

# Evaluation of cassava leaf meal (*Manihot esculenta* Crantz) in feed with enzymes supplementation on broiler performances

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**Abstract.** The research aimed to evaluate the effect of cassava leaf meal with enzymes supplementation in the feed on the performance of broiler. The research used factorial completely randomized design 2x3 on 240 Cobb-strain broilers. There were 6 treatments with 2 factors is used cassava leaf meal (CLM) and enzymes (non-starch polysaccharides and protease) with each dose 250 g/ton feed, i.e. P<sub>1</sub>: basal ration, P<sub>2</sub>: basal ration with enzymes, P<sub>3</sub>: ration with 1.5% CLM, P<sub>4</sub>: ration with 1.5% CLM and enzymes, P<sub>5</sub>: ration with 3.0% CLM, P<sub>6</sub>: ration with 3.0% CLM and enzymes. The variables analyzed were body weight, body weight gain, feed intake, feed conversion ratio, and mortality. The data obtained were analyzed by analysis of variance (ANOVA) and if the results indicated significantly different, then the post-hoc test conducted. The results showed that there was an interaction between CLM and enzymes on the feed conversion ratio ( $P < 0.05$ ). The addition enzymes can decrease feed conversion ratio (from 1.91 to 1.74) significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ). Addition CLM to a level of 3.0% did not interfere with performance. Enzymes can offset the detrimental effect caused by the use cassava leaf meal in the feed.

## 1 Introduction

Protein is one of the nutrients needed for broiler for growth and feed efficiency. The main source of protein in poultry feed is soybean meal, it has high protein and digestibility. Total import soybean was 2.48 million tons in 2020 [1]. One of the alternatives to overcome the dependence on imports was the utilization of local feedstuff protein source. Cassava is a local plant Indonesia that has high production. Cassava production in Indonesia was 19.3 million tons in 2018 [2]. The part of cassava is the tuber, skin of tuber, stem, and leaf. 10-40% of cassava plants consist of leaves. Cassava leaf contain high crude protein,  $\beta$ -carotene, and minerals [3, 4]. Cassava leaves have active compounds of flavonoids, phenolics, and chlorophyll which is a natural antioxidant [3]. Crude protein content in cassava leaf meal reaches 23.78% [5]. The nutritional content of cassava leaf varies in each age [4]. The older the leaf, the protein and amino acid levels will decrease, while the crude fiber content will

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increase. Cassava leaf meal levels 1.5% and 3.0% can increase weight gain with a lower feed conversion ratio [6].

Cassava leaves have a constrain. Crude fiber content in cassava leaf meal reaches 17.69% [5], while chickens have limitations in breakdown crude fiber due to the simple anatomy of the digestive tract of chickens. Cassava leaf have antinutrients such as cyanide acid (HCN). Several studies have been done to reduced the HCN levels (58 - 99 %) through feed processing such as sun-drying [7]; oven-drying [8]; fermentation [9, 10], but the most effective method was the combination of chopping and sun-drying [11]. Cassava leaves have low digestibility due to the presence of antinutrients and high crude fiber. Low digestibility can be overcome by giving enzymes. The addition of non-starch polysaccharides (NSP) enzymes can optimize the breakdown of crude fiber and protease enzymes in feed can also optimize the use of protein. According to Ding *et al.* [12], the addition of protease enzymes can increase crude protein digestibility, trypsin activity, and intestinal morphology. NSP enzymes can overcome the problem of high fiber broiler feed [13]. This research aimed to evaluate the effect of addition of cassava leaf meal in feed with enzyme supplementation on the performance of broiler. Finally, it can be use as the reference of the utilization of cassava leaf meal in feed.

## 2 Materials and methods

### 2.1 Animals and Feed

This research used 1 day old-240 Cobb-strain broilers that kept in cage sized 100 cm × 100 cm. Ration formulation adapted to nutrient requirements of broiler at pre-starter phase (age 1-7 days) based on SNI 8173.1:2015 [14], starter (age 7-21 days) based on SNI 8173.2:2015 [15], and finisher (age 21-35 days) based on SNI 8173.3:2015 [16]. Formulation and nutrients value of the experimental ration presented in Table 1. The ration given to the pre-starter phase-chickens was the basal ration. Furthermore, the treatment ration was given starting from the starter phase until finisher. Feed was given twice a day, at 07.00 and 17.00 WIB (West Indonesian Time) and water was provided ad libitum.

The manufactured of ration began with the manufactured of cassava leaf meal (CLM). The cassava leaves that used were manggu cassava varietas with the red leaf-stem cassava, finger-shaped leaves, and aged 4-5 months old. Cassava leaves were taken from 15-20 leaves on the top of leaf plants. Cassava leaves were separated between the leaves and the stems. Furthermore, the fresh leaves were dried in the shade for 2-3 days, then put into the oven 24 hours with temperature of 60 °C. The dried leaves were mashed by the grinder. The addition of enzymes was carried out with micro-feedstuffs mixtures such as amino acids and minerals during the mixing process. The enzyme used was NSP (Non-Startch Polysaccharide) with Superzyme-CS brand and protease with Concentrase-P brand. The enzyme each level used was 250 g/ton feed. Level of enzyme activity used can be seen in Table 2. The nutrient content that analyzed were dry matter and crude fiber based on method of SNI 01-2891-1992 [17]; crude protein, crude fat, and calcium (Ca) based on method of AOAC 2005 [18]; phosphor (P) based on gravimetry method; and gross energy by bombcalorimeter.

**Table 1.** Formulation and nutrients value of the experimental ration

Feedstuffs	Pre-starter (%)	Starter (%)			Finisher (%)		
	Basal	K <sub>0</sub>	K <sub>1</sub>	K <sub>2</sub>	K <sub>0</sub>	K <sub>1</sub>	K <sub>2</sub>
Maize	54.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	59.00	59.00	59.00
Rice bran	4.30	3.10	2.10	1.10	4.30	3.30	2.30
Soybean meal	26.00	26.50	25.50	24.50	21.00	20.00	19.00
Cassava leaf meal	0.00	0.00	1.50	3.00	0.00	1.50	3.00
Corn gluten meal	8.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Crude palm oil	2.50	2.30	2.30	2.30	2.50	2.50	2.50
Fish meal	2.00	2.00	2.50	3.00	2.00	2.50	3.00
Calcium carbonate	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.10	1.10
Dicalcium phosphate	1.10	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30	1.30
Premix	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.70
L-Lysine	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
DL-Methionine	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Nutrients value							
Dry matter (%)	85.91	85.77	85.88	85.88	85.70	85.82	85.93
Crude protein (%)	22.33	22.87	22.86	22.86	21.22	21.21	21.20
Crude fat (%)	5.22	5.02	5.08	5.08	5.39	5.45	5.52
Crude fiber (%)	2.86	2.75	2.91	2.91	2.83	2.90	3.14
Gross energy (cal/g)	3070.8	3074.2	3070.9	3070.9	3108.3	3104.9	3101.6
Calcium (%)	0.88	0.88	0.93	0.93	0.91	1.15	1.02
Phospor (%)	0.51	0.51	0.53	0.53	0.50	0.52	0.53

K0: ration without CLM; K1: ration with 1.5% CLM; K2: ration with 3.0% cassava leaf meal

**Table 2.** Level of enzyme activity

Enzyme	Enzyme activity in product (unit/g)	Enzyme activity in feed (unit/kg)
Protease	25000	6250
Non-Starch Polysaccharide (NSP)		
Xylanase	2400	600
Glucanase	300	75
Invertase	1400	350
Protease	2400	600
Cellulase	1000	250
Amylase	24000	6000
Mannanase	120	30
Pectinase	1700	425

Source : Canadian Bio-System

### 3 Results and discussion

The results research cassava leaf meal and enzymes on the body weight, body weight gain, feed intake, feed conversion ratio, and mortality as the performance variables for 35 days presented in Table 3.

**Table 3.** Effect of cassava leaf meal and enzymes levels on broiler performance for 35 days

Parameter	Feed	Enzymes		Average
		Without	With	
Body Weight (g)	K0	792.44 ± 0.77	817.33 ± 15.01	804.89 ± 16.62
	K1	804.00 ± 16.47	816.45 ± 11.76	810.23 ± 14.83
	K2	800.80 ± 15.36	809.32 ± 13.95	805.06 ± 14.33
Average		799.08 ± 13.27 <sup>b</sup>	814.37 ± 12.63 <sup>a</sup>	
Body Weight Gain (g)	K0	748.71 ± 0.12	773.67 ± 15.32	761.19 ± 16.76
	K1	760.48 ± 16.67	773.00 ± 11.75	766.74 ± 14.94
	K2	757.58 ± 15.45	765.64 ± 14.36	761.61 ± 14.46
Average		754.59 ± 13.41 <sup>b</sup>	770.77 ± 12.85 <sup>a</sup>	
Feed Intake (g)	K0	1389.55 ± 4.74	1374.04 ± 37.23	1381.80 ± 23.04
	K1	1423.12 ± 46.56	1383.90 ± 38.29	1403.51 ± 39.32
	K2	1432.67 ± 33.40	1398.49 ± 34.31	1415.58 ± 30.18
Average		1415.11 ± 32.18 <sup>a</sup>	1385.47 ± 28.95 <sup>b</sup>	
Feed Conversion Ratio	K0	1.86 ± 0.01 <sup>b</sup>	1.74 ± 0.01 <sup>e</sup>	1.80 ± 0.07
	K1	1.87 ± 0.02 <sup>b</sup>	1.79 ± 0.02 <sup>d</sup>	1.83 ± 0.05
	K2	1.91 ± 0.02 <sup>a</sup>	1.83 ± 0.00 <sup>e</sup>	1.87 ± 0.05
Average		1,88 ± 0,03	1,78 ± 0,04	
Mortality (%)	K0	0.14 ± 0.24	0.10 ± 0.21	0.12 ± 0.20
	K1	0.10 ± 0.21	0.00 ± 0.00	0.05 ± 0.16
	K2	0.10 ± 0.21	0.10 ± 0.21	0.10 ± 0.19
Average		0.12 ± 0.19	0.07 ± 0.17	

Numbers followed with different superscript in same column-subgroup showed the significantly different ( $P < 0.05$ ).

K0: ration without CLM; K1: ration with 1.5% CLM; K2: ration with 3.0% CLM

There was no interaction between cassava leaf meal and enzymes on body weight and body weight gain, but addition of enzymes increase body weight and body weight gain significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ). Feed with enzymes had higher final body weight and body weight gain, 814.37 g and 770.77 g, respectively. In line with this finding, previous reports also showed that the addition of protease and NSP enzymes can increase body weight gain [13, 20, 21]. Supplementation of protease enzyme in low protein diets resulted in increased body weight due to the ability protease enzyme to increase absorption of nutrients [22]. This could be because the protease enzyme was able to increase protein digestibility so that protein from cassava leaf meal was utilized optimally. The used of NSP enzyme can also increase the digestibility of feed ingredients that have high fiber resulted in body weight gain [23, 24].

The final body weight of this study is below the Cobb standard, the body weight of 35 days old Cobb chickens can reaches 2 kg. Addition cassava leaf meal up to level 3.0% did not interfere with performance. Ration without cassava leaf meal also have body weight below

the Cobb standard. Environmental factors can cause body weight to not reach the standard. The temperature of the cage during the study ranged from 22.8 - 36.2 °C with a humidity of 48 - 89%. The ideal temperature for broiler rearing is 10 – 22 °C for achieving optimum body weight and 15 – 27 °C for ration efficiency [25]. According to Fatmaningsih *et al.* [26], chickens that feel uncomfortable with their environment can affect the physiological changes of chickens. The high environmental temperature can result in the accumulation of heat in the body, which will cause the livestock to experience heat stress. Stress reduction efforts have been carried out in this study, namely opening the curtains and turning on the fan at a high temperature and at night using the lamp as a heater. In addition, the provision of vitamins in drinking water is also carried out.

Addition of enzymes decrease feed intake significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ). Feed with enzymes had a lower average of feed intake, but there was no interaction between cassava leaf meal and enzymes on feed intake. The research in line with Flores [27] and Kalmendal and Tauson [28] who report that protease and NSP enzymes can reduced feed intake. This was due to the adequacy of chicken in meeting the protein needs of the body. According to Risnajati [29], chickens have the ability to regulate feed consumption. The requirement of energy and protein affect the amount of feed consumption [6]. Protease enzyme can hydrolyze complex proteins into simpler compounds so as to optimize absorption [30].

The results showed that there was an interaction between cassava leaf meal and enzymes significant effect on the feed conversion ratio ( $P < 0.05$ ). The results showed that cassava leaf meal increase FCR significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ). The higher level of cassava leaf meal, the increased in feed conversion ratio. The research in line with Salu and Paembonan [6] shown that cassava leaf meal with levels 1.5% and 3.0% could increase weight gain with a lower feed conversion ratio, and more effective than 4.5% and 6.0% levels. This was due to the presence of cyanide acid in cassava leaf meal, so the more cassava leaf meal will make the cyanide acid (HCN) level higher. Based on the test results of cyanide acid content in cassava leaf meal, it was found that the addition of 1.5% CLM resulted in 1.19 mg/kg levels of HCN, while 3.0% CLM produced 2.38 mg/kg levels of HCN.

The addition of cassava leaf meal with enzymes has a low feed conversion ratio. The addition enzymes can decrease feed conversion ratio (from 1.91 to 1.74) significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ). Feed conversion ratio is a parameter in seeing feed efficiency. It can be seen that the decrease in feed intake was in line with the decrease in feed conversion ratio and increased in body weight. Chickens without enzymes on their feed had high average conversion ratio than with enzymes. Previously, it was also showed that the use of protease and NSP enzymes can reduce feed conversion ratio [13, 21, 27, 28]. This was because protease enzymes were able to increase protein and amino acid digestibility so feed can be utilized properly [22]. Protease enzyme can also reduce the negative effects of anti-nutrients [12]. The used of NSP enzymes was able to reduce the detrimental effects of cassava leaf meal which has high fiber. Hydrolysis by NSP enzymes can release nutrients to cell walls and breakdown starch into simple sugars thereby increased nutrient absorption and feed digestibility efficiency [21]. The combination of NSP and protease can also optimize feeds containing high fiber, so increase the digestibility [31, 32].

There was no interaction between cassava leaf meal and enzymes on mortality. Based on the data the percentage of mortality was low about 0.00 – 0.14%. Addition of cassava leaf meal and enzymes did not affect mortality. Most of the deaths in this study occurred during brooding. The brooding period is a critical period in the maintenance of DOC (Day Old Chick) from the age of 1-14 days. The ration given to the pre-starter phase-chickens was the basal ration, no addition cassava leaf meal and enzyme. Cause of the death occurs because management and disease [33]. Factors that affect health and performance in chickens are daily growth, type of light adaptation, and type of drinking place [34]. Yerpes *et al.* [35]

divided the causes of death of broiler into two factors, they were internal factors (breeder age, sex, and type of DOC) and external factors (type of cage, season, and drinking water).

## 4 Conclusion

The ration with cassava leaf meal and enzymes supplementation has the best performance with the lowest value feed conversion ratio and does not adversely affect the broiler performance.

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