Research Paper

Microclimate, Body Weight Uniformity, Body Temperature, and Footpad Dermatitis in Broiler Chickens Reared in Commercial Poultry Houses in Hot and Humid Tropical Climates.

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ABSTRACT: The present study was conducted to investigate the variations of microclimate variables along the length of commercial broiler houses and to determine the associations between microclimate variables and animal variables in broiler chickens. A routine rearing program involving 480,000 broiler chickens was conducted in 24 commercial broiler houses (with dimensions of 14×120×2.5 m, yielding 1,680 m2 of rearing area per house). Of these, 6,000 chickens were randomly selected for outcome measurements. Microclimate variables (Ambient Temperature (AT), Relative Humidity (RH), Air Velocity (AV), heat index, effective temperature, and ammonia) and animal variables (body weight uniformity, body temperature, and Footpad Dermatitis (FPD)) were measured at 10 sections (12 m apart) from the proximal end to distal end along the length of each broiler house. Regression analysis was used to determine the pattern of each microclimate variable along the length of the broiler houses and to determine the associations between the microclimate variables and the animal variables. The results showed that AT, heat index, and ammonia linearly increased from the front end to the rear end of the houses. In contrast, RH linearly decreased from the front end to the rear end of the houses. The regression analysis revealed no significant association between any of the microclimate variables and the body weight uniformity. Increasing AT and AV were associated with increasing mean body temperature. Increasing AT was associated with decreasing FPD. However, increasing RH and AV were associated with increasing FPD. In conclusion, the microclimate variables had various trends along the length of broiler houses.

Key words: Body weight uniformity, Broiler house, Footpad dermatitis, Microclimate
Coccidiosis is the most common protozoan disease in poultry and is often induced by Eimeria tenella. The present study examined the effect of replacing clover hay with Peanut Vein Hay and Exogenous Enzymes in Diets on Performance, Nutrients Digestibility and Carcass Traits of Growing New Zealand White Rabbits. World Vet. J. 9(4): 235-261. www.wv.science.


Avian Cellulitis


Key words: Epidemiology and temporal patterns.
Bacterial diseases were responsible for the highest economic losses, although other infestations were the most common cause of condemnations in sheep, and bacterial diseases at the slaughterhouse level is the first step in disease surveillance aimed at preventing or association financial loss.


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