

Effect of Replacing Soybean Meal with Lupin Seed-based Meal in Chicken Diet on Performance, Carcass Value and Meat Quality

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Abstract

The main objective of this experimental study was to determine how diets containing lupin meal affect the performance indicators, carcass value, and chemical composition of breast and thigh muscles in broiler chickens. The diets tested in experimental groups E1 and E2 differed as follows: in group E1, one third of nitrogen-containing substances (NSs) from extracted soybean meal was replaced with NSs from lupin meal; in group E2, two thirds were replaced compared to the control group. The replacement of soybean meal with lupin meal in experimental diets failed to produce any significant effect on the average live weight of chickens on Day 42 of the fattening period compared to the control group. The replacement of soybean meal with lupin meal resulted in decreased average weight of carcass and breast muscles and in decreased yield of breast muscles. Differences between the control group (C) and group E2 were significant ($P \leq 0.01$). Chickens in group E2 also showed a significant increase ($P \leq 0.01$) in the yield of the heart and stomach compared to the control group. The differences in weight and yield of thigh muscles between the control group and the experimental groups (E1 and E2) were not significantly affected. As far as chemical composition is concerned, chickens receiving the lupin-containing feed showed a significant ($P \leq 0.01$) increase in the ash content in breast muscles. On the contrary, in thigh muscles in group E2, the ash content decreased significantly ($P \leq 0.01$). The content of calcium showed an increasing trend in both breast and thigh muscles in both experimental groups. In contrast, the content of magnesium in chicken muscles in both experimental groups decreased. These differences were significant ($P \leq 0.01$) only in thigh muscles. Our results show that lupin seed is a suitable substitute for NSs contained in soybean extracted meal. It is considered optimal to replace up to one third of NSs contained in soybean meal with lupin seed. Higher inclusion rate of lupin meal in diets may reduce the growth intensity of chickens, particularly the yield of breast muscles. Due to substantial inter-varietal differences, it is necessary to optimize individual nutrients, particularly amino acids when formulating lupin-containing diets.

Broiler chickens, weight and yield of organs and muscles, chemical composition of breast and thigh muscles

From a nutritional point of view, the seed of cultivars of the genus *Lupinus* is a protein-enriched raw material used as feed or in feeding mixtures intended for the nutrition of practically all species and categories of farm animals. For these reasons, lupin growing areas in Europe are expanding. In the Czech Republic, growing and using lupin is not as common as in the neighbouring countries. Ecologically speaking, lupins are promoted because most lupin varieties are not genetically modified.

The use of lupins in diets for poultry was tested by a number of authors, for example by Schams-Scharch et al. (1994). Their experiment examined the effect of sweet lupins in diets, particularly the variety *Amiga*, included at 6, 12, and 18% inclusion rate. The authors concluded that there were no significant differences between the groups in the fattening capacity, the percentage of fat, and the percentage of valuable parts of carcass. Rothmaier and Kirchgessner (1994) who tested diets containing up to 45% of white lupin arrived at the conclusion that the supplementation of a diet with up to 20% of white lupin had no adverse effects on the performance of broilers. Similar findings were reported by Lettner

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and Zollitsch (1995), Sitko and Čermák (1998) or Teixeira and Dos (1995), showing that the performance indicators, carcass value and meat quality, including average daily gain, protein deposition in a carcass and energy retention did not differ between individual groups when lupin meal was included at up to 20% of the diet administered. Egorov et al. (2001) also reported that the best results were obtained with lupin included in a diet at 20%. A diet containing 25% of lupin resulted in significant decrease ($P \leq 0.05$) of body weight. The same findings were reported by Rothmaier and Paulicks (2003). If peeled or supplemented with exogenic enzymes, the nutritional value of lupin seed increases, as reported by Rubio et al. (2003) and Mieczkowska and Smulikowska (2005), respectively. The positive effect of enzymes in lupin-meal-containing diets on the utilization of lupin saccharides in broiler diets is emphasized by many authors, for example by Kocher et al. (2000), Hughes et al. (2000), Brenes et al. (2002), Brenes et al. (2003), Steinfeldt et al. (2003), and Mieczkowska et al. (2004).

Apart from specific saccharides, particularly alkaloids are considered to be the antinutritional substances of lupins. Unlike wild varieties of lupin, the content of alkaloids in cultural lupin varieties is very low. However, it is important to address this issue in cultural varieties, as reported by Francesch et al. (1990), Uzieblo et al. (1996), Bednarczyk et al. (1996) and Olkowski et al. (2001).

This paper extends our current knowledge on lupin seeds and helps to promote its use as an important source of proteins in diets intended for the feeding of broiler chickens. Its main advantage lies particularly in the scope and complexity of the solution, extending from animal nutrition to the quality of the product. The use of the seed of *Lupinus* cultivars contributes to the use of alternative sources of protein feeds in the nutrition of farm animals. This is an intensively studied topic, as documented by the conclusions of the global meeting Lupins for Health and Wealth, 12th International Lupin Conference, held 14–18 September 2008 in Fremantle, Western Australia.

Materials and Methods

This study was designed to verify to what extent extracted soybean meal can be replaced with lupin seed meal (*Lupinus*) in diets intended for fattening broiler chickens, and to investigate the effect of this component on performance, carcass value and chemical composition of chicken muscles. The experiment used the variety Amiga from a group of white flowering lupins.

The experiment was performed in an accredited experimental livestock stable at the Department of Nutrition, Animal Husbandry, and Animal Hygiene, University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno.

There were 3 groups of Ross 308 sexed chickens, control group C (35 females and 35 males), experimental groups E1 (35 females and 35 males) and E2 (35 females and 35 males). Chickens were fed according to the standard operating procedure for the fattening of Ross 308 broiler chickens. Unlike the control group, the experimental feeding mixtures contained lupin meal that replaced one third or two thirds of nitrogen-containing substances (NSs) of extracted soybean meal (E1 and E2). In order to meet the amino acid requirements, the diets with lupin meal were supplemented with synthetic amino acids L-lysine, L-threonine and D, L-methionine. Components contained in feeding mixtures are listed in Table 1. In the course of the experiment, chickens were weighed on Days 1, 15, 30 and 42. On Day 42 chickens were slaughtered and 20 chickens (10 females and 10 males) from each group were subjected to slaughter analyses and chemical analysis of meat. Chickens for analysis were selected according to the mean weight of chickens in a particular group.

The weight of carcass (WCar), the weight of the neck (WNe), the weight of the heart (WHe), the weight of the liver (WLi), the weight of the stomach (WSt), the weight of abdominal fat (WAF), the weight of breast muscles (WBM), the weight of the unskinned right and left thigh (WUT), the weight of the skinned right and left thigh (WST) (HSbK), and the weight of thigh muscles on both thighs (WTT) (HSS) were determined for each chicken. The results obtained were used to calculate the yield of carcass, organs and tissues in relation to the live weight of the chickens. Muscles (breast, thighs) obtained from the carcass analysis were subjected to chemical analysis. Crude protein was determined in muscles ($N \times 6.25$). Nitrogen was determined according to the Kjeldahl method using the Buchi analyser (Centec automatika, spol. s.r.o.). The content of crude fat was determined using ANKOM^{XT10} Fat Analyzer (O.K. SERVIS BioPro). The content of ash was determined gravimetrically after incineration at a temperature of 550 °C at pre-defined conditions. The contents of calcium, phosphorus and magnesium were determined after the incineration of a sample of meat. Calcium and magnesium were determined in a chloride extract using chelatometry (chelaton 3 – di – NA EDTA), while phosphorus was

Table 1. Composition of feeding mixtures and the period of their administration during the fattening period in individual experimental groups

Components (kg)	BR 1 (Day 1–15)			BR 2 (Day 16–30)			BR 3 (Day 30–42)		
	C	E1	E2	C	E1	E2	C	E1	E2
Wheat	41.20	37.21	34.03	47.73	44.53	41.54	47.92	49.80	47.77
Maize	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Soybean extr. meal	35.80	23.87	11.23	29.60	19.73	9.87	24.00	13.33	6.66
Lupin	0.00	15.51	31.03	0.00	12.83	25.65	0.00	8.67	17.33
D,L-Met 100 %	0.30	0.40	0.50	0.25	0.35	0.39	0.20	0.25	0.28
L-Lys	0.30	0.50	0.70	0.23	0.29	0.32	0.12	0.17	0.18
L-Thr	0.12	0.22	0.22	0.08	1.12	0.12	0.05	0.07	0.07
MCP*	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.90	0.90	0.90
NaCl	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.36	0.36	0.36
Limestone, ground	1.62	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.63	1.55	1.55	1.55
Soya oil	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	3.60	4.10	1.40	4.40
Premix Mikrop**	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50

*Monocalcium phosphate

** The premix of specifically active substances used by the producer contained: vitamin A 1 600 000 IU; vitamin D3 500 000 IU; alpha-tocopherol 10 000 mg; vitamin K3 300 mg; vitamin B1 800 mg; vitamin B2 1 300 mg; vitamin B6 600 mg; vitamin B12 3 mg; biotin 30 mg; folic acid 500 mg; niacinamide 6 000 mg; calcium pantothenate 2 500 mg; betaine 50 000 mg; butylhydroxytoluene 3 400 mg; propyl gallate 1 200 mg; ethoxyquin 540 mg; ferrous sulphate monohydrate 10 000 mg; manganese oxide 16 000 mg; zinc oxide 16 000 mg; copper sulphate 1 700 mg; potassium iodide 200 mg; sodium selenite 30 mg; cobalt sulphate 50 mg; phytase 50 000 FTU; glucanase 24 000 BGU; xylanase 1 100 000 EXU

determined photometrically at 445 nm. The gross energy of muscles was determined calorimetrically using AC 500 (LECO). The chemical values of muscles presented in this paper are expressed per 100% dry matter.

The results obtained were processed by the statistical programme Unistat CZ version 5.6 for Excel which evaluated the mean values and their differences by multiple comparisons using the Tukey-HSD test, at significance levels of $P \leq 0.01$ and $P \leq 0.05$.

Results and Discussion

The performance indicators determined show that extracted soybean meal in diets used for the fattening of broiler chickens can be replaced with lupin-seed meal without significantly affecting the live weight of chickens during fattening (Fig. 1). Fig. 1 shows that live weight in groups E1 and E2 decreased slightly (non-significantly) at the end of the fattening period. Both experimental groups E1 and E2 also exhibited lower feed conversion (1.82 kg and 1.87 kg) compared to the control chickens (1.70 kg). The results are in agreement with the findings of RothMaier and Kirchgessner (1994) or Schams-Scharch et al. (1994) who reported that lupin included in a diet up to 20% did not significantly affect the performance indicators of fattened chickens. It is apparent that the lower content of amino acids in feeding mixtures in the experimental groups of chickens in the last phase of the fattening period, i.e. from Day 30, was associated with a reduction in the average live weight and the lowered conversion of feeding mixtures (Table 2). When evaluating the carcass value, we arrived at the conclusion that in the experimental group with the highest inclusion rate of lupin meal (E2) the substitution manifested itself negatively by a significant ($P \leq 0.01$) decrease in carcass weight compared to control, and by a significant ($P \leq 0.01$) decrease in the weight of breast muscles in both experimental groups, as documented in Table 3. The results show that when two thirds of NSs from soybean meal were replaced with lupin meal in group E2, it had a suppressing effect on growth intensity, particularly

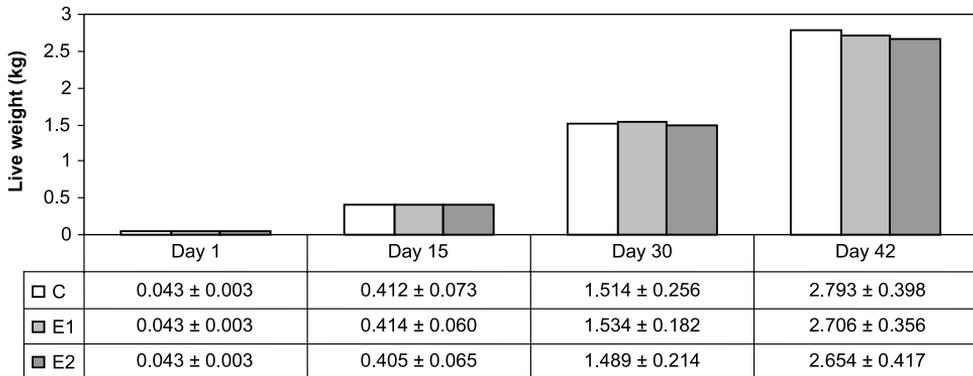


Fig. 1. Variation in the live weight of chickens (kg) during the experimental period (C is the control group, E1 and E2 are experimental groups) ($x \pm SD$)

on the development of breast muscles. This conclusion is corroborated by a significant ($P \leq 0.01$) difference in the yield of breast muscles between control chickens and experimental chickens in group E2. When the values are expressed as percentage (Table 3), the diet with the highest inclusion rate of lupin meal (group E2) resulted in a significant increase ($P \leq 0.01$) in the yield of the heart and stomach compared to control chickens. We assume that these differences are associated with the increased consumption (lower conversion) of feeding mixtures and the increased load of metabolism in experimental chickens in group E2. The results of our study indicate that higher inclusion rate of lupin meal in a diet may have a negative effect on some

Table 2. The contents of crude protein, metabolizable energy (ME) and amino acids in feeding mixtures used in individual experimental groups

Components (kg)	BR 1 (Day 1–15)			BR 2 (Day 16–30)			BR 3 (Day 30–42)		
	C	E1	E2	C	E1	E2	C	E1	E2
Crude protein	238.9	234.2	225.4	219.7	213.3	207.8	189.3	170.5	161.6
ME (MJ/kg)	12.1	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.2	12.2	12.7	12.9	13.0
Asp	24.0	20.7	20.0	19.3	19.7	17.8	15.8	13.8	12.5
Thr	9.3	8.7	8.6	7.6	8.0	7.4	7.6	6.7	6.0
Ser	11.1	9.8	9.9	9.7	9.7	9.2	8.8	7.8	7.4
Glu	42.7	41.6	41.5	41.1	41.9	40.7	39.6	36.8	32.7
Pro	13.4	12.4	11.1	12.9	12.5	11.3	12.8	12.9	8.8
Gly	9.5	8.6	8.4	8.4	8.6	7.9	5.4	4.8	6.5
Ala	9.6	8.2	7.7	8.3	8.2	7.1	7.1	5.9	6.6
Val	10.9	9.4	8.3	8.6	8.5	7.5	8.0	7.1	6.7
Met	4.9	4.4	3.3	5.0	4.9	6.0	4.2	4.0	5.3
Ileu	10.0	9.3	8.6	8.5	8.7	7.9	6.5	5.6	6.1
Leu	17.8	16.6	16.0	15.6	15.9	14.6	12.9	11.2	11.9
Tyr	7.0	6.8	7.0	6.1	6.7	7.3	4.8	4.6	5.5
Phe	11.5	9.9	9.2	10.2	9.6	8.8	8.4	7.1	7.2
His	6.3	5.5	5.3	5.7	5.6	5.1	4.6	3.5	4.0
Lys	14.3	13.8	14.2	11.3	11.7	10.4	8.8	7.6	8.6
Arg	18.4	19.2	20.7	15.0	16.9	18.1	12.2	11.9	13.7

Table 3. Carcass values of broiler chickens on Day 42

Indicator (g)	Control C	Experimental E1	Experimental E2	Indicator (%)	Control C	Experimental E1	Experimental E2
WCar	2090.85 ^A ± 183.30	1997.70 ± 191.22	1924.05 ^B ± 193.29	YCar	73.69 ± 8.84	71.22 ± 1.46	70.99 ± 2.61
WNe	81.35 ± 11.56	79.75 ± 11.32	78.64 ± 11.96	YNe	2.856 ± 0.38	2.85 ± 0.32	2.90 ± 0.32
WHe	15.61 ± 2.26	16.205 ± 3.38	16.66 ± 2.95	YHe	0.55 ^A ± 0.07	0.57 ± 0.07	0.62 ^B ± 0.10
WLi	46.87 ± 7.56	44.11 ± 8.72	43.520 ± 8.24	YLi	1.65 ± 0.28	1.57 ± 0.25	1.61 ± 0.27
WSt	42.48 ± 8.42	44.74 ± 5.68	48.06 ± 10.09	YSt	1.50 ^A ± 0.33	1.60 ± 0.23	1.79 ^B ± 0.40
WAF	34.86 ± 10.50	36.84 ± 16.50	43.83 ± 15.00	YAF	1.24 ± 0.40	1.34 ± 0.67	1.63 ± 0.57
WBM	571.87 ^A ± 62.17	490.77 ^B ± 61.58	438.73 ^C ± 44.45	YBM	20.16 ^A ± 2.64	17.55 ± 2.08	16.30 ^B ± 1.99
WUT	602.06 ± 70.21	577.51 ± 83.40	568.09 ± 68.50	YUT	21.24 ± 3.27	20.55 ± 1.81	21.01 ± 2.07
WST	519.03 ± 69.80	509.09 ± 80.50	501.27 ± 58.68	YST	18.27 ± 2.77	18.07 ± 1.51	18.52 ± 1.57
WTT	51.78 ± 11.58	64.10 ± 14.33	54.605 ± 12.21	YTT	13.60 ± 2.02	13.04 ± 1.68	13.24 ± 1.90

^{A,B,C} The mean values with different superscripts in the same indicators differ significantly ($P \leq 0.01$)

W – weight, Y – yield, Car – carcass, Ne – neck, He – heart, Li – liver, St – stomach, AF – abdominal fat, BM – breast muscles, UT – unskinned thighs, ST – skinned thighs, TT – thigh muscles on both thighs

performance indicators and carcass value, as shown in experimental chickens in group E2. The results are in agreement with the findings reported by Egorov et al. (2001), who found that the best results were obtained with lupin included in a diet at 20%. Twenty-five % of lupin in a diet resulted in a significant ($P \leq 0.05$) decrease in body weight, i.e. growth suppression. Similar studies with the same conclusions were also conducted by RothMaier and Paulicks (2003).

The nutritional value based on the chemical composition of foodstuffs is one of the major indicators in defining the quality of food. One part of the experimental work was therefore to determine whether the administered diets would affect the chemical composition of breast and thigh muscles, which are an important part of human nutrition. The results of the chemical analysis of breast and thigh muscles composition (per 100% dry matter) are provided in Table 4. These results of chemical analyses show that no significant differences in the average content of basic organic substances (crude protein and crude fat) were observed among the groups (Table 4). The results show that the substitution of soybean meal with lupin meal did not affect the above-mentioned indicators of meat quality. Differences were confirmed only for minerals, as assessed on the basis of ash content. Breast muscles showed a significant increase ($P \leq 0.01$) in the ash content in experimental chickens in both groups E1 and E2 compared to control chickens. This increase was accompanied with a non-significant increase in the content of calcium and phosphorus and a decrease in the content of magnesium. A different trend was observed in thigh muscles, with a highly significant ($P \leq 0.01$) decrease detected in the ash content in group E2 that received the diet with the highest inclusion of lupin (Table 4). This decrease in the ash content in thigh muscles corresponded to

Table 4. Chemical composition of breast and thigh muscles in broiler chickens on Day 42 of the fattening period in 100% dry matter

Indicator	Unit	Breast muscle			Thigh muscle		
		C	E1	E2	C	E1	E2
Crude protein	g/kg	877.59 ± 22.43	874.39 ± 34.50	877.08 ± 16.32	656.94 ± 99.86	648.78 ± 41.08	651.62 ± 48.56
Crude fat	g/kg	72.75 ± 19.54	59.66 ± 17.43	68.685 ± 15.19	278.33 ± 48.90	277.93 ± 40.76	300.79 ± 37.76
Ash	g/kg	46.39 ^A ± 1.39	48.58 ^B ± 1.51	48.67 ^B ± 1.61	40.62 ^A ± 3.01	40.73 ^A ± 2.59	38.16 ^B ± 1.97
Calcium	g/kg	2.02 ± 0.22	2.13 ± 0.12	2.13 ± 0.13	1.61 ^A ± 0.20	1.80 ^B ± 0.15	1.81 ^B ± 0.11
Phosphorus	g/kg	9.22 ± 0.28	9.46 ± 0.31	9.48 ± 0.62	7.50 ± 0.40	7.27 ± 0.30	7.49 ± 0.45
Magnesium	g/kg	1.48 ± 0.13	1.40 ± 0.17	1.39 ± 0.19	1.23 ^A ± 0.17	1.13 ^B ± 0.11	1.01 ^C ± 0.09
Gross energy	MJ/kg	23.58 ± 0.40	23.34 ± 0.32	23.42 ± 0.32	26.84 ± 0.83	26.99 ± 0.65	27.23 ± 0.67

^{A,B,C} The mean values with different superscripts in the same indicator differ significantly ($P \leq 0.01$)

a significant ($P \leq 0.01$) decrease in the content of magnesium in group E2 compared to controls and group E1. Similar to breast muscles, calcium content in thigh muscles also increased in both experimental groups E1 and E2. Unlike breast muscles, in thigh muscles these differences were significant ($P \leq 0.01$). When evaluating gross energy based on the results, we concluded that the diet did not have a significant effect on the energy value in both breast and thigh muscles. Our results are in agreement with those reported by Lettner and Zollitsch (1995), Sitko and Čermák (1998) and Teixeira and Dos (1995) who showed that performance indicators, carcass values, and meat quality (including average daily gain, protein deposition in a carcass and energy retention) did not differ between the groups when the administered diet contained 20% of lupin meal. However, these authors did not study the contents of minerals in muscles of fattened chickens in as much detail as we did.

Our results show that the substitution of extracted soybean meal in diets influenced the carcass value and chemical composition of meat in fattened chickens. The effect of the higher content of lupin meal in a diet was manifested by reduced weight and yield in experimental chickens at the end of the fattening period. Carcass characteristics were also affected as the weight of breast muscles and the respective yield of breast muscles decreased. Such changes in experimental groups were accompanied with increased yield of stomach and heart in group E2 that received a diet where two thirds of NSs contained in extracted soybean meal were replaced with NSs from lupin seeds. The chemical composition of muscles in experimental groups revealed that the ash content increased in breast muscles and decreased in thigh muscles. According to the analysis of elements, the content of calcium in breast and thigh muscles increased while the content of magnesium decreased with the substitution of soybean meal with lupin. In conclusion, lupin seed is a suitable substitute for nitrogen-containing substances in extracted soybean meal. In order to obtain the optimum results, the inclusion rate should not exceed one third of NSs in soybean meal. If the inclusion rate of lupin meal in a diet is higher, the growth intensity in chickens, particularly the yield of breast muscles, may decrease. When formulating a diet containing lupin, it is necessary to optimize the contents of individual nutrients, particularly amino acids.

Náhrada sojového šrotu v dietě šrotem z lupinových semen a jeho vliv na užítkovost, jateční hodnotu a kvalitu masa kuřat

Cílem experimentální práce bylo zjistit, jak diety s obsahem lupinového šrotu ovlivní užítkovost, jateční hodnotu a chemické složení prsní a stehenní svaloviny brojlerových kuřat. Diety se lišily tím, že u experimentální skupiny E1 byla 1/3 dusíkatých látek (NL) sojového extrahovaného šrotu nahrazena NL z lupinového šrotu a u skupiny E2 byla provedena náhrada 2/3 NL oproti kontrole. Náhrada sojového šrotu lupinovým šrotem v experimentálních dietách neovlivnila ve 42. dnu výkrmu průměrnou živou hmotnost kuřat ve srovnání s kontrolou. Náhrada sojového šrotu lupinovým snížila průměrnou hmotnost jatečně opracovaného těla, průměrnou hmotnost prsní svaloviny a výtěžnost prsní svaloviny. Jako vysoce významné ($P \leq 0.01$) byly tyto rozdíly testovány především mezi kontrolou a skupinou E2. U kuřat pokusné skupiny E2, oproti kontrole, bylo zaznamenáno i vysoce významné ($P \leq 0.01$) zvýšení výtěžnosti srdce a žaludku. Rozdíly v hmotnosti a výtěžnosti stehenní svaloviny mezi kontrolní a pokusnými skupinami (E1 a E2), statisticky významně ovlivněny nebyly. V chemickém složení svaloviny u pokusných kuřat, kterým byly podávány diety s obsahem lupiny, bylo prokázáno vysoce významné ($P \leq 0.01$) zvýšení obsahu popelovin v prsní svalovině. U popelovin stehenní svaloviny, u skupiny E2, bylo naopak prokázáno jejich vysoce signifikantní ($P \leq 0.01$) snížení. U obsahu vápníku byla pozorována tendence jeho zvyšování v prsní i stehenní svalovině u kuřat pokusných skupin. Naopak u obsahu hořčiku ve svalovině pokusných kuřat byla zaznamenána tendence jeho poklesu. Jako vysoce významné ($P \leq 0.01$) byly uvedené rozdíly testovány pouze u stehenní svaloviny. Z dosažených výsledků studie lze konstatovat, že lupinová semena jsou vhodnou náhradou NL za sojový extrahovaný šrot. Za optimální náhradu lze považovat náhradu do 1/3 NL sojového šrotu. Vyšší podíl lupinového šrotu v dietách může vést ke snížení růstové intenzity kuřat, především růstu prsní svaloviny. Při sestavování diet s obsahem lupiny je nutné, vzhledem k vysoké odrůdové rozdílnosti, optimalizovat jednotlivé živiny v dietě, především se zaměřením na jednotlivé aminokyseliny.

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