

THE ROLE OF ZINC AND AMARANTH (*Amaranthus sp.*) ON FEED OF LAYING HENS FOR ACCELERATE MOULTING PHASE

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to see the role of zinc and amaranth (*Amaranthus sp.*) are given in feed of laying hens to accelerate moulting phase. The research was conducted in the area of Tembok Gede Surabaya, East Java, using 24 strains of rejected Hy-line Brown laying hens in battery cages. Materials used zinc acetate and amaranth. All the ingredients mixed into laying hens commercial feed. Three treatment was conducted as P0, P1, P2 are only feed, feed + 0,7% zinc + 10% amaranth and feed + 0,7% zinc + 20% amaranth respectively. Data were analyzed by using a completely randomized design, should F count was 5,476 greater than F table 0.05. Then it proceed with the Least Significant Difference test (LSD) at 5% significance level, the result is $P1 > LSD 5\%$. P1 moulting stops quickly marked with feathers begin to grow in areas that fall out and the hens have started laying eggs, based on the first day of the hens start laying again on day 10 and the production of eggs (hen-day) obtained is 4.286%. It showed zinc and amaranth (*Amaranthus sp.*) treatment can accelerate moulting phase.

Key Words : laying hens, moulting, zinc, amaranth