

## **USE OF WATERCRESS (*Eruca sativa*) EXTRACT AS A FEED SUPPLEMENT FOR THE LAYING HENS**

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A total of 120 laying hens and 12 cockers 25 to 37-wk- old were used to study the effect adding four different dietary ratios (0, 1, 2 and 3%) of watercress (*Eruca sativa*) extract in drinking water on productive and reproductive performance of laying hens. Each treatment was replicated three times with 10 hens and one male each. Initial and final body weights, egg production, egg weight, egg mass, feed consumption, feed conversion ratio per egg mass and chick weight, ratios of fertility and hatchability were measured during experimental period. The obtained results showed that the addition of watercress (*Eruca sativa*) extract decreased body weight change. At level 2 % result improvement in feed efficiency, egg production rate, fertility and hatchability percentages. Finally, it can be concluded that addition watercress (*Eruca sativa*) extract at level 2 % improve the performance of laying hens.