Application of potato and sweet potato supplying method on feeding domestic geese [1]

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Abstract

A total of 144 geese at 4 weeks of age were randomly allocated into 4 groups to evaluate the method of supplying potato and sweet potato on growing geese. For 1st period, between 4 and 8 weeks of age, treatments were positive control group, giving growth diet *ad libitum*; negative control group giving experimental diet 170 g/day/goose restriction; two supplying groups were 170 g/day/goose restriction same with negative control group and supplying potato and sweet potato *ad libitum* at the same time, respectively. For 2nd period, all groups were giving same growth diet *ad libitum* between 8 and 13 weeks of age. The results of 1st period showed that the feed consumption of supplying sweet potato group was 351.0 ± 27.5 g/day/goose (mean ± SD) which was closed to positive control group and significantly ($P < 0.05$) higher than those of negative control and potato supplying groups. It means that the palatability of sweet potato was better than potato for geese. At 2nd period, the highest feed consumption was in negative group 387.1 ± 29.6 g/day/goose and the supplying potato group was the next. And the body weight gain (BWG) of these two groups were significantly higher than those in the other two groups ($P < 0.05$). It means that the compensatory growth appeared at 2nd period. For whole period, the feed consumption of negative control group 290.6 ± 16.5 g/day/goose was significantly lower than those of the other 3 groups ($P < 0.05$). But their BWG 3.06 ± 0.16 kg/goose was significantly lower than positive control group 3.44 ± 0.23 kg/goose ($P < 0.05$). It means that the restriction method can reduce total feed consumption, but the suitable restriction conditions need further study. However, this supplying method may be useful for feeding domestic geese.

Key words: Geese, Growth Performance, Sweet Potato, Potato.

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