A PRELIMINARY STUDY OF POLYSACCHARIDE GEL EXTRACTED FROM THE FRUIT-HULLS OF DURIAN (DURIO ZIBETHINUS MURR.) ON IMMUNE RESPONSES AND CHOLESTEROL REDUCTION IN CHICKEN

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The effects of polysaccharide gel (PG) extracted from the fruit-hulls of durian (Durio zibethinus Murr.) on immune responses and cholesterol reduction were studied in broiler chicken. The PG was mixed in the feed at different concentrations, 0.5, 1.5 and 3 g%, and was fed to the chicken. The results showed hemagglutination-inhibition (HI) titers against newcastle disease in the chicken revealed a tendency to lower antibody levels in those that did not receive PG in the feed. On the other hand, measurement of cholesterol in the pectoral muscle of the chicken showed lower level in the chicken that received PG in the feed. The results suggest the possibility of using PG as a feed supplement for stimulation of an immune response to ND and for lowering cholesterol levels in the chick which become a source of healthy meat for humans. Further studies need to be continued to confirm the benefits of the PG on these points.

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