



**EFFECT OF SUPPLEMENTING DIET WITH SODIUM BENTONITE AND/OR ORGANIC CHROMIUM ON PRODUCTIVE, PHYSIOLOGICAL PERFORMANCE AND IMMUNE RESPONSE IN MATROUH CHICKENS STRAIN.**

**2- DURING LAYING PERIOD.**

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**ABSTRACT:** The main objective of this study was to investigate the effect of sodium bentonite (Na-B) (0, 5 and 10 g/kg diet) and chromium picolinate (CrPic) (0,800 and 1200 µg/Cr /kg diet) in the diet on chicken productive and reproductive traits, some blood serum constitute, egg quality as well as the immune response. in this experiment 270 laying hens and 54 cocks of Matrouh local strain at 28 weeks of age were randomly distributed into 9 treatment groups (30 hens + 6 cocks / each treatment) in a factorial arrangement (3x3). Chicken fed diets were contaminated with Aflatoxin (AFB<sub>1</sub>),7.55 µg/kg dry matter (DM) during the laying period.

Rations with Na-B significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) improved body weight changes (BWC), egg weight, egg production and egg mass during the period from 28-40 wks of age. As well as, Haugh units, serum calcium and glutathione peroxidase (GPX) at 40 Wks of age. Likewise, results of cocks revealed improvement blood testosterone value, percentages of sperm motility and sperm cell concentration, fertility eggs % and hatchability/total eggs. Na-B supplementation significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) decreased feed intake, serum cholesterol, malondialdehyde (MDA) values, dead spermatozoa (%) and seminal MDA.

CrPic supplementation diet significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) increased BWC, egg weight, production rate, egg mass, yolk index, Haugh unit, thickness of egg shell, albumen percentage, the titer of sheep red blood cells (SRBCs), serum total protein, albumin, insulin and Ca concentrations. CrPic improved blood testosterone, physical semen properties and seminal MDA. However, significant decreased yolk weight percentage and serum cholesterol.

Moreover, egg weight and egg mass, yolk index and Haugh unit, SRBCs concentrations, and blood testosterone of cocks, sperm motility, dead spermatozoa and sperm cell concentration, values of fertility eggs % and hatchability/fertile eggs (%) were significantly influenced by the interaction between dietary Na-B and CrPic.

It is clear that, supplementing the chicken diet with both 10 g Na-B and 1200 µg CrPic /kg diet alone or together is recommended for improving most of productive traits, including egg and semen quality, fertility and hatchability and serum biochemical traits as well as improved immune responses.

**Keywords:** Sodium Bentonite- Chromium Picolinate- Productive Traits- Blood Parameters,.

## INTRODUCTION

Bentonite is a clay mineral has been used as a feed added substance effectively in poultry nourishes with no destructive impacts (Safaeikatouli et al., 2010). The swelling of bentonite causing a reduction in the rate of feed transit through the digestive tract, permitting time for more effective utilization (Damiri et al., 2010). Bentonites are white, lightweight rock stores made for the most part out of salts of hydrated aluminosilicates of sodium (Na), potassium (K), calcium, and occasionally iron, magnesium (Mg), zinc, nickel, etc. This bentonite have a high negative charge and are adjusted by cations, for example, Mg, K, and Na situated in the pits; hence, they don't respond with nourishment/bolster fixings and go about as latent material because of their impartial pH or marginally antacid nature (Khan et al., 2004). Addition of sodium bentonite was fundamentally successful in improving the negative impact of aflatoxins on the rate of phagocytosis (Moghadam et al., 2008). Sodium bentonite (Na-B) is an aluminum silicate powder that can absorb different compounds into its three layer structure (Trckova et al., 2004). This effective additive has a variety of applications in poultry industry. It has been reported that Na-B in the diet may ameliorate aflatoxicosis (Miazzo et al., 2005). El-Abd. (2014) indicated that, chick's sustained 4% and 6 % bentonite had higher body weight gain; cholesterol, lower feed intake; and better feed conversion ratio at 42 days of age contrasted with the control diet of Japanese quail chicks. Gilani et al (2013) working on commercial Hy-Line W-36 hens from 51-63 weeks of age found hen-day egg production and daily egg mass were improved ( $P < 0.05$ ) in hens fed diet containing 10 g/kg sodium bentonite. As percentage of sodium bentonite (Na-B) increased the relative weight of liver decreased ( $P < 0.05$ ). This may was because of restricting dangerous specialist, for

example, aflatoxins by Na-B. Comparative, Hashemipour et al., (2010) on laying hens and Fatouh et al., (2012) on ducks come to the same conclusion.

Chromium (Cr) is an essential micro element that assumes a critical part in nutrition of Animal and human being and it help improving the haugh unit, albumin quality and yolk index also, Cr is also called as "Glucose Tolerance Factor" because it helps in potentiation of insulin metabolism. Supplementation of Cr and ascorbic acid can improve the nitrogen, calcium, iron, zinc and phosphorus consumption (Nattapon et al., 2012). Also, previous studies reported that Cr supplementation resulted in higher egg production, egg weight, mass and albumin quality (Kim et al., 1997; Uyanık et al., 2002 and Yıldız et al., 2004). Sahin et al., (2001b) reported that natural Cr supplementation, especially at 1200 ppb, expanded the execution criteria, egg quality and serum insulin concentration of Japanese quails. Then again, Cr supplementation underpins the immune function by upgrade the cell intervened and humoral immune responses (Lien et al., 2005). The Cr in feed decays the deformities of sperm and enhance the sperm number, movement and thickness enhances improves the weight of egg without affecting the quality of the egg (Abd El-Samee et al., 2012). Okada et al., (1983) demonstrated an association of chromium with DNA layouts that brought about a noteworthy incitement of RNA blend in vitro. The oligopeptide low-molecular-weight, Cr-binding protein (chromodulin) tightly binds four chromic ions before the oligopeptide obtains a conformation required for binding to the tyrosine kinase active site of the insulin receptor (Vincent, 2000). The primary role of Cr in metabolism is to potentiate the action of insulin through its presence in an organometallic molecule (the glucose tolerance factor) (Anderson, 1994). Chromium is an insulin potentiator,

therefore, postulated to function as an antioxidant (Preuss et al., 1997).

Therefore, the objective of this study was to assess the impact of supplementing different levels of Na-B and CrPic in the diet on chicken performance productive traits, egg quality, semen quality, fertility and hatchability, serum biochemical characteristics and in addition the safe reaction amid laying period.

### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The trial work of this study was carried out at Inshas Poultry Research Station, Anim. Production Research Institute, Agriculture Research Center, Giza, Egypt, The experiment started from December 2015 until February 2016.

A 3x3 factorial arrangement experiment was performed including three levels of Na-B (0, 5 or 10 g/kg diet) and three levels of CrPic contain 12.27% Cr (0.800, or 1200 µg/Cr /kg diet). 270 laying hens and 54 cocks of Matrouh local strain at 28 weeks of age were randomly distributed into 9 treatment groups (30 hens + 6 cocks / each treatment). All the treatment groups had nearly similar average body weight. Each group was divided into three replicates (10 hens and 2 cock each). The composition and chemical analysis of the experimental diet is presented in Table 1. Chickens fed diet were contaminated with Aflatoxin (AFB<sub>1</sub>), 7.55 µg/kg DM during the laying period. The ingredients of bentonite are SiO<sub>2</sub>, 54.15%; Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 17.78%; Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 4.31%; MgO, 2.82%; Na<sub>2</sub>O, 2.12%; CaO, 2.87%; MnO, 0.02%; K<sub>2</sub>O, 0.62%; TiO<sub>2</sub>, 0.16%; P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 0.06%; Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 0.003%; TOT/S, 0.09%; LOI, 14.9% (Abdel-Motelib et al. 2011). The mean value of the daily ambient temperature and relative humidity during that period in the house were 15.92± 0.44 °C and 58.42 ± 1.98 %, respectively. The trial time frame stretched out for 12 weeks, from 28 - 40 weeks of age. All chickens were housed exclusively in one cage. The cage was given an individual feeder and one

programmed pipette consumers. Chickens were fed ad-libitum and the fresh water was accessible all the time along the exploratory period. The photoperiod along the exploratory period was altered at 16h. Individual body weight of laying hens was recorded at 28, 32, 36 and 40 weeks of age, while egg number and egg weight were recorded day by day and feed intake was calculated weekly. Egg mass was calculated by duplicating egg number by normal egg weight. Feed conversion (g feed/g egg) was also calculated. At 40 weeks of age, around 54 eggs from each treatment were collected and incubated. After hatching, chicks were counted and non-hatched eggs were broken to determine the percentages of fertility and hatchability. Fertility was calculated as the percentage of fertile eggs from the total number of set eggs, while the hatchability was expressed as chicks hatched from fertile eggs and from total eggs.

At the end of experimental period total of six eggs (two from each replicate) from each treatment were taken to study the egg quality traits. Egg shape index %, yolk index %, shell thickness (mm), Haugh unit and percentage of egg components (yolk, albumin and shell) were determined. Haugh unit score for each egg was calculated according to Haugh (1937). Antibody response against SRBC was measured from 6 hens in each treatment at 36 wks of age. Hens were injected with 0.2 mL of 9% SRBC in 0.9% saline. Serum tests were collected on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of every infusion to decide hostile to SRBC primary antibody titers, separately. Immune response creation was measured by an agglutination test utilizing the microtiter strategy (Trout et al., 1996). By the end of the test period, 3 hens were randomly chosen from each treatment and blood tests were acquired from the brachial vein for serum total protein, albumin, insulin, cholesterol, calcium, T3, MDA and GPX determination. Blood serum was separated by centrifugation of blood at 3000 rpm for

15 min and was then stored at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$  for analysis. Serum total protein, albumin, cholesterol and calcium concentrations were measured by spectrophotometer using available commercial Kits produced by Bio-diagnostic, Egypt. Insulin was determined in serum by using radioimmunoassay Kits. Serum was separated to measure triiodothyronine (T3) hormone level, Radioimmunoassay (RIA) kits (diagnostic products corporation, Los Angeles, USA) were used for the assays. Malonaldehyde (MDA) and glutathione peroxidase (GPX) concentration in serum determined by the method of Valenzuela (1991) and Weydert and Cullen (2010), respectively.

Semen was collected from cocks and artificially inseminated to hens (cock/5 hens) two times per week. Semen tests were exclusively gathered toward the end of test period by the massage method from all cocks. Semen volume was measured in graduated tubes and hydrogen-ion concentration (pH) was measured by Universal Indicator Paper and Standard Commercial Stain. Sperm-cell concentration was determined using the spectrophotometer density meter technique with diluted semen samples (1:250) as described by Lake and Stewart (1978). Eosin-Nigrosine stain was used to determine the percent of morphologically sperm abnormalities and dead spermatozoa (Lake and Stewart, 1978). A little bead of semen from each cock was set on a warm slide, secured with a spread slide and inspected for sperm motility infinitesimally at 100x amplification. Melrose and Laing, (1970) observed the edge of the semen to ascertain an approximation of the percentage of live spermatozoa.

Data obtained were statistically analyzed using the General linear model of SAS (2004). A factorial arrangement  $3 \times 3$  was used, considering the sodium bentonite and chromium picolinate supplementation level as the main effects, as follows:

$Y_{ijk} = \mu + T_i + R_j + (TR)_{ij} + e_{ijk}$  where :

$Y_{ijk}$  = An observation;

$\mu$  = Overall mean;

T = Effect of sodium bentonite supplementation level;  $i = (1, 2 \text{ and } 3)$ ;

R = Effect of chromium picolinate supplementation level;  $j = (1, 2 \text{ and } 3)$ ;

TR= Interaction effect due to sodium bentonite and chromium picolinate levels;  $ij=(1,2,3\dots9)$ ;

$e_{ijk}$  = Random error.

Differences between treatments means were compared using Duncan's multiple range test (Duncan, 1955).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Body weight changes, feed intake and feed conversion:

Results of BWC, FI and FCR as affected by NaB and CrPic and their interactions are summarized in Table 2.

Feeding Na-B to hens had a significant increase ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) on BWC from 28-32 and 28-40 Wks. These may be a direct result of Na-B having the capacity to enhance development execution and supplement absorbability (Miazzo et al. 2005 and Salari et al. 2006). Supplemented diets with 5 and 10 g NaB /kg diet resulted in a significant ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) increase in FI than the control group. Similar results were reported by Pasha et al. (2008), who used different bentonite levels (0.5% and 1.0%) in broiler diets and reported more FI in chicks fed higher levels of Na-B (1% Na-B) than control. However, Tauqir and Nawaz, (2001) found that diminishing in FI of broiler chicks with including 2, 3 and 4% Na-B to diets. These might be because of increased maintenance time of digesta in lumen and more usage of supplements (Damiri et al. 2012). Hen fed diets supplemented with 5 and 10 g/kg diet with NaB had the best FCR ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) when contrasted with those fed control diet during all periods. These results might be because of the improvement of egg mass and nutrient digestibility enhancement. It is worthy to note that, Na-B can play as an additive proposed to be authorized as a

substance for the reduction of the contamination of feed by mycotoxins. Also, to the main adsorptive mechanism of aflatoxins by these binders involves the formation of double hydrogen bonds between aflatoxin B1 and aluminosilicate which probably decreased the losses of feed (Desheng et al., 2005). The results of present study are supported by the findings of Nasir et al. (2000) who reported that laying hens fed diet supplemented with 1.0 or 1.5 % Na-B had a significant improvement in FCR. Also, Inal et al. (2000) reported that FCR was slightly better with the highest inclusion rate of bentonite (1.5 – 3.0 %).

CrPic supplementation levels had a significant effect on BWC during the periods from 32-36 and 36-40 Wks of age, and FI and FCR among all period for birds. Similar results were reported by Eseceli et al. (2010) reported that chromium yeast supplementation did not affect BWC in laying hens from 40- 47 Wks of age. Also, Hanafy (2011) indicated that Cr had no significant effect on overall mean of BWC and feed consumption for hens and cocks. Also, Yıldız et al. (2004) reported that supplementation of Cr from CrPic did not affect BWC and FI in laying Japanese quail. Our results uncovered that BWC of hens fed CrPic significantly ( $P \leq 0.01$ ) higher from 28-32 and 28-40 Wks than those fed control diet. These outcomes are in understanding with Sahin et al. (2002a) who reported that increasing supplemental chromium at 200,400,800 or 1200  $\mu\text{g}$  Cr/kg diet increased live weight of laying Japanese. Ezzat et al. (2006) found that Cr supplementation up to 400  $\mu\text{g}$  /kg diet tended to improve body weight of Japanese quails. The observed increased in body weight by supplementing Cr is because of protein digestion system (Anderson, 1999). Also, Cr assumes a critical part as essential segment of the glucose resilience components (GTF), which potentiate the activity of insulin and manage fat digestion system. At low insulin level glucose is

changed over into fat and put away in fat cells (Mertz, 1993). The ability of insulin to regulate glucose levels in blood and lipid metabolism is dependent upon the binding of this pancreatic hormone to specific receptors found in many peripheral tissues like adipocytes, muscle and liver, increasing the number of actual insulin receptors present in target cell. Chromium likewise has been shown to expand the real official of insulin to its receptors. The cooperation between Na-B and Cr was not huge for body weight (except from 28-32 and 28-40 Wks of age) and feed consumption and conversion for hens.

### **Egg production traits:**

Feeding Na-B levels to hen had significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) increased on egg weight, egg mass, as well as egg production (except 28-32 and 32-36 Wks of age) than those fed control diet among all period for birds (Table 3). These results might be because of Na-B content from clay minerals which can enhance supplement absorbability (Pasha et al. 2008). Generally, improvement of egg production of birds has been recommended to be due to better energy and protein utilization brought about by Na-B which delayed feed section time, subsequently permitting more opportunity for assimilation of processed supplements in the intestinal tract of the birds. Moreover, the binding action of bentonite enables it to tie up the heavy metals and mycotoxins thus prevent its absorption by animals (Monks, 1992). The results of the present study are substantiated by the findings of Tauqir et al. (2000) and Nasir et al. (2000) who reported that laying hens fed diet supplemented with 1.0 or 1.5 % Na-B had significantly improved egg production by 10.21 – 17.72 % as compared to the control.

The data revealed that hens fed CrPic significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) higher egg weight (except 28-32 and 32-36 Wks of age), production % and egg mass than control group throughout all the

experimental periods (Table 3). The results of increasing egg weight, production % and egg mass with CrPic supplementation are consistent with earlier reports, Kim et al. (1997) revealed that feeding 800 ppb Cr from CrPic to laying hen diets resulted in higher egg production; egg weight and egg mass contrasted and the negative control group. Also, Sahin et al. (2001a) reported that supplementation of 400 ppb chromium to the diet of laying hens reared under a low ambient temperature increased egg production. Sahin et al. (2002b) stated that higher doses of supplemental Cr increased egg production and improved egg weight in laying hens kept under low temperature. In addition, adding of 400 ppb Cr to diet of laying hens increased egg production (Piva et al., 2003). Abdel-Mageed et al. (2012) observed that feeding Japanese quail diets supplemented with CrPic enhanced egg production; egg weight and egg mass ratio under hot climate. . It is realized that Cr is included in protein combination and there is an association of Cr with DNA layouts that brought about a critical incitement of RNA blend. The oligopeptide low-atomic weight Cr-restricting protein (chromoduline) firmly ties four chromic particles before the oligopeptide gets an adaptation required for official to the tyrosine kinase dynamic site of the insulin receptor. In this manner, chromodulin seems to assume a part in an auto enhancement system in insulin flagging (Sahin et al. 2002a).

Results in Table 3 showed that egg weight and egg mass (except 36-40 Wks of age), were significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) influenced by the interaction between dietary Na-B and CrPic during all experimental period. However, egg production % was not significantly affected by these interactions.

**Egg Quality:** Egg quality and egg components were not significantly affected by Na-B levels in laying diets, except for Haugh units which were significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) higher than those fed control diet

(Table 4). These outcomes are in understanding with those reported by Hashemipour et al. (2010) who reported that egg quality parameters did not affected by adding Na-B to the diet. Also, Fatouh et al. (2012) found that relative weights of yolk and albumin as well as yolk index of lying were not significantly affected due to Na-B supplementation levels in Domyati and Kampell ducks diets. Then again, included CrPic did not influence egg shape index and egg shell rate. There was a significant ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) linear increased in yolk index, Haugh unit, egg shell thickness and albumen percentage and a reduction in yolk weight rate because of CrPic supplementation (Table 4). The change in some egg quality and egg components (%) might be because of the conceivable instruments by which Cr could work to keep up egg quality are: (1) as an auxiliary part of egg whites or in the cross connecting of proteins, (2) Cr is important for the blend of ovomucin which is in charge of gel structure of egg whites, and (3) encourage exchange of activities (potentially magnesium) into the egg whites of eggs amid the plumping procedure in the uterus (Hossain, 1998). The data obtained in this study are in partially agreement with the results of Sahin et al. (2002a) who found that supplemental chromium linearly increased egg weight ( $P \leq 0.01$ ), egg shell thickness; egg specific gravity ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) and Haugh unit ( $P \leq 0.01$ ) of laying Japanese. In Lohman White laying hens chromium yeast supplementation increased albumen and yolk index (Eseceli et al., 2010). Increasing egg shell thickness may due to that Cr stimulates and regulates the action of insulin (Anderson, 1994); thus increasing the effectiveness of insulin, Cr also indirectly empowers the ascorbic acid transportation (Seaborn et al., 1994) which has an important role in egg shell formation (Dorr and Balloun, 1976).

Results in Table 4 showed that yolk index and Haugh unit were significantly

( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) influenced by interaction between dietary Na-B and CrPic at the end of experimental period. However, egg shape index, egg shell thickness and egg components was not significantly affected by these interactions. Antibody response and blood constituents of Matrouh layers and blood testosterone of cocks:

SRBCs were used as antigen to quantify the antibody response. It was clear that feeding diet containing Na-B at level 5 and 10 g/kg diet had no significant difference among treatments in total antibody response against SRBCs, serum total protein, albumin, insulin and T3 hormone values (Table 5). There was a significant ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) linear increase in the serum calcium, GPX and blood testosterone of cocks and decrease in cholesterol and MDA values. These results were in agreement with those obtained by Gilani et al. (2013) who indicated that the significant difference of Na-B was not observed for total antibody response against SRBCs inoculation and not affect blood constituents (blood cells and activity of serum enzymes) of broiler. However, IgG was significantly increased with 2% Na-B at 14 d (2.79 vs. 3.66) after injection of SRBCs. Khanedar et al. (2012) found that addition of bentonite (1 or 1.5% from Na-B or Ca-B) to the diet had no significant effect on the blood biochemical parameters (protein, albumin and calcium). El-Abd (2014) indicated that, there is no significant difference among treatments (0, 4 % and 6 % bentonite) in total protein, globulin, creatinine, cholesterol, LDL, HDL and triglyceride of Japanese quail chicks. Then again, Eraslan et al. (2005) discovered significant increased in plasma testosterone level in groups fed sodium bentonite, contrasted with the control group in broiler chicken at 45 days of age, and increased in testosterone level was identified in the study. This increased, was observed in all trial groups. This increased, although not definite, may be originated

from the possible increase of protein kinase activity caused by aflatoxin (AF). These changes were observed in the birds which received sodium bentonite only. The explanation behind that couldn't be cleared up. The expansion was even considerably more unmistakable in the gathering (0.5% of sodium bentonite with 1 ppm of AF) which got blend of both mixes. Additionally, observed that AF diminished testosterone level by harming testicular cells (Ortatatli et al. 2002).

Results in Table (5) pointed out that the adding of CrPic did not affect serum T3 hormone, MDA and GPX values. But it had a significant ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) linear increase in the titer of SRBCs, serum total protein, albumin, insulin and Ca concentrations layers and blood testosterone of cocks. While, serum cholesterol concentration significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) decreased. These results were in agreement with those obtained by Abdallah et al. (2013) reported that antibody response against SRBC (IgG) of Golden Montazah laying hens was significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) higher in 48 week old laying hens fed 800 ppb Cr contrasted and control or 200,400 and 600 ppb treatment groups. El-Hommosany (2008) demonstrated that total antibody and IgG titers against SRBCs were significantly higher in quail chicks received Cr contrasted and those of control at secondary immune responses. Also, it has been accounted for that Cr is of critical significance in adjusting the immune response by immunostimulatory or immunosuppressive processes as appeared by its consequences for T and B lymphocytes, macrophages, cytokine creation and the invulnerable reaction that may prompt extreme touchiness responses (Shrivastava et al. 2002). Cytokines are small proteins or glycoproteins messenger molecules transporting information among cells. Cytokinase, together with their receptors are playing a role as control regulators of immune system by affecting the activity of other cells (Davison, 2003).

The enhancement of immune response via Cr supplementation might be because of their antioxidant property. It reasons to protect immature lymphocytes from damage by free radical due to oxidation. Sahin et al. (2002b) observed that total protein and albumin fixations expanded straightly with expanding level of Cr supplementation of laying hens. The abnormal state of serum total proteins might be because of high protein synthesis and highly growth rate in the cells or tissues for the organic Cr treated (Cr Pico.) groups compared to control group, where the protein anabolism surpassed the protein catabolism. Uyanik et al. (2002) credited the positive effects of Cr on plasma protein its divisions to the anabolic activity of insulin interceded through expanding the amino acids union by liver, improvement the joining of a few amino acids into protein. However, Mc Namara and Valdez (2005) suggested that effect of Cr on lipid metabolism might be because of that Cr increased the synthesis of fat in the adipose tissue and decreased the release of it. This might be acting through increased glucose flux into the adipocytes. Yıldız et al. (2004) exhibited that Cr supplementation from CrPic expanded serum insulin and total protein fixations as dietary Cr level expanded ( $P \leq 0.05$ ). Also, expanded dietary chromium straightly expanded the insulin serum focus, showing the physiological part of chromium as an insulin cofactor engaging the insulin.

The relationship between chromium supplementation and insulin in the present study is in concurrence with those reported by (Colgan, 1993) who demonstrated that chromium a crucial for typical glucose digestion system and it is a part of glucose resistance element (GTF) which helps insulin to move glucose into cells for energy generation. Insulin additionally manages digestion system of carbohydrate, fat, and protein, stimulating amino acid uptake and protein synthesis amalgamation and glucose usage. Rosebrough and Steele,

(1981) stated that turkeys fed, diet supplemented with chromium had more prominent liver glycogen levels as an aftereffect of expanding action of the compound glycogen synthetase. Chromium is by and large acknowledged as the dynamic part in the glucose resilience component (GTF), which builds the affectability of tissue receptors to insulin, bringing about expanded glucose uptake by cells. Research recommends Cr contribution in starch digestion system including glucose uptake, glucose utilization for lipogenesis, and glycogen arrangement (Anderson et al., 1998). It was conjectured that expanded glucose uptake ought to build oxidation of glucose which would be generally changed over to unsaturated fats and put away as triglycerides in fat tissues. Al-Bandr, et al. (2010) found that blood calcium was not influenced essentially by including Cr into the diets. Sahin et al. (2002b) demonstrated that adding Cr to broiler diet expanded serum Ca. A conceivable clarification for the impact of Cr supplementation on Ca digestion system might be because of that this mineral (Cr) vie for the same restricting locales, so expanded Cr fixation bringing about a diminishing in liberating of restricting destinations on the exchanging, contended by the individual minerals. Separately or as a combination supplemental vit. C and Cr resulted in a decrease in MDA concentration (Tawfeek et al. 2014). Attia et al. (2015) reported that serum malonaldehyde (MDA) and cholesterol concentration decreased with dietary Cr. On the other hand, testosterone concentration level appeared was significantly higher in cocks. Testosterone is the most important androgen secreted into the blood. In males, testosterone is secreted primarily by the Leydig cells of the testes, whereas, it is in charge of the advancement of optional male sex qualities. Testosterone is expected to start spermatogenesis at pubescence and for the upkeep of this procedure in the grown-up.



It additionally required for the assemblage of meiosis and for the separation of the spermatids (Poccia, 1994).

Results in Table 5 showed that SRBCs concentrations and blood testosterone were significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) influenced by interaction between dietary Na-B and Cr at the end of experimental period. Moreover, serum total protein, albumin, insulin, cholesterol, T3 hormone, MDA and GPX values were not significantly influenced by these interactions.

### **Semen physical characteristics of cocks and seminal malondialdehyde:**

It was clear that feeding diet containing Na-B at a level of 5 and 10 g/kg diet had no significant difference among treatments in semen ejaculate volume. Moreover, percentage of sperm motility and sperm cell concentration were significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) increased when cockerels fed diets contained Na-B as contrasted and those fed control diet. Such finding could recommend that bentonite may enhance the accessibility of supplements, including unsaturated fats (Abdl-Rahman et al. 2010); this pondering the level of blood lipids and thusly on its level in the fundamental liquid. While, Na-B supplementation to the diet demonstrated a lessening dead spermatozoa (%) and seminal MDA contrasted and the control group (Table 5). Such finding could recommend that bentonite may enhance the accessibility of supplements,, including unsaturated fats (Abdl-Rahman et al. 2010); this reflecting on the level of blood lipids and consequently on its level in the seminal fluid. The obtained results might attributed to the suggestion that Na-B should have a stimulatory role on the digestion and absorption processes that consequently enhance nutrient availability reflecting positively on the synthetic pathways, including gonadal one. These results were in agreement with those obtained by semen attributes, including sperm wave movement, sperm motility and

sperm fixation were seen with buck rabbits encouraged with normally aflatoxin (AF)-diet in addition to bentonite contrasted with those nourished with AF-count calories alone. Nowar et al. (2000) who found that significant improvement ( $P \leq 0.01$  or  $0.05$ ) in semen attributes, including sperm wave movement, sperm motility and sperm fixation were seen with buck rabbits encouraged with naturally aflatoxin (AF)-diet addition bentonite contrasted with those fed with AF- diet alone. The magnitude of improvements in the semen qualities were acquired when bentonite was added at 1% to the aflatoxin contaminated diet.

The data revealed that cocks fed CrPic resulted in a significant ( $P \leq 0.05$  or  $P \leq 0.01$ ) improvements in semen physical properties and seminal MDA level contrasted and those fed control diet (Table 5). These results might be because of chromium is an antioxidant and impacts lipid peroxidation by battling free radical harm in the body (Preuss et al., 1997). The improvement in semen quality of cocks might be because of a great level of testosterone hormone. The previous results revealed that high fertile cocks had a higher level of testosterone than the low fertile cocks, since the increase in testosterone hormone level increases the sexual desire. These outcomes are in understanding with Ezzat et al. (2009) who found that addition of chromium (1200 or 1800  $\mu\text{g Cr/kg}$ ) to cock diets significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$  and  $0.01$ ) increase sperm motility (%) and sperm-cell concentration and significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) decreased dead spermatozoa (%) and sperm abnormalities (%) for either Matrouh or Mandaraha cocks than control group and they found that these additions of chromium can improve the tests activity, consequently, the fertility and hatchability improved. Also, Hanafy (2011) reported a critical change in semen physical properties by Cr supplementation. Such change in semen physical properties might be because of the activity of cell reinforcement impact

of chromium which lessened the oxidative harm and kept up. Similarly, Abdallah et al. (2013) demonstrated that Cr supplementation from CrPic significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) increased ejaculate volume, advanced motility and alive sperm (%) contrasted and control group. The reduction in seminal MDA concentration might be due to the ability of Cr antioxidants in the supplementations to resist the lipid peroxidation damage in the spermatozoa. Moreover, there is a significant correlation between's expansion in MDA level and diminishing in fertility (Douard et al. 2003). Long and Kramer (2003) suggested that the reduced in seminal MDA concentration is an indicator about the degree of sperm membranes integrity and their fertilizing ability.

Sperm motility, dead spermatozoa and sperm cell concentration were significantly ( $P \leq 0.01$ ) influenced by the interaction between dietary supplementation of Na-B and CrPic levels. Whereas, semen ejaculate volume and sperm abnormalities (%) were not significantly influenced by these interactions (Table 5).

**Hatchability traits:** Layers fed diets containing Na-B either at 5 and 10 g/kg diet resulted in a higher Fertility eggs % and hatchability/total eggs ( $P \leq 0.01$ ,  $P \leq 0.05$ ) as contrasted and those fed control diet (Table 6). These results might be because of the good semen quality traits of the cocks treated with Na-B and these results might be because of some minerals of bentonite and its biological values as well as bentonite can be a natural anti-contamination of poultry feed (Khan et al., 2004). However, hatchability/fertility eggs % was not affected with Na-B at the end of experimental period. These result agreements with those reported by Fatouh et al. (2012) who stated that fertility, hatchability of total and fertile eggs of Domyati and Kampell ducks were significantly improved by feeding diets

supplemented with 0.50 or 1.0 % Na-B as compared to the control.

Results in Table (6) summarize CrPic supplementation levels significantly affected fertility eggs % and hatchability/total eggs % of laying hens contrasted and those for control. However, hatchability/fertile eggs (%) was insignificantly affected by CrPic supplementations. This might be because of the enhancement in semen characteristics as a consequence of Cr supplementation. These outcomes are in understanding by obtained with those of Ezzat et al. (2009) who found that adding chromium to the diets significantly ( $P \leq 0.01$ ) increased fertility (%) and hatchability/total eggs (%) for either Matrouh or Mandarah than untreated group through the entire period (overall mean). Moreover, Hanafy (2011) demonstrated that all the concentrations of dietary Cr (0, 250, 500, 1000 and 1500 ppb of Cr) significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) increased the fertility and hatchability percentages contrasted and those of the control. Also, Abdallah et al. (2013) demonstrated that all concentrations of dietary Cr supplementations (0, 200, 400, 600 and 800  $\mu\text{g}$  of Cr/kg of diet) significantly ( $P \leq 0.05$ ) increased the fertility and hatchability percentages contrasted and those of the control.

Values of fertility eggs % and hatchability/fertile eggs (%) were significantly ( $P \leq 0.01$ ) influenced by the interaction between dietary supplementation of Na-B and CrPic levels. Whereas, hatchability/total eggs % was not significantly affected by these interactions.

## CONCLUSION

Supplementing chicken diets with either 10 g Na-B or 1200  $\mu\text{g}$  CrPic /kg diet alone or together may improve most of the productive traits in addition to egg and semen quality, fertility, hatchability and blood parameters and in addition improved immune responses.

## **Sodium Bentonite- Chromium Picolinate- Productive Traits- Blood Parameters.**

**Table (1):** Composition and calculated analysis of the basal diet fed.

<b>Ingredients %</b>	<b>%</b>
Yellow corn	64.00
Soybean meal 44 %	24.50
Wheat bran	1.50
Di-calcium phosphate	1.50
Limestone	7.70
Salt (NaCl)	0.40
DL-Methionine	0.10
Vit. & Min. Mixture *	0.30
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>Calculated analysis</b>	
Metabolizable energy (Kcal / Kg )	2713.5
Crude protein %	15.99
Crude fiber %	3.46
Crude fat %	2.96
Calcium %	3.34
Available phosphorous %	0.42
Lysine %	0.89
Methionine %	0.39
Met+cystine %	0.66

\* Vitamins and minerals premix provides per 3kg Vit. A 10 000 000 IU, Vit. D3 2000 000 IU, Vit. E 10000mg, Vit. K3 1000mg, Vit. B1 1000mg, Vit. B2 5000mg, Vit. B6 1500mg, Vit. B12 10mg, pantothenic acid 10000mg, Niacin 30000mg, Biotin 50mg, Folic acid 1000mg, Choline 250gm, Selenium 100mg, Copper 4000mg, Iron 30000mg, Manganese 60000mg, Zinc 50000mg, Iodine 1000mg, Cobalt 100mg and CaCO<sub>3</sub> to 3000g.

**Table (2):** Body weight changes , feed intake and feed conversion ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of Matrouh layers as affected by different levels of dietary sodium bentonite and organic chromium and their interactions during the different experimental periods.

Items	Body weight changes (gm)				Feed intake (g/hen/day)				Feed conversion (g.feed/g.egg mass)			
	28-32Wk	32-36Wk	36-40Wk	28-40Wk	28-32Wk	32-36Wk	36-40Wk	28-40Wk	28-32Wk	32-36Wk	36-40Wk	28-40Wk
Na-B (g/kg):	*	NS	NS	**	NS	*	*	*	*	**	**	**
0	69.51 <sup>b</sup>	42.29	43.06	154.86 <sup>b</sup>	104.24	107.40 <sup>a</sup>	112.28 <sup>a</sup>	107.97 <sup>a</sup>	3.79 <sup>a</sup>	3.33 <sup>a</sup>	3.75 <sup>a</sup>	3.61 <sup>a</sup>
5	95.69 <sup>a</sup>	57.44	53.74	206.86 <sup>a</sup>	97.15	99.29 <sup>b</sup>	103.21 <sup>b</sup>	99.88 <sup>b</sup>	3.39 <sup>b</sup>	2.99 <sup>b</sup>	3.27 <sup>b</sup>	3.21 <sup>b</sup>
10	97.81 <sup>a</sup>	61.36	54.45	213.62 <sup>a</sup>	95.40	98.83 <sup>b</sup>	101.59 <sup>b</sup>	98.61 <sup>b</sup>	3.34 <sup>b</sup>	2.96 <sup>b</sup>	3.16 <sup>b</sup>	3.14 <sup>b</sup>
SEM	9.65	8.48	4.37	13.90	2.27	2.29	2.88	2.21	0.10	0.08	0.10	0.08
Cr / Kg diet (µg).	**	NS	NS	**	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
0	64.82 <sup>b</sup>	43.74	45.23	153.80 <sup>c</sup>	98.19	101.68	103.40	101.09	3.59	3.17	3.42	3.38
800	96.73 <sup>a</sup>	49.74	48.63	195.09 <sup>b</sup>	99.30	100.03	105.94	101.76	3.43	3.01	3.37	3.26
1200	101.46 <sup>a</sup>	67.61	57.38	226.46 <sup>a</sup>	99.29	103.81	107.75	103.62	3.50	3.10	3.37	3.31
SEM	9.10	7.89	4.53	13.19	2.46	2.65	3.27	2.63	0.12	0.09	0.14	0.11
Interaction effects:	*	NS	NS	**	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS
Na-B (g/kg)												
Cr/Kg (µg)												
0	45.86 <sup>d</sup>	32.95	37.85	116.66 <sup>d</sup>	103.78	109.71	107.40	106.96	3.86	3.34	3.67	3.61
800	74.65 <sup>cd</sup>	50.57	48.04	173.26 <sup>cb</sup>	105.20	104.02	112.03	107.08	3.82	3.25	3.66	3.57
1200	88.02 <sup>abcd</sup>	43.35	43.30	174.67 <sup>cb</sup>	103.73	108.48	117.42	109.88	3.70	3.38	3.91	3.65
5	78.02 <sup>bcd</sup>	64.89	44.63	187.54 <sup>cb</sup>	94.47	96.75	98.29	96.50	3.49	3.02	3.22	3.23
800	120.81 <sup>ab</sup>	35.34	51.88	208.04 <sup>cb</sup>	98.56	95.91	108.27	100.91	3.18	2.85	3.40	3.14
1200	88.24 <sup>abcd</sup>	72.08	64.70	225.02 <sup>b</sup>	98.41	105.21	103.07	102.23	3.51	3.09	3.17	3.25
10	70.59 <sup>cd</sup>	33.38	53.22	157.19 <sup>cd</sup>	96.31	98.59	104.49	99.80	3.42	3.14	3.38	3.31
800	94.72 <sup>abc</sup>	63.30	45.97	203.98 <sup>cb</sup>	94.15	100.16	97.51	97.27	3.29	2.92	3.06	3.08
1200	128.13 <sup>a</sup>	87.41	64.15	279.68 <sup>a</sup>	95.73	97.75	102.76	98.75	3.31	2.81	3.03	3.04
SEM	13.78	8.56	6.21	12.55	4.25	4.41	4.89	4.37	0.17	0.13	0.14	0.14

Means having different letters at the same column are differ significantly. \* = (P<0.05), \*\* = (P<0.01); NS= Not significant

**Table (3):** Egg weight , egg production and egg mass ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of Matrouh layers as affected by different levels of dietary and organic and their interactions during the different experimental periods.

Items		Egg weight ( g )				Egg production %				Egg mass (g/hen)			
		28-32Wk	32-36Wk	36-40Wk	28-40Wk	28-32Wk	32-36Wk	36-40Wk	28-40Wk	28-32Wk	32-36Wk	36-40Wk	28-40Wk
SB (g/kg):		**	**	*	**	NS	NS	**	*	*	*	**	**
0		46.16 <sup>b</sup>	48.39 <sup>b</sup>	48.46 <sup>b</sup>	47.67 <sup>c</sup>	59.60	66.79	61.94 <sup>b</sup>	62.78 <sup>b</sup>	27.51 <sup>b</sup>	32.30 <sup>b</sup>	30.01 <sup>b</sup>	29.92 <sup>b</sup>
5		46.59 <sup>a</sup>	48.60 <sup>b</sup>	48.78 <sup>ab</sup>	47.99 <sup>b</sup>	61.71	68.37	64.92 <sup>a</sup>	65.00 <sup>a</sup>	28.77 <sup>a</sup>	33.23 <sup>a</sup>	31.67 <sup>a</sup>	31.20 <sup>a</sup>
10		46.77 <sup>a</sup>	49.13 <sup>a</sup>	49.03 <sup>a</sup>	48.31 <sup>a</sup>	61.19	68.13	65.71 <sup>a</sup>	65.01 <sup>a</sup>	28.62 <sup>a</sup>	33.49 <sup>a</sup>	32.22 <sup>a</sup>	31.41 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.17	0.30	0.28	0.13	0.89	0.78	0.89	0.70	0.45	0.42	0.46	0.34
Cr / Kg diet (µg).		NS	NS	*	**	*	*	*	**	*	**	**	**
0		46.38 <sup>b</sup>	48.54	48.47 <sup>b</sup>	47.80 <sup>b</sup>	59.13 <sup>b</sup>	66.11 <sup>b</sup>	62.42 <sup>b</sup>	62.55 <sup>b</sup>	27.42 <sup>b</sup>	32.09 <sup>b</sup>	30.26 <sup>b</sup>	29.90 <sup>b</sup>
800		46.43 <sup>ab</sup>	48.62	48.79 <sup>ab</sup>	47.95 <sup>b</sup>	62.62 <sup>a</sup>	68.49 <sup>a</sup>	64.52 <sup>ab</sup>	65.21 <sup>a</sup>	29.08 <sup>a</sup>	33.30 <sup>a</sup>	31.46 <sup>a</sup>	31.26 <sup>a</sup>
1200		46.72 <sup>a</sup>	48.96	49.01 <sup>a</sup>	48.23 <sup>a</sup>	60.75 <sup>ab</sup>	68.69 <sup>a</sup>	65.63 <sup>a</sup>	65.03 <sup>a</sup>	28.39 <sup>ab</sup>	33.63 <sup>a</sup>	32.18 <sup>a</sup>	31.37 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.18	0.32	0.28	0.16	0.77	0.70	0.94	0.62	0.42	0.40	0.47	0.32
Interaction effects:		**	**	**	**	NS	NS	NS	NS	*	**	NS	*
SB (g/kg)	Cr/Kg (µg)												
	0	45.88 <sup>e</sup>	49.58 <sup>a</sup>	47.91 <sup>cd</sup>	47.79 <sup>c</sup>	58.69	66.19	61.07	61.98	26.92 <sup>c</sup>	32.81 <sup>bcd</sup>	29.25	29.62 <sup>b</sup>
0	800	45.73 <sup>e</sup>	48.04 <sup>b</sup>	49.75 <sup>ab</sup>	47.84 <sup>c</sup>	60.24	66.67	61.67	62.86	27.54 <sup>bc</sup>	32.00 <sup>cd</sup>	30.67	30.06 <sup>b</sup>
	1200	46.87 <sup>abc</sup>	47.56 <sup>b</sup>	47.72 <sup>d</sup>	47.38 <sup>d</sup>	59.88	67.50	63.10	63.49	28.07 <sup>bc</sup>	32.08 <sup>cd</sup>	30.11	30.08 <sup>b</sup>
	0	46.08 <sup>de</sup>	47.63 <sup>b</sup>	48.28 <sup>cd</sup>	47.33 <sup>d</sup>	58.93	67.26	63.33	63.17	27.16 <sup>bc</sup>	32.04 <sup>cd</sup>	30.58	29.90 <sup>b</sup>
5	800	47.09 <sup>ab</sup>	48.36 <sup>b</sup>	48.07	47.84 <sup>c</sup>	65.95	69.52	66.31	67.26	31.06 <sup>a</sup>	33.61 <sup>abc</sup>	31.86	32.18 <sup>a</sup>
	1200	46.59 <sup>bcd</sup>	49.82 <sup>a</sup>	50.00 <sup>a</sup>	48.80 <sup>a</sup>	60.24	68.33	65.12	64.56	28.07 <sup>bc</sup>	34.05 <sup>ab</sup>	32.56	31.51 <sup>a</sup>
	0	47.17 <sup>a</sup>	48.41 <sup>b</sup>	49.23 <sup>b</sup>	48.27 <sup>b</sup>	59.76	64.88	62.86	62.50	28.19 <sup>bc</sup>	31.41 <sup>d</sup>	30.95	30.17 <sup>b</sup>
10	800	46.45 <sup>cd</sup>	49.47 <sup>a</sup>	48.55 <sup>c</sup>	48.16 <sup>bc</sup>	61.67	69.29	65.60	65.52	28.65 <sup>bc</sup>	34.28 <sup>ab</sup>	31.84	31.55 <sup>a</sup>
	1200	46.68 <sup>abc</sup>	49.52 <sup>a</sup>	49.30 <sup>b</sup>	48.50 <sup>ab</sup>	62.14	70.24	68.69	67.02	29.01 <sup>b</sup>	34.78 <sup>a</sup>	33.86	32.51 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.08	0.16	0.26	0.08	1.15	1.05	1.26	0.72	0.62	0.38	0.33	0.19

Means having different letters at the same column are differ significantly. \* = (P<0.05), \*\* = (P<0.01); NS= Not significant

**Table (4):** Egg quality and egg components ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of Matrouh layers as affected by different levels of dietary and organic and their interactions during the different experimental periods.

Items		Egg quality				Egg components (%)		
		Egg shape index %	Yolk index %	Haugh unit	Shell thickness (mm)	Yolk	Albumin	Shell
SB (g/kg):		NS	NS	*	NS	NS	NS	NS
0		79.21	38.89	79.70 <sup>b</sup>	0.342	30.76	56.18	13.06
5		77.07	39.46	85.61 <sup>a</sup>	0.355	30.45	56.00	13.55
10		78.19	38.87	86.63 <sup>a</sup>	0.362	30.30	55.97	13.73
SEM		0.86	0.44	1.71	0.010	0.50	0.41	0.36
Cr / Kg diet (µg).		NS	**	*	*	*	*	NS
0		78.82	38.74 <sup>b</sup>	81.82 <sup>b</sup>	0.342 <sup>b</sup>	31.49 <sup>a</sup>	55.32 <sup>b</sup>	13.19
800		77.55	38.06 <sup>b</sup>	83.20 <sup>ab</sup>	0.348 <sup>b</sup>	30.13 <sup>b</sup>	56.60 <sup>a</sup>	13.26
1200		78.09	40.19 <sup>a</sup>	87.02 <sup>a</sup>	0.369 <sup>a</sup>	29.97 <sup>b</sup>	56.15 <sup>ab</sup>	13.87
SEM		0.90	0.41	1.81	0.009	0.43	0.37	0.36
Interaction effects:		NS	**	*	NS	NS	NS	NS
SB (g/kg)	Cr/Kg (µg)							
0	0	80.07	38.38 <sup>bcd</sup>	75.06 <sup>c</sup>	0.347	31.87	55.13	13.00
	800	78.76	39.10 <sup>bc</sup>	78.65 <sup>bc</sup>	0.330	30.66	56.82	12.52
	1200	78.79	39.19 <sup>bc</sup>	85.40 <sup>ab</sup>	0.348	29.76	56.59	13.66
5	0	77.54	39.78 <sup>b</sup>	83.82 <sup>ab</sup>	0.339	30.66	55.63	13.71
	800	76.66	38.38 <sup>bcd</sup>	83.16 <sup>abc</sup>	0.353	30.34	56.12	13.54
	1200	77.00	39.84 <sup>b</sup>	87.65 <sup>a</sup>	0.373	30.36	56.21	13.42
10	0	78.86	38.05 <sup>cd</sup>	86.58 <sup>ab</sup>	0.340	31.93	55.20	12.87
	800	77.24	37.05 <sup>d</sup>	85.93 <sup>ab</sup>	0.360	29.54	56.81	13.64
	1200	78.27	41.35 <sup>a</sup>	87.37 <sup>ab</sup>	0.372	29.56	56.33	14.10
SEM		1.15	0.36	1.87	0.012	0.57	0.51	0.45

Means having different letters at the same column are differ significantly. \* = (P<0.05), \*\* = (P<0.01); NS= Not significant

**Table (5):** Antibody response and blood constituents ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of Matrouh layers and blood testosterone of cocks as affected by different levels of dietary and organic and their interactions during the different experimental periods.

Items		SRBCs	Total protein (g/dl)	Albumin (g/dl)	Insulin (ng/ml)	Cholesterol (mg/dl)	Calcium (mg/dl)	T3	MDA	GPX	Testosterone
SB (g/kg):		NS	NS	NS	NS	*	*	NS	**	**	**
0		3.48	5.58	2.98	0.182	154.06 <sup>a</sup>	12.37 <sup>b</sup>	3.07	3.39 <sup>a</sup>	43.79 <sup>b</sup>	1.72 <sup>b</sup>
5		3.53	5.98	3.29	0.196	145.28 <sup>ab</sup>	12.83 <sup>ab</sup>	3.09	3.01 <sup>a</sup>	47.72 <sup>a</sup>	1.95 <sup>a</sup>
10		3.64	6.01	3.30	0.212	141.94 <sup>b</sup>	13.14 <sup>a</sup>	3.13	2.38 <sup>b</sup>	48.79 <sup>a</sup>	2.03 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.13	0.18	0.15	0.015	5.41	0.22	0.13	0.18	1.04	0.08
Cr / Kg diet (µg).		**	**	**	*	**	*	NS	NS	NS	**
0		3.20 <sup>c</sup>	5.43 <sup>b</sup>	2.83 <sup>b</sup>	0.161 <sup>b</sup>	157.61 <sup>a</sup>	12.30 <sup>b</sup>	2.89	3.13	48.28	1.70 <sup>b</sup>
800		3.48 <sup>b</sup>	5.99 <sup>a</sup>	3.41 <sup>a</sup>	0.211 <sup>a</sup>	146.44 <sup>b</sup>	12.97 <sup>a</sup>	3.15	2.92	45.92	1.95 <sup>a</sup>
1200		3.98 <sup>a</sup>	6.14 <sup>a</sup>	3.32 <sup>a</sup>	0.218 <sup>a</sup>	137.22 <sup>b</sup>	13.07 <sup>a</sup>	3.25	2.74	46.10	2.05 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.07	0.16	0.12	0.013	3.47	0.22	0.12	0.23	1.22	0.07
Interaction effects:		*	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	NS	*
SB (g/kg)	Cr/Kg (µg)										
0	0	3.34 <sup>de</sup>	5.42	2.83	0.151	158.50	12.44	2.70	3.56	47.41	1.62 <sup>d</sup>
	800	3.37 <sup>de</sup>	5.49	2.98	0.195	154.50	12.27	3.18	3.41	42.01	1.80 <sup>bcd</sup>
	1200	3.74 <sup>bc</sup>	5.82	3.13	0.201	149.17	12.41	3.34	3.22	41.95	1.73 <sup>cd</sup>
5	0	3.11 <sup>e</sup>	5.31	2.87	0.162	157.83	12.27	2.84	3.26	47.80	1.65 <sup>d</sup>
	800	3.48 <sup>cd</sup>	6.39	3.66	0.209	143.00	13.19	3.31	3.02	48.59	2.04 <sup>ab</sup>
	1200	3.99 <sup>ab</sup>	6.24	3.35	0.215	135.00	13.04	3.11	2.75	46.78	2.17 <sup>a</sup>
10	0	3.15 <sup>e</sup>	5.57	2.79	0.170	156.50	12.20	3.13	2.57	49.63	1.82 <sup>bcd</sup>
	800	3.58 <sup>cd</sup>	6.09	3.60	0.227	141.83	13.47	2.98	2.32	47.18	2.01 <sup>abc</sup>
	1200	4.20 <sup>a</sup>	6.36	3.50	0.238	127.50	13.76	3.29	2.25	49.57	2.25 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.10	0.26	0.21	0.023	5.41	0.32	0.21	0.33	1.72	0.09

Means having different letters at the same column are differ significantly. \* = (P&lt;0.05), \*\* = (P&lt;0.01); NS= Not significant

**Table(6):** Physical Semen characteristics of cocks and seminal malondialdehyde and fertility and hatchability percentages ( $\bar{X} \pm SE$ ) of Matrouh chickens as affected by different levels of dietary sodium bentonite and organic chromium and their interactions at 36 weeks of age.

Items		Ejaculate volume (ml)	Sperm motility (%)	Dead spermatozoa (%)	Sperm abnormalities (%)	Sperm cell concentration (X 10 <sup>9</sup> /ml)	Malondialdehyde (nmol/ml)	Fertility eggs %	Hatchability/ Total eggs %	Hatchability/ Fertility eggs %
SB (g/kg):		NS	**	*	*	**	*	**	*	NS
0		0.29	91.22 <sup>b</sup>	9.89 <sup>a</sup>	5.89 <sup>a</sup>	2.68 <sup>b</sup>	0.65 <sup>a</sup>	89.92	80.25	89.29
5		0.31	91.22 <sup>b</sup>	9.22 <sup>ab</sup>	5.78 <sup>a</sup>	3.13 <sup>a</sup>	0.62 <sup>ab</sup>	92.20	81.52	88.47
10		0.29	96.00 <sup>a</sup>	8.00 <sup>b</sup>	4.78 <sup>b</sup>	3.37 <sup>a</sup>	0.57 <sup>b</sup>	93.96	84.73	90.22
SEM			1.29	0.63	0.37	0.20	0.02	0.48	0.39	0.56
Cr / Kg diet (µg):		*	**	**	**	**	**	**	*	NS
0		0.35 <sup>a</sup>	89.22 <sup>b</sup>	10.00 <sup>a</sup>	5.22 <sup>b</sup>	2.43 <sup>b</sup>	0.68 <sup>a</sup>	90.10	79.22	87.91
800		0.26 <sup>b</sup>	93.56 <sup>a</sup>	9.56 <sup>a</sup>	6.44 <sup>a</sup>	3.23 <sup>a</sup>	0.57 <sup>b</sup>	92.81	82.97	89.42
1200		0.29 <sup>ab</sup>	95.67 <sup>a</sup>	7.56 <sup>b</sup>	4.78 <sup>b</sup>	3.53 <sup>a</sup>	0.59 <sup>b</sup>	93.17	84.32	90.66
SEM			1.13	0.55	0.32	0.16	0.02	0.36	0.67	0.57
Interaction effects:		NS	*	*	NS	*	NS	**	NS	*
SB (g/kg)	Cr/Kg (µg)									
	0	0.38	85.00 <sup>c</sup>	12.67 <sup>a</sup>	5.67	2.25 <sup>e</sup>	0.72	85.19 <sup>c</sup>	75.93	89.07 <sup>ab</sup>
0	800	0.23	93.33 <sup>a</sup>	9.67 <sup>bc</sup>	7.33	2.72 <sup>cde</sup>	0.62	90.74 <sup>b</sup>	82.10	90.58 <sup>a</sup>
	1200	0.27	95.33 <sup>a</sup>	7.33 <sup>c</sup>	4.67	3.07 <sup>bcd</sup>	0.63	93.83 <sup>ab</sup>	82.72	88.22 <sup>ab</sup>
	0	0.40	86.67 <sup>bc</sup>	9.67 <sup>bc</sup>	6.00	2.46 <sup>de</sup>	0.68	91.42 <sup>ab</sup>	76.06	83.25 <sup>b</sup>
5	800	0.27	91.67 <sup>ab</sup>	10.33 <sup>ab</sup>	6.67	3.38 <sup>abc</sup>	0.58	93.83 <sup>ab</sup>	83.33	88.72 <sup>ab</sup>
	1200	0.27	95.33 <sup>a</sup>	7.67 <sup>bc</sup>	4.67	3.57 <sup>ab</sup>	0.60	91.36 <sup>ab</sup>	85.19	93.45 <sup>a</sup>
	0	0.27	96.00 <sup>a</sup>	7.67 <sup>bc</sup>	4.00	2.59 <sup>de</sup>	0.64	93.70 <sup>ab</sup>	85.68	91.41 <sup>a</sup>
10	800	0.27	95.67 <sup>a</sup>	8.67 <sup>bc</sup>	5.33	3.59 <sup>ab</sup>	0.53	93.86 <sup>ab</sup>	83.46	88.96 <sup>ab</sup>
	1200	0.33	96.33 <sup>a</sup>	7.67 <sup>bc</sup>	5.00	3.94 <sup>a</sup>	0.54	94.32 <sup>a</sup>	85.06	90.31 <sup>a</sup>
SEM			1.18	0.71	0.39	0.17	0.03	0.54	0.33	0.50

Means having different letters at the same column are differ significantly. \* = (P<0.05), \*\* = (P<0.01); NS= Not significant



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### الملخص العربي

تأثير إضافة بنتونيت الصوديوم والكروميوم العضوي في العليقة على الأداء الإنتاجي والفسولوجي والاستجابة المناعية في سلالة دجاج مطروح.

#### ٢- فترة إنتاج البيض

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الهدف الرئيسي من هذه الدراسة تقييم تأثير إضافة مستويات مختلفة من بنتونيت الصوديوم (١٠، ٥، ٠ جم / كجم عليقة) وبيكوليناتي الكروم (٠، ٨٠٠، ١٢٠٠ ميكروجرام / كجم عليقة) لعليقة الدجاج علي الأداء الإنتاجي والتناسلي، وبعض مكونات الدم وجودة البيض وكذلك الاستجابة المناعية. وأجريت هذه الدراسة علي عدد ٢٧٠ دجاجة بياضة و٥٤ ديك من سلالة دجاج مطروح المحلي عمر ٢٨ أسبوع من العمر، قسمت عشوائيا إلي ٩ مجموعة (كل مجموعة ٣٠ دجاجة و٦ ديوك) في تجربة عاملية ٣ X ٣. و كان تركيز الافلاتوكسين في عليقه الدجاج البياض والملوثة بشكل طبيعي (٧،٥٥ ميكروجرام / كجم مادة جافة) وذلك خلال فترة إنتاج البيض.

إضافة البنتونيت أدي إلى تحسن معنوي في تغير وزن الجسم، ووزن البياضة، وإنتاج وكتلة البيض من ٢٨ - ٤٠ أسبوع من العمر، وكذلك وحدات هوف وسيرم الكالسيوم والبيروكسيديز الجلوتاثيون عند ٤٠ أسبوع من العمر، وعلى نحو مماثل، أظهرت نتائج الديوك تحسن قيم سيرم هرمون التستوستيرون ونسبة حركة الإسبرمات وتركيز الحيوانات المنوية ونسبة الخصوبة ونسبة الفقس لمجموع البيض من تلك التي غذيت على عليقه الكنترول. ومع ذلك، انخفض معنويا استهلاك العليقة، وقيم سيرم الكولسترول والمالونالدهيد ونسبة الاسبرمات الميتة و مالونالدهيد السائل المنوي.

إضافة الكروم اثر معنويا ( $P \leq 0.05$  أو  $P \leq 0.01$ ) علي زيادة التغير في وزن الجسم، ووزن البياضة، % لإنتاج وكتلة البيض، دليل صفار البيض، وحدة هوف، وسمك قشرة البياضة ونسبة البياض، والاستجابة المناعية، وتركيز سيرم البروتين الكلي، والألبومين، والانسولين والكالسيوم. إضافة الكروم أدت الي تحسن مستوى هرمون التستوستيرون في الدم الصفات الطبيعية للسائل المنوي ومستوى مالونالدهيد السائل المنوي ونسبة الخصوبة ونسبة الفقس لمجموع البيض من تلك التي غذيت على عليقة الكنترول. ومع ذلك انخفض معنويا نسبة وزن صفار البيض وسيرم الكولسترول.

وعلاوة على ذلك، تأثر معنويا تداخل التغذية بين بنتونيت الصوديوم وبيكوليناتي الكروم علي وزن البياضة وكتلة البيض، دليل الصفار وحدة هوف، والاستجابة المناعية وهرمون التستوستيرون في الديوك ونسبة حركة الإسبرمات الميتة وتركيز الحيوانات المنوية، وقيم نسبة الخصوبة ونسبة الفقس لمجموع البيض