

## **EFFECT OF "HELOFUGINONE" AND SALINOMYCIN AS ANTICOCIDIALS ON BROILER PERFORMANCE**

BY

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Infectious diseases whether vi-  
bacterial or parasitic are among  
the main problems facing poultry  
production (Cockrio, 1971). Coccidi-  
osis is one of the major parasitic  
diseases affecting poultry. It is a  
severe condition usually of the di-  
gestive tract caused by Eimeria  
species characterized by diarrhea,  
weight loss and mortality be-  
cause of poor growth rate. among the  
most dangerous species of Eimeria  
affecting poultry, is Eimeria tenella  
which causes flock mortality  
(10%) within a period of 2-3 days,  
weight loss from cecal lesions and  
diarrhea (Calneck et al., 1990).  
Before 1936 poultry producers had  
no assistance from chemotherapy  
in controlling devastating out-  
breaks of coccidiosis. In 1936 sul-  
fonamide was found to reduce  
mortality from E. tenella when fed  
at 1.5% or higher in the diet.

Although this product was too  
toxic for general use yet, its dis-  
covery in the control of coccidiosis  
by means of sulfonamides prepara-

tions. Three years later, Sulfona-  
mides were found suppressive  
against 6 intestinal species of Ei-  
meria but ineffective on pathogenic  
E. tenella. Addition of an anticoc-  
cidial drug in the feed provides the  
most convenient method of admin-  
istration, Halofuginone is one of  
the new anticoccidial products ad-  
ministered in the feed of poultry  
for this purpose. The present study  
was designed to study the effec-  
tiveness of Halofuginone on con-  
trolling cecal coccidiosis in addi-  
tion to its effect on birds  
performance compared with Sali-  
nomycin.

### **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

#### **Experimental birds:**

Six hundred white "Arbor  
virescens" one day-old chicks which  
were proved to be free from coc-  
cidia were obtained from El Salam  
Poultry Company and reared under  
complete hygienic conditions on  
deep litter system.



### Ration:

Commercial broiler ration was obtained from El-Salam Poultry Company, this ration was requested not contain any anticoccidiotats, the ingredients of the dry ration were yellow corn, soya bean cake, fish meal, cotton seed cake, brane, calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate, sodium chloride and premex.

### Oocysts :

Seed oocysts of *Eimeria tenella* strain, a pure strain of *E. tenella* was prepared, the oocysts were kept in 25% potassium dichromate until use. The preparation of culture and inoculation of birds were performed as described by (Barwick et al., 1970). Counting of oocysts output per gram of feces was done using Mac master slide by the same technique described by Soulsby (1968).

### Experimental desion:

Six hundred one-day old chicks were equally divided in the following groups and treated as follows:

**Group I:** Were fed on a ration free from Halofuginone and not inoculated with sporulated *E. tenella* oocysts.

**Group II:** Were fed on a ration containing Halofuginone (1/2 kg/

ton) but not inoculated with sporulated *E. tenella* oocyst.

**Group III:** Were fed on a ration containing Halofuginone and inoculated with sporulated oocysts. The infective dose (5000 oocyst/bird).

**Group IV:** Were fed on a ration free from Halofuginone & Salinomycin and inoculated with sporulated oocysts by the previously mentioned infective dose.

**Group V:** Were fed on a ration contain Salinomycin " 1kg/ton" and inoculated with sporulated *E. tenella* oocysts.

**Group VI:** Were fed on ration containing Salinomycin "1 kg/ton" and not inoculated with sporulated oocysts.

Random fecal samples were collected daily from each group until the end of the experiment (up to 45 days). Each sample was examined for *E. tenella* oocysts. The daily feed consumed as well as the body weight gain was calculated and recorded.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study was carried out to evaluate the effect of Halofuginone & Salinomycin as anticoccidial drugs in prevention and control of cecal coccidiosis as well as their



effect on broiler performance. The obtained results revealed that the feed conversion ration at day 39 and 45 in Halofuginone fed group (3 and 2.5) is much better than that of the control one (3.4, 2.8) as well as Salinomycin fed group (3.2 & 2.7). Concerning the appearance of the effect of Halofuginone on birds performance, the results cleared out that the performance of the birds was much better in the group fed on diet containing Halofuginone rather than that which was fed on the ration free from the compound or fed on ration containing Salinomycin in addition to minimum feed intake.

This may be attributed to the role played by anticoccidial drug in prevention of cecal coccidiosis occurrence, this may lead to healthy individuals not suffering from any illness which was reflected in the form of good production and increased body weight gain.

Concerning the occurrence of infection after artificial inoculation, the results cleared out that, the symptoms of cecal coccidiosis were more pronounced in the group which was artificially inoculated with sporulated oocyst and fed on ration free from Halofuginone or Salinomycin, in which, there was a significant difference between the group which was inoculated with oocyst and fed on ration free from Halofuginone and that which was inoculated but fed

on ration containing Halofuginone or Salinomycin. The appearance of symptoms of illness was more pronounced in all members which were not fed on ration containing either Halofuginone or Salinomycin, as the percentage of mortality increased in that group in comparison to those fed on ration containing anticoccidials "Halofuginone or Salinomycin".

The obtained results agree with that obtained by **Smith et al., (1972)**, **Reid and Cong (1979)** and **Coickrill (1971)**.

Concerning the performance of birds in groups artificially inoculated with sporocystic oocyst, the results revealed that the group fed on ration containing Halofuginone and inoculated with sporocysted oocyst showed high performance rather than the members of other group fed on ration free from Halofuginone or ration containing Salinomycin. These results may be due to the decrease in severity of coccidiosis due to the effect of such drug, which helped the birds to become more healthier and consequently the body weight gain was increased.

### SUMMARY

This experiment was conducted in Faculty of Vet. Med. Cairo Univ. to evaluate the effectiveness of Halofuginone & Salinomycin "anticoccidial drugs" against the



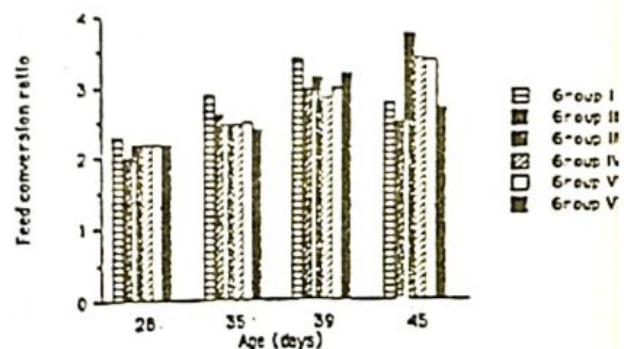
Feed consumption in treated groups

Age(days)	Group I	Group II	Group III	Group IV	Group V	Group VI
28	2.3	2	2.2	2.2	2.2	.2
35	2.9	2.6	2.48	2.48	2.5	2.4
39	3.4	3	3.15	2.86	3	3.2
45	2.8	2.5	3.77	3.43	3.4	2.7

Group I = Control group  
 Group II = Halofuginone only  
 Group III = Halofuginone + Coccidia  
 Group IV = Coccidia only  
 Group V = Salinomycin + Coccidia  
 Group VI = Salinomycin only

infection with cecal coccidiosis in broilers, in addition to evaluate their effect on the bird performance. The results revealed that addition of Halofuginone in ration of broilers "1/2 kg/ton" led to reduction in the probability of infection with coccidiosis, in addition to inappearance of any clinical symptoms on artificially infected birds. Also the bird's performance when fed on a ration containing Halofuginone was much better than that obtained for the birds fed on a ration free from Halofuginone or contained Salinomycin.

Feed Conversion Ratio In Broiler Groups



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