

#### THE ROLE OF HERBAL TO IMPROVE BROILER PERFORMANCE: A SUBJECT REVIEW

Sawsan Abdul Faraj Mohammed Collage of Nursing, University of Kirkuk, Iraq sawsanabd@uokirkuk.edu.iq

#### Abstract

This review was conducted to explain the efficacy of some herbals as a growth and performance promoter in broiler. The importance and use of herbal remedies has been reviewed systematically. Garlic can be utilized to successfully increase broiler growth, Aloe vera has been shown to be beneficial in the treatment of wounds and the treatment of diabetes. Fenugreek has the ability to provide ruminant animals with high-quality feed. Nettle leaves were found to boost body weight increase and feed conversion efficiency for broilers. The effects of Thyme extracts or essential oils on a range of meat varieties, including pig, beef, and lamb, have been thoroughly examined and reported after their direct addition. The weight gain of Cobb broilers is dramatically increased by 16.97% when O. sanctum aqueous extracts is added to water compared to the controls.

Keywords: herbal; Garlic; Aloe vera; Fenugreek; Nettle; broiler.

# Introduction

Antibiotics have proven to be the most cost-effective method of maintaining feed efficiency and health in monogastrics such as chicken [1]. However, because human activities are continuously evolving or being influenced, things are certain to change throughout time as a result of their use. As a result, the increased and purposeful interest in utilized of herbs and other plant products in modern poultry production is an intriguing development. This is consistent with millennial farming's 'clean' production practices. The hunt for synthetic medication alternatives has intensified as a result of this [2]. Plant extracts can help with both your health and your overall performance [3-8]. Increased endogenous proteolytic enzyme secretion, stimulation of appetite and nutrient intake, and activation of the immune system, and the antiviral effects, with antioxidant properties, and the antihelminthic effects could all have a good impact on animal health and performance. Fenugreek seeds have been discovered to be high in protein, fat, total carbs, and minerals like calcium ion, the phosphorus, and the iron, with zinc, and magnesium. Fenugreek also helps the gastrointestinal tract with its accessories [9-10]. In hens, it was discovered that



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phytogenic feed additions increased weight gain, feed conversion rate, and viability [11]. Ewuola and Egbunike [12] reported that Some herbal medicines are primarily utilized as nutritional supplement or medicines, resulting in a cascade of the physiological reactions that may result in serum metabolite changes. This could be due to toxic substances in the plant causing a decrease or increase in serum metabolites. It might act as non-toxic chemical components that keep chicken qualities inside the expected reference ranges [13]. This review was conducted to explain the efficacy of some herbals as a growth and performance promoter in broiler.

# Garlic

Garlic (Allium sativum) contains a variety of bioactive compounds that are useful to the body [14]. According to Ziarlarimi et al [15], garlic powder (GP) contains several organosulfur compounds like as allicin compound, alliin, the ajoene compound, and the S-allylcysteine compound, demonstrating that adding garlic to feed like a healthy plant-derived feed supplement can effectively boost broiler growth [16]. Since antiquity, garlic has also been used as a medicinal herb in the management and treating a wide variety of heart, gastrointestinal, and metabolic disorders, including diabetes, dementia disorders, tumors, and plaques of blood vessels [17]. Garlic has antibacterial, antioxidant, antithrombotic, antiplatelet aggregator, and antihypertensive activities in broilers, according to several studies [18-19].

# Aloe vera (Aloe barbadensis)

It is an Asphodelaceae (Liliaceae) shrubby, or absorescent, perennial, tropical plant with a pea-green colour. It has large, fleshy triangular leaves with spikes along the edges [20]. Aloe vera has been shown to be beneficial in the treatment of wounds [21] and to hasten wound healing [22]. Aloe vera can also be used topically to treat genital herpes and psoriasis [21]. Because of the inclusion of chemicals such as mannans, anthraquinones, and lectins, Aloe vera derivatives may be useful for treating human diabetes and high blood lipid levels [23]. Oral aloe vera gel may improve symptoms and inflammation in ulcerative colitis patients, according to preliminary research [24]. Aloe vera extracts have been utilized as an immunostimulant to help cats and canines fight cancer [25]. Aloe vera extracts might have antibacterial and antifungal actions that could help treat skin disorders including boils and skin cysts and stop the development of the fungi that cause tinea [26].





#### Fenugreek

Fenugreek is single-cut annual legume forage that has been farmed in Southern Europe countries, the Asia countries, and the countries of Northern Africa for centuries [27]. It was first introduced to Canada in the early 1990s. Seed production potential [28], fodder yield and nutrient content [29-30], and medicinal value [31] of fenugreek planted on the Canadian prairies has all been studied. These researches have highlighted fenugreek's immense potential as an alternative feed crop for temperate climates, such as the Western Canadian prairie. Apart from crop cultivation, fenugreek's annual nature may allow growers to use it as a break crop in farming systems [32]. Fenugreek has the ability to provide ruminant animals with high-quality feed. Indeed, in the Mediterranean region, fenugreek was traditionally used as a feed crop [27], and the species name 'foenum graecum' means 'greek hay' [33]. There are few studies that have used fenugreek fodder to feed cattle. Beef steers fed fenugreek silage dietary supplementation with barley grain had equivalent diabetes complications intake, daily average growth, and feed performance in comparison to steers fed alfalfa silage supplemented with seeds [29].

# Nettle

Urticadioica, sometimes known as nettle, is a perennial plant that has medicinal properties. It has been shown that nettle can improve the immune system of fish [34], protect rabbit and poultry from endo- and ectoparasites [35], and influence blood lipid profile [36]. Nettle leaves contain carotenoids, vital fatty acids, various vitamins, different types of minerals, phytosterol compounds, glycosides, and proteins, which have the potential to be used in the feed, medicinal, and cosmetic industries [37]. As a feeding approach for broilers, nettle leaves can be substituted for soybean meal up to 9% of the time [38]. Despite the fact that nettle leaves have a high iron content and are a rich source of calcium and vitamin A, they can be used to treat anemia [39]. By the way, nettle extracts have been shown to have antimicrobial properties [40]. The chemicals utilized in nettle extraction, on the other hand, have a significant antibacterial effect on the final product [41]. At the age of 21-42, nettle leaves were found to boost weight gain and nutrient conversion rate [42]. Meanwhile, it has been found that nettle leaves did not improve the oxidative stress in the broiler's body [43]. This suggests that nettle could be a useful additive in poultry feeding for growth enhancement. The nettle leaf extracts (NLE) is a nettle product. While NLE has been proven to be effective against fungi [44], more research into its effects on microorganisms is needed [45]. Antibiotics are no longer used as a growth booster in





poultry feeds in several countries due to antibiotic-induced microbial resistance. The extraction process improves the quality of NLE significantly [46].

# Thyme

The effects of the herbal extracts or essential oils on a range of meat varieties, including pig [47], beef [48], and lamb [49], have been thoroughly examined and reported after their direct addition. In addition, various studies [50-53] have shown that diets including rosemary compounds and the oregano can reduce lipid oxidation and microbiological counts in a variety of meats. The usefulness of thyme in the diet, like is the case with thyme, is less well understood. Thyme essential oil (EO) includes about 60 components, the majority of which having therapeutic effects such as antibacterial, carminative, antioxidant, and antimicrobial. The thymol (68.1%) and carvacrol compound (3.5%) are the most abundant and active chemicals in thyme EO, along with the (11.2%) monoterpene hydrocarbons p-cymene and (4.8%) c-terpinene compound [54], which have antioxidant and antibacterial effects. These chemicals' antibacterial activities are linked to their lipophilic nature, which leads to their accumulation in membrane surface, where they take part in later membrane-related processes such energy exhaustion. Furthermore, Polyphenolic redox properties enable them to act as reductants, donors of hydrogen, metal chelators and the singlet oxygen quenchers [55]. In general, dietary supplementation has proven to be a straightforward and practical method of introducing antioxidant enzymes into phospholipid, where they can effectively block oxidative processes in situ [56].

# Tulsi (Ocimum sanctum)

Ocimum sanctum, a member of the Lamiaceaceae family, is well known for its medicinal properties. Tulsi and Holy basil are other names for it. It thrives in the tropical regions and warm climates. It is widely dispersed and grown in India. It is an erect, lateral branches, fragrant plant that grows to a height of 30-60cm when mature [57]. The leaves of O. sanctum can be fed as a powder form mixed with feed or as an extract blended in water. According to Hasan et al. [58], adding O. sanctum aqueous extracts to water causes a substantial 16.97% rise in the body weight of cob broilers compared to the control group. Broilers dietary supplementation with O. sanctum extract of leaves 1ml/liter in tap water showed a higher body weight compared to the control group, according to Biswas et al. [59]. According to Alom et al. [60], supplementing broiler drinking water with Tulsi leaf 2ml/liter leads to noticeably higher body weight. Similar experiments have demonstrated that feeding dry powdered O. sanctum leaves to broilers caused a considerable rise in their body



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weight. According to Singh et al. [61], broiler chicks fed O. sanctum leaf powder at a 1 percent level in feed experienced a substantial rise in the muscular weight of their legs, thighs, and breasts, resulting in a higher weight gain than control chicks. By giving immunely suppressed broiler birds 3g/Kg of O. sanctum dry leaves for two weeks between the fifth and sixth week, Mode et al. [62] showed that the birds were protected from immunological suppression and also met the needed target by significantly increasing their weight gain. In comparison to the control group, 15-day treatment of poultry with 200 mg of leaves extract per bird showed the greatest weight gain, according to Gupta & Charan [63]. At this dose level, the chickens did not exhibit any gross or clinically harmful hematological, biochemical, histopathological, or biochemical side effects. The effect of tulsi leaf powder given at 5g/kg feed on weight growth associated with colibacillosis was observed by Kumari [64]. Body weight increase was seen to be considerably higher in the O. sanctum leaf treated groups (both infected and uninfected) than in the corresponding non-O. sanctum leaf treated control groups.

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