**USE OF *CICHORIUM INTYBUS* LEAF EXTRACT AS GROWTH PROMOTER, HEPATOPROTECTANT AND IMMUNE MODULENT IN BROILERS**

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**ABSTRACT**

Use of antibiotics as feed additive is banned in some countries due to the massive insecurity in food because these antibiotics develop resistance in humans against different diseases. So peoples to deny the use of traditional antibiotics.The present investigation was conducted to investigate the effect of *Cichorium intybus* leaf extract as a growth promoter, hepatoprotectant, and immune modulent along with their hematological parameters in broilers. The efficacy of *Cichorium intybus* leaf extract was checked on day-old chicks (n=150), distributed in 15 replicates (10 birds/replicate).These replicates were allotted to five treatment groups such that each group received three replicates. Group A (positive control) was offered commercial ration supplemented with an antibiotic growth promoter (Enracin) and coccidiostat (Salinomycin). Group E (negative control) was offered water without supplementation of antibiotic and coccidiostat. Whereas, group B, C and D were offered water containing different concentrations of chicory leaves extract @ 5, 10 and 15 ml/L, extracted in distilled water at pH 7. Chicory leaf extract exhibited a significant (p< 0.05) effects on weight gain, feed conversion ratio, ALT, Aspartate Aminotransferase concentration, antibody body titer against Newcastle disease, blood glucose, cholesterol level, total leukocyte count (TLC) and hepatoprotective properties. Whereas, feed consumption, Alpha Glutamyltransferase, hemoglobin concentration (Hb), Packed Cell Volume (PCV), heterophils count, lymphocytes count and antibody body titer against infectious bursa disease were not affected (P>0.05). It is concluded that chicory leaf extract should be recommended as an inexpensive, efficient and safe growth promoter in broiler production.

**Keywords:** Cichorium intybus, broilers, growth promoter, immune modulent, hepatoprotectant