

Effects of male and female chickens on the growth performances, blood characteristics, carcass traits and compare yield earnings for commercial red feather native chicken ⁽¹⁾

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Abstract

An experiment was carried out to compare growth performances, blood characteristics, carcass traits and compare yield earnings of male and female chickens for commercial red feather native chicken. To recommend the suitable market age for chickens. Two hundred and eighty-eight healthy commercial red feather native chickens at 0-day were used as experimental animals, with similar body weight, were selected and randomly assigned to either male or female groups, which were allocated into 8 repeats with 18 chickens in each pen (409 × 192 cm). All chickens were provided with the same starter (0-4 weeks of age), grower (5-8 weeks of age) and finisher (9-13 weeks of age) diets. Feed and water were provided and feeding was *ad libitum* for 13 weeks experimental period. The results showed that average gain weight and feed intake in male chickens was significantly greater than those female chickens in the finisher period ($P < 0.05$). Compared with female chickens, male chickens had a significantly lower feed conversion ratio in finishers ($P < 0.05$). In addition, the mortality was significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) in male chickens in all during all periods whereas the female chickens had significantly lower concentration of plasma total cholesterol and creatinine in the starter period ($P < 0.05$). Also, the plasma triglyceride concentration in finishers was significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) in female chickens than those male chickens in finisher period. The feed cost in the grower, finisher and full period in male chickens were significantly greater ($P < 0.05$). Whereas the female chickens had significantly higher per kilogram gain weight cost in the finisher and full period ($P < 0.05$). In addition, the earnings were significantly ($P < 0.05$) greater in male chickens in 13 weeks. In addition, the percentages of live weight, carcass weight and dressing were significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) in male chickens than those female chickens, but the percentages of abdominal fat weight was significantly higher in female chickens than those male chickens ($P < 0.05$). In conclusion, commercial red-feather male native chickens are raised for 12-13 weeks; female native chickens can be raised to the market for 8 weeks, which can achieve the best production benefits.

Key words: Carcass traits, Native chicken, Sexes, Yield earnings.

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