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VARIOUS TRAITS OF PB-2 BIRD IN INTENSIVE SYSTEM OF MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

An experiment was conducted to study the different traits of PB-2 bird being maintained under AICRP on Poultry Breeding, Department of Poultry Science, College of Veterinary Science, Assam Agricultural University, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 under intensive system of rearing. The result in respect of body weight, conformation traits, feed conversion ratio, mortality and carcass traits were recorded during the study.

Key words: PB-2 bird, Age at sexual maturity, Hatchability, Carcass traits.

Poultry population of the North-Eastern region of India is 36.46 millions, out of which more than 60% is indigenous fowls. The indigenous chicken population in Assam is 12.17 million, out of it more than 93 percent are distributed in rural areas (11.40 million). Along with the indigenous bird, farmers generally prefer to rear the broiler, kuroiler due to their high economic benefit. They generally rear such type of bird under traditional system. Available literature reveals that there is lack of systematic studies on the performance of such bird in this region. Keeping in view of this a study has been undertaken to record the performance of PB-2 birds for various traits viz. body weight at different ages, conformation traits, feed conversion ratio, mortality and carcass traits. The birds have been maintained in intensive system of management in the AICRP on Poultry Breeding, Department of Poultry Science, College of Veterinary Science, Assam Agricultural University, Khanapara, Guwahati-22.

A total of 150 numbers of PB-2 male birds maintained under AICRP on Poultry Breeding, Department of Poultry Science, College of Veterinary Science, Assam Agricultural University, Khanapara, Guwahati-22 were utilized for the present study. The experiment was conducted in the AICRP on Poultry Breeding farm complex.

The day-old-chicks were reared in deep litter system under standard managemental practices and offered balanced diet ad-libitum. The birds were vaccinated and dewormed as per standard schedules.

The different traits measured were body weights at day-old, 4 weeks, and 8 weeks of age, conformation traits and feed conversion ratio at 5 weeks of age, mortality (%) at different ages and carcass traits. For obtaining data on carcass traits 12 birds were slaughtered at the age of 10 weeks. The data were analyzed statistically[4].

The body weights of the PB-2 bird from day-old to 8 weeks are presented in Table1. The body weight ranges from 32.57 ± 2.56 g at day-old to1166.37 ± 90.56 g at 8 weeks of age. Lower body weight in different cross breed bird of Brown Nicobari with ILI-80 than the present study was recorded[1].

The shank length, keel length and breast angle was recorded as 66.82 ± 3.51mm, 64.57 ±

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3.48mm and 70.37 ± 4.10 º, respectively during the study which is almost similar with earlier findings [2] in commercial broilers.

In the present study the feed conversion ratio was calculated as 2.51 ± 0.07. Similar findings in different cross breed bird of Brown Nicobari with ILI-80 was reported by earlier workers[1].

Highest mortality (5.93 ± 0.49) was recorded in the age group of 0-5 weeks of age followed by 4.27 ± 0.56 in 6-20 weeks of age. Similarly[3] 8.40 % mortality up to 5th weeks of age in case of Vanaraja bird was reported by earlier workers[3].

The overall mean values of pre-slaughter live weight, dressed yield, giblet yield, and ready to cook yield were recorded as 1120.57 ± 115.23 g, 70.64 ± 4.52 %, 4.95 ± 0.09 % and 76.25 ± 3.56 %, respectively which is almost similar earlier findings in commercial broilers[2].

From the above study it can be concluded that by adopting scientific management better performance of PB-2 birds can be obtained in intensive system of management.

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