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Effects of dietary supplementation of *Bekang* as probiotics source on growth, nutrient utilization, carcass traits and production efficiency of broilers

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Supplementary Table 1. Effect of dietary supplementation of *Bekang* on nutrient utilization of broiler birds

Nutrient	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	T-6	SEM	p-value
DM	74.34	75.53	76.43	75.88	76.17	76.68	0.94	0.99^{NS}
CP	75.80	78.98	79.31	78.91	79.69	80.18	0.60	0.39^{NS}
EE	73.26	75.13	73.21	75.55	73.46	75.96	0.70	0.81^{NS}
CF	56.20	57.08	58.15	57.08	58.23	58.91	1.25	0.99^{NS}
NFE	83.23	83.95	83.72	83.62	83.99	84.18	1.10	1.00^{NS}

Means bearing different superscripts (a, b, c) in a row differs significantly [NS, non-significant; *,means (P<0.05); **, means (P<0.01)] [DM, Dry matter; CP, Crude protein; EE, Ether extract; CF, Crude fibre; NFE, Nitrogen free extract].

Supplementary Table 2. Effect of feeding *Bekang* on different carcass traits of broiler birds

Trait	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	T-6	SEM	p-value
Average live wt. (g), Hot carcass wt. (g) and dressing percentage (%)								
Live wt.	2241.5	2241.00	2243.80	2244.40	2242.50	2242.70	0.52	0.43^{NS}
Hot Carcass wt.	1521.9	1523.10	1523.80	1526.90	1524.60	1524.20	0.84	0.71^{NS}
Dressing %	67.89	67.96	67.91	68.03	67.98	67.96	0.02	0.84^{NS}
Prime cuts (g)								
Breast	492.93	489.71	494.55	494.32	495.11	493.86	0.70	0.86^{NS}
Back	326.67	323.03	326.49	327.77	327.65	326.73	0.61	0.28^{NS}
Thigh	200.52	200.66	200.35	200.43	201.12	200.63	0.36	0.99^{NS}
Drumstick	223.02	222.98	223.11	222.69	223.31	223.09	0.37	0.24^{NS}
Wing	174.04	175.35	173.42	175.26	174.32	174.09	0.53	0.99^{NS}
Neck	101.15	100.41	100.92	100.94	101.10	100.89	0.16	0.86^{NS}
Edible offal (g)								
Liver	60.31	60.32	60.34	60.34	60.37	60.34	0.37	0.49^{NS}
Heart	10.17	10.05	10.00	9.98	10.10	9.91	0.87	0.98^{NS}
Gizzard	59.14	60.07	58.00	41.33	59.13	58.72	3.04	0.49^{NS}
Spleen	6.14	6.47	6.15	6.33	6.40	6.44	0.23	0.99^{NS}

Means bearing different superscripts (a, b, c) in a row differs significantly [NS, non-significant; *, means (P<0.05); **, means (P<0.01)].

Supplementary Table 3. Economic return score (ERS) of broilers at 7th, 21st and 42nd day of age

Age (day)	T-1	T-2	T-3	T-4	T-5	T-6	SEM	p-value
7th	2.63^{a}	2.74^{e}	2.71^{cd}	2.70^{b}	2.72^{de}	2.69^{b}	0.01	$<0.01^{**}$
21st	3.04^{b}	2.73^{a}	3.60^{c}	3.76^{d}	3.82^{de}	3.85^{e}	0.08	$<0.01^{**}$
42nd	4.84^{a}	5.03^{b}	7.11^{cd}	7.09^{c}	7.19^{de}	7.21^{e}	0.22	$<0.01^{**}$

Means bearing different superscripts (a, b, c) in a row differs significantly [NS, non-significant; *, means (P<0.05); **, means (P<0.01)].