional value lately [1]. Nowadays the public concern is oriented toward food safety, so it is important to look for new alternative natural ingredients that could be used in animal production as food. Reference [2] stated that tomato extract important for its role of beta-carotene precursor for its immunostimulant effects and for its dietary and nutritional value in human health. Tomato are excellent sources of potassium, folate, and vitamins A, C, and E, but are superior sources of  $\alpha$ -tocopherol and vitamin C. Fiber is another dietary component and appreciable amounts are found in tomato. Tomatoes also contains a variety of phytochemicals, including carotenoids and polyphenols [3].

The nutritional value of tomato can provide the poultry industry with an alternative feedstuff. Researchers reported that tomato meal that was included at levels of 80 or 150

g/kg in diets fed to laying hens without negative effect on egg production and egg quality [4]. Tomato powder supplementation increased egg production persistency and increased carotenoids and vitamin A contents in egg yolk [5]. Then, reference [6] reported that tomato extract diet resulted in a significant lycopene carry over and the intensity of egg yolk colour was influenced by dietary lycopene supplementation. Dried tomato pulp fed to laying hens at an inclusion level of 120 g/kg diet resulted in similar egg production and feed consumption compared to hens fed a corn-soybean meal control diet [7]. While, dried tomato pulp can be used as an alternative feedstuff in laying hen diets at inclusion levels up to 100 kg/t without negative effects on performance and egg quality [8]. There are no reported studies on the nutritional value of eggs of laying hens fed tomato meal. Thus, the objective of this research was to evaluate the use of tomato meal in diet of laying hens to nutrients of egg and cholesterol of egg.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

### A. Preparation of tomato meal

The tomatoes were washed, cut, and sun-dried to constant weight for 3-5 days. Part of tomato then was ground to fine powder using mortar and pestle. After that, mixed with other ingredients to compound the feed.

### B. Birds, feeding and management

One hundred MB 402 laying hens (36 weeks of age) were used for the study. The birds were divided into five experimental diets and each was divided into four replicate groups of five birds per replicate using completely randomized design. The control diet (based diet) was formulated to contain 51% corn, 14% rice bran, 7% fish meal, 6% CaCO<sub>3</sub>, and 22% commercial diet. Tomato meal was included in four experimental diets at levels of 2, 4, 6, 8% to substitute based diet. The treatments were: R0 = 100% based diet (BD) + 0% tomato meal (TM); R1 = 98% BD + 2% TM; R2 = 96% BD + 4% TM; R3 = 94% BD + 6% TM; and R4 = 92% BD + 8% TM. Chemical composition of tomato meal were: 20.73% crude protein, 1.53% fat, 30.94% crude fiber, 0.98% Ca, 1.20% P, and 2416 Kcal/kg ME, and chemical composition of the diets are shown in Table 1. Feed and water were provided for *ad libitum* using a feeding trough and a water trough. Diets were presented in mash form. Eggs were collected two times a day. The study was conducted over a period of 8 weeks. Data were collected on

nutrients of eggs: crude protein, fat, carbohydrate, and cholesterol of eggs.

### C. Chemical analysis

Proximate analysis of eggs was determined by the methods of AOAC [9]. Crude protein was determined by multiplying crude nitrogen by 6.25 while total carbohydrate was obtained by simple difference. Cholesterol was determined by Libermann and Burchard method [10]

### D. Statistical analysis

Data were analyzed by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). Probability values < 0.05 were taken to indicate statistical significance. The treatment means were compared using Duncan's multiple range test [11].

TABLE I  
CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE DIETS

Nutrients	Diets				
	R0	R1	R2	R3	R4
Crude protein (%)	17.49	17.47	17.45	17.44	17.42
Fat (%)	6.63	6.61	6.59	6.57	6.56
Crude fiber (%)	4.31	5.41	6.50	7.24	8.69
Ca (%)	2.76	2.75	2.69	2.66	2.56
P (%)	1.42	1.16	1.42	1.41	1.40
ME (Kcal/kg)	2766	2759	2752	2745	2738

TABLE II  
EFFECT OF TOMATO MEAL ON NUTRIENTS AND CHOLESTEROL  
OF WHOLE EGGS

Diet	Parameters				
	Water	Crude Protein	Fat	Carbohydrate	Cholesterol
	% on Dry Matter Basis				
R0 (0% TM)	74.99 ± 0.56	10.28 ± 0.82	8.14 ± 0.28	1.36 ± 0.18	181.91 ± 4.70
R1 (2% TM)	75.60 ± 0.56	10.64 ± 0.48	8.25 ± 0.26	1.49 ± 0.24	183.80 ± 8.89
R2 (4% TM)	74.84 ± 0.43	10.49 ± 0.77	8.41 ± 0.27	1.19 ± 0.56	189.19 ± 7.58
R3 (6% TM)	75.56 ± 0.49	10.60 ± 0.68	7.87 ± 0.32	1.45 ± 0.27	181.24 ± 2.67
R4 (8% TM)	75.33 ± 0.92	10.43 ± 0.43	8.08 ± 0.21	1.45 ± 0.32	180.44 ± 6.04
<i>p Value</i>	P > 0.05	P > 0.05	P > 0.05	P > 0.05	P > 0.05

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The chemical analysis of the tomato meal used in this study showed that was rich in protein (20.73%). It also contains high fibre content (30.94%). The high nutrient content of tomato meal makes it a potential feed resource for livestock animals. The crude protein content of tomato meal used in this study was higher than the value of crude protein of tomato waste meal [12], [13], and also was higher than the value of crude protein of tomato pomace found by [8], [14]. The variations reported in chemical composition of tomato meal could be due to various factors including varieties of tomato, soil conditions, use of the fertilizations, ripeness and tomato processing conditions.

Effect tomato meal in diet to the chemical composition of eggs of laying hens were shown in Table 2. The results showed that no differences (P > 0.05) in hen egg nutrients and cholesterol between treatments with increasing levels of

tomato meal compared to treatment R0 (control = based diet). The achieved whole egg content of crude protein treated by tomato meal up to 8% was globally similar to the based diet treatment. Also, the fat, carbohydrate and cholesterol of egg obtained on all of the four diets containing tomato meal were similar to the control. The crude protein value of whole egg was higher than that was recommended by USDA [15], that was 6.3 g. According to the World Health Organization the protein in egg has the highest true digestibility of major foods, and its nutritive value is also high because it contains the essential amino acids in the required proportions [1].

Earlier study revealed that laying hens can tolerate up to 6% tomato waste meal in their diet without any adverse effect on egg production and quality [16]. On the other hand, reference [17] suggested higher inclusion of dried tomato pulp levels up to 150 g/kg in broiler chicken diets. The cholesterol value of whole egg was similar to the USDA recommendation (186 mg). Although cholesterol is very

small part of an egg, it has received as much attention as the major yolk components because of its continuing interest for human nutrition [1]. The result about cholesterol in this study was in line with [18] that reported tomato pomace inclusion in the layers hen had no significant effect on the yolk cholesterol. Moreover, the high content of fibre in tomato meal will definitely limit its use as poultry feed as it interferes with nutrient digestion and absorption [19]. Its inclusion at a lower level may however be an advantage in that it may help to reduce production cost and cholesterol level of egg

Generally, the obtained whole egg nutrients results indicated that the tomato diet up to 8% have similar quality to based diet, so, that could have beneficial nutritional impact for laying hens. These result suggest that the use of tomato meal in laying hen diets might have positive effects on whole egg quality. So, it is a possible alternative for satisfying consumers' preferences about egg quality.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

No differences were observed in hen egg nutrients and cholesterol between treatments with increasing levels of tomato meal compared to treatment R0 (control). Thus, tomato meal can be used as an alternative feedstuff in laying hen diets to substitute based diet, at inclusion levels up to 8% without negative effects on egg quality.

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