



Research Article

Effect of Feeding Yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) Fermented Rice Bran with Urea on the Performance of Broiler

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ABSTRACT

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Rice bran (RB) was fermented by baker's yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) along with urea to know the effect on crude fiber (CF) and crude protein (CP) level as well as fed broiler to know the effects on the growth performance. A total of Ninety day-old Cobb 500 commercial broiler chicks were randomly allocated to 3 dietary groups with 3 replicate cages and 30 birds in each for 35 days feeding trial. Dietary groups were, 1- 7.0% Rice Bran (control); 2- 3.5% RB + 3.5% yeast fermented RB along with urea (YUFRB), and 3- 7.0% YUFRB. All groups were under same management practices following *ad libitum* feed and water. Live weight, feed offered and feed refusal was recorded weekly. At the end of the trial, total 9 broilers (one bird/replicate cage) were slaughtered to collect blood sample and to determine carcass characteristics. Due to fermentation of RB by yeast, significant ($p < 0.05$) increase were observed in proximate components. Crude protein has increased at 7.72%, but crude fiber has decreased at 2.3% in YUFRB. Significantly ($p < 0.05$) higher live weight (1418 g/bird), cumulative weight gain (1348 g/bird), and better (1.69) feed conversion ratio (FCR) was observed in 7.0% YUFRB group. Better performance observed in 3.5% YUFRB group ($p < 0.05$) than control. Dressed carcass weight observed more or less similar in all the dietary groups ($p > 0.05$). Cholesterol concentration was low in fermented groups ($p < 0.05$). It can be concluded that fermentation of rice bran by baker's yeast along with urea improves protein content and reduces fiber contents; its addition in broiler diet improves growth performances and lowers cholesterol level in broiler.

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Introduction

Poultry producers and nutritionists are now interested to use locally available agricultural by-products to reduce feed cost by improving the nutritional value to maintain ration quality. Rice bran (RB), one of the by-products of rice milling process; is abundant in rice producing countries such as India, Bangladesh, China etc. It contains 12–22% oil, 11–17% protein, 6–14% fiber, 10–15% moisture, and 8–17% ash. It is also rich in wide variety of vitamins and minerals also (Devi *et al.*, 2021). Percentage and composition of nutrients varies according to the rice variety, pre-treatment before milling, type of milling system, hull contents and the degree of milling. It is produced 63 to 76 million tons in the world and more than 90% is sold cheaply as animal feed (Sharif *et al.*, 2014). But the striking limitations of its use as poultry feed are the high fibre content, low protein and anti-nutritional factors such as phytic acid. Different techniques had been established to increase

its utilization for poultry feed such as fermentation (Ullah *et al.*, 2021), enzyme supplementation (Tirajoh *et al.*, 2010) and inclusion of the fermented product (Kompiang *et al.*, 1995). For fermentation, yeast termed as baker's yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) is readily available in the market and is rich in crude protein, amino acids, fatty acids, mineral elements and vitamins particularly B-vitamins (Pelicia *et al.*, 2010). Yeast (*S. cerevisiae*) has detoxification effect that reduces the phytate and other anti-nutritional contents and also improves nutrient availability (Hassan *et al.*, 2015). Gao *et al.*, (2008) reported that yeast supplementation in broiler diet can improve growth parameters in broiler. Besides, yeast culture improves phosphorus utilization in growing chickens, boosts immune level resulting in a better protection against infections and increases live weight gain without affecting feed/gain ratio in broiler chicks (Panda *et al.*, 2000). As yeast (*S. cerevisiae*) can degrade phytic acid, raffinose, and stachyose to below

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detectable levels, so it may provide nutritional benefits to mono-gastric animals (Tudor *et al.*, 2013). Arzinnahar *et al.* (2021) reported that, yeast fermentation lowers fiber content and improves CP, phosphorus, Methionine and Lysine content of de-oiled rice bran. Urea is an important source of nitrogen and yeast cell growth increased with addition of urea in medium (Fadel *et al.*, 2013; Abromove *et al.*, 1994). Replacement of plant or animal protein by non-protein nitrogenous (NPN) sources such as urea in the broiler diet may improve growth performance of broiler. Furthermore, improvement of broiler performances also observed during feeding of additional urea fermented rice bran (Alam *et al.*, 2018). So, urea was added with yeast during fermentation as a source of nitrogen for the production of single cell protein. Considering the potentialities of fermented rice bran along with urea in poultry diet, the study was designed to evaluate the changes in nutrient content and its effect on growth performance, dressing characters and some serum metabolites in broiler.

Materials and Methods

Ethical approval

Animal handling and all experimental procedures of the present study were approved and performed according to the guidelines of Animal Welfare and

Experimentation Ethics Committee, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh [AWEEC/BAU/2021(24)] dated (21 June, 2021).

Experimental design, diet and management of bird

The experiment was conducted with 90 day-old straight run Cobb 500 broiler chicks (initial body weight 44g) for a period of 35 days. The chicks were randomly allocated into 3 groups having 30 birds in each (10 birds/cage). Birds were reared in cages (120 cm × 76 cm) and in an open sided house with sawdust as bedding material. The dietary groups were 1- 7.0% Rice Bran (Control); 2- 3.5% Rice Bran (RB) + 3.5% Yeast and urea fermented rice bran (YUFRB); and 3- 0% Rice Bran (RB) + 7.0% YUFRB.

Commonly available feed ingredients were used to formulate the diet according to NRC (1994) showing in table 1. Birds were supplied mash feed on *ad libitum* basis and fresh clean drinking water was available at all the time. Sanitary measures were taken during the trial. All birds were vaccinated by following the manufacturer's instruction against Newcastle Disease (ND) and Infectious Bursal Disease (Gumboro) at 4th and 11th days, respectively and booster dose for ND was done at 19th days of age through eye drop.

Table 1. Feed formulation and nutritional composition of different dietary groups

Ingredients	Dietary groups		
	7.0% RB	3.5% RB+ 3.5% YUFRB	7.0% YUFRB
	Composition of ration(%)		
Maize	43.85	43.85	43.85
Rice bran (RB)	7.00	3.50	0.00
Yeast and urea fermented RB	0.00	3.50	7.00
Soybean meal	37.30	37.30	37.30
Limestone	1.60	1.60	1.60
Di-calcium phosphate	1.60	1.60	1.60
Soybean oil	4.70	4.70	4.70
¹ Vitamin-mineral premix	0.20	0.20	0.20
⁴ DL-Methionine	0.20	0.20	0.20
Choline chloride	0.15	0.15	0.15
Starch	3.00	3.00	3.00
Total	100	100	100
	Nutrient composition		
DM%	87.94	88.01	88.05
CP%	19.91	24.00	24.30
CF%	5.00	4.80	4.60
EE%	9.27	10.27	10.75
Ash%	5.68	6.31	6.76
Calculated values			
² ME (Kcal/Kg)	3780	3826	3851
³ Calcium%	0.95	0.95	0.95
³ Phosphorus%	0.43	0.43	0.43

¹2.0g vitamin-mineral premix: vitamin A, 13,500 IU; vitamin D₃, 1500 IU; α-DL-tocopherol acetate, 50 mg; menadione, 2mg; thiamine, 3mg; riboflavin, 5mg; cobalamine, 15 µg; folic acid, 200 µg; nicotinic acid, 60 µg; Ca-pantothenate, 30mg; Choline, 750 mg; ascorbic acid, 150 mg; Iron, 40,000 mg; Cobalt, 400 mg; Copper, 10, 000 mg; Iodine, 400 mg; Manganese, 60,000 mg; Zinc, 50,000 mg; Selenium, 150 mg; Di-Calcium Phosphate, 380 mg.

²Metabolizable energy (ME) was calculated using formula of Wiseman (1987), ME (kcal/kg DM) = 3951+ 54.4 EE-88.7 CF- 40.8 Ash

³According to NRC (1994).^{1,4}Square pharmaceuticals Ltd., Bangladesh

Fermentation of RB by yeast and urea and chemical analysis

Rice bran was collected from a local rice mill. Urea and Bakery yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*) (MH consumer products Ltd., Barobkunda, Anantapur, Kunda road, Sitakunda, Chittagong, Bangladesh) were purchased from local market. Fermentation was done by using a locally designed fermenter where anaerobic condition was maintained. For fermenting 100.0 kg rice bran, 1.0 kg yeast, 60.0 kg water and 3.0 kg urea were used. Maintaining the ratio, initially required yeast and lukewarm water were mixed properly and added with half of the required RB and incorporated into the fermenter. After proper mixing, required urea and rest of the RB were added to the fermenter and kept for 24 hours at 37°C. Conventional sun drying was followed after completion of fermentation.

After fermentation pH values of fermented rice bran with additional urea was determined at 0, 12, 24 and 48 hours interval. Proximate composition such as Dry Matter (DM), Ether Extract (EE), Crude Protein (CP), Crude Fiber (CF) and Ash were carried out according to the methods (AOAC, 2005).

Record keeping, sample collection and analysis

Initial live weight, feed intake and cumulative weight gain was recorded at weekly basis. Feed intake and feed conversion ratio (FCR) were determined using the following formula:

$$FI = [\text{Feed supplied in a week (g)} - \text{feed weigh back in a week (g)}] / \text{No. of bird}$$

$$FCR = FI \text{ (g)} / \text{BWG (g)}$$

At the end of the experiment, after weighing 3 birds/treatment were randomly selected and slaughtered, de-feathered and eviscerated to determine carcass weight and dressing percentage. The carcass yield was calculated by dividing the carcass weight by live body weight of birds multiplied by 100.

To determine serum biochemical parameters, blood sample was placed in tubes at room temperature for clotting and centrifuged at 10000 rpm for 10 minutes. The serum was then transferred into another eppendorf tube and preserved at -20°C until analysis. Cholesterol, urea, creatinine and albumin were analyzed from the blood serum by using commercial reagent kits (LINEAR Chemicals S.L.U, Spain) in Spectrophotometer (Spectronic Genesis 5, USA) at 505 nm, 570-600 nm, 490-510 nm and 630 nm wavelengths, respectively.

Statistical analysis

Initially raw data were organized by using Microsoft excel and after that data were analyzed by using SPSS version 16. All recorded and calculated variables were analyzed using one way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and Tukey's Pairwise Comparisons (1953) was followed to compare treatment means and the significance was set at ($p < 0.05$).

Results and Discussion

Chemical changes of rice bran due to fermentation

The pH value of fermented RB

Changing of pH of rice bran due to fermentation is shown in Figure 1. Initial pH (6.31) of RB was decreased continuously to 5.53, 4.92 and reached 4.84 respectively at 12, 24 and 48 hours of fermentation. Fermentative action of yeast converts sugar molecules to ethanol and carbon-dioxide which decreases pH in relation to time changes and this result is in agreement with Debi *et al.*, (2019); Islam *et al.*, (2016) and Prabhu *et al.*, (2014).

Proximate value of fermented RB

In this experiment, fermentation had significant ($p < 0.05$) impact on the proximate components of RB (Table 2). The CP content of fermented RB was increased 15.74 to 23.46% in YUFRB. Similarly DM, Ash and EE were increased after fermentation of RB by yeast and urea. But, crude fiber was decreased from 12.99 (RB) to 10.68% (YUFRB). This result is consistent with Ilowefah *et al.*, (2014) who reported that fermented brown rice flour had higher amount of protein after fermentation. Besides, Alam *et al.*, (2018) found that 2.0% of urea during fermentation affects the CP content of final products. The increase of CP concentration might be due to the increased microbial population under anaerobic condition during fermentation. Yeast are single cell protein and can produce protein by their multiplication in proper environmental condition. Increase in fat content might be as a result of possible bio-conversion of carbohydrate to fat (Oboh *et al.*, 2002), and also certain fungal species are capable of building up fat during the fermentation process (Akindumila and Glatz, 1998). Fiber was reduced in fermented group which agreed with the finding of Debi *et al.*, (2019) and Jannathulla *et al.*, (2017). This might be due to brewer's yeast effectively degraded phytate phosphorus in a corn-soya based diet by activating phytase enzyme during fermentation (Shi *et al.*, 2015).

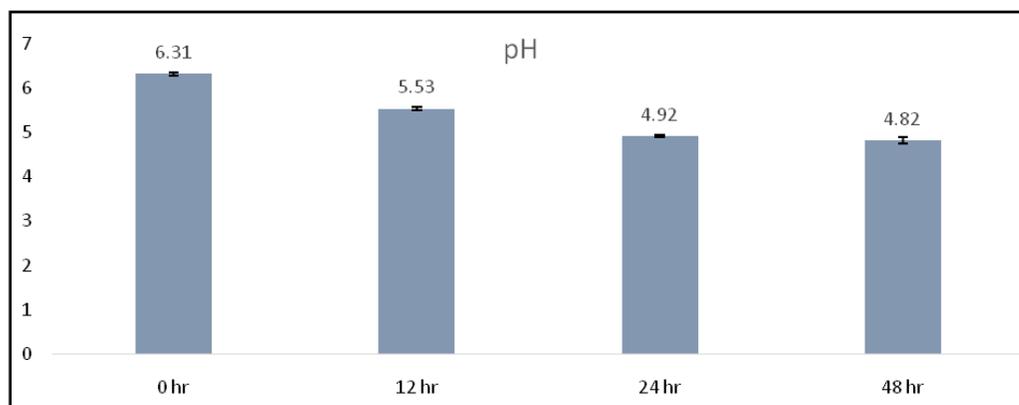


Figure 1. Changes of pH of yeast fermented rice bran with urea at different hour

Table 2. Proximate components of RB and YFRB (g/100gDM)

Components	RB	YFRB	p- Value
Dry matter	88.03 ^b ± 0.12	91.45 ^a ± 0.4	0.011
Ash	10.01 ^b ± 0.20	11.94 ^a ± 0.12	0.008
Crude Protein	15.74 ^b ± 0.41	23.46 ^a ± 0.7	0.006
Crude Fiber	12.99 ^a ± 0.12	10.68 ^b ± 0.53	0.027
Ether Extract	10.01 ^b ± 0.20	20.81 ^a ± 0.17	0.029
Nitrogen Free Extract	42.65 ^a ± 1.26	33.09 ^b ± 0.99	0.014

RB-Rice bran; YFRB- yeast fermented rice bran along with urea.

Mean±SD, ^{abc}means with different superscripts within the same row differ significantly ($p < 0.05$).

Table 3. Growth and carcass parameters of broiler in different dietary groups

Parameters	Dietary groups			p-value
	Control (7.0% RB)	3.5% RB+3.5% YFRB	7.0% YFRB	
Live weight (g)				
Initial wt.	44.0± 0.5	44.0± 0.5	44.0± 0.5	0.531
28 days	804.2 ^c ± 7.2	865.5 ^b ± 8.3	911.3 ^a ± 13.2	0.001
35 days	1300.2 ^c ± 9.1	1366.7 ^b ± 7.2	1418.7 ^a ± 11.3	0.001
Cumulative Weight gain (g)				
0-28 days	744 ^c ± 21.7	796 ^b ± 13.3	841 ^a ± 5.5	0.001
0-35 days	1240.7 ^c ± 21.	1296.5 ^b ± 11.2	1348 ^a ± 5.8	0.001
Feed Intake (g)				
0-28 days	1304.0 ^b ± 21.9	1338.8 ^b ± 18.8	1381.35 ^c ± 5.0	0.004
0-35 days	2254.4± 18.7	2247.9± 12.8	2279.36± 7.9	0.070
Feed conversion ratio (FCR)				
0-28 days	1.75 ^a ± 0.03	1.68 ^b ± 0.02	1.64 ^b ± 0.01	0.002
0-35 days	1.81 ^a ± 0.02	1.73 ^b ± 0.02	1.69 ^c ± 0.01	0.001
Dressing characters				
Dressed wt.	1043±176	1060±134	1142±121	0.691
Dressing%	80.23±1	77.56±3	80.49±1	0.647

RB-Rice bran; YFRB- yeast fermented rice bran along with urea

Mean±SD, ^{abc}Means with different superscripts within the same row differ significantly ($p < 0.05$).

Growth and carcass parameters

Growth and carcass parameters for different dietary groups are shown in Table 3. Among the dietary groups 7.0% YFRB expressed positive effect ($p < 0.05$) for all the parameters throughout the study period. After the end of the trial the 7.0% YFRB group obtained 1418.7 g live weight which was higher than control and

combined group, respectively 1300 and 1366 g. Relatively higher cumulative weight gain ($p < 0.05$) was achieved by the two fermented dietary groups. Maximum cumulative weight gain was observed in 7% YFRB group (1348 g). Intake was always higher for broilers of fermented dietary groups than control from 0 to 28 days ($p < 0.05$), but, there was no significant

effect ($p > 0.05$) of feed intake from 0 to 35 days. Positive ($p < 0.05$) effect was found in case of FCR. From the first week until the end of experiment lower FCR were recorded in 7.0% YUFRB group (1.69) compared to control (1.81). Inclusion of fermented feed in diet gives better live weight and weight gain than unfermented feed. The result is consistent with the findings of other researchers (Kang et al., 2015; Ahmad et al., 2017) who reported that fermented rice bran improves weight gain. Moreover, fermentation process of rice bran caused a change of nutrient content and increased digestibility of crude protein, calcium and phosphorus (Wizna et al., 2012). Some authors reported that diets supplemented with yeast (*S. cerevisiae*) cell-wall components, can improve the growth performance of chickens due to decrease in colonization of *Escherichia coli* and increased *Lactobacilli* in the gut of chicken (Zhang et al., 2005). Ahmad et al. (2017) reported that the inclusion of fermented feed in the diet might be beneficial in terms of nutrient digestibility, feed intake and growth performance in broilers. Increased feed intake was occurred as fermentation produces palatable feed with preferred flavors and water soluble vitamins such as B₁, B₂, and B₁₂ and minerals (Kubad et al., 1997). On the other hand, decreasing CF content in the diets increased feed consumption of broiler chickens (Jimenez-Moreno et al., 2010). Melegy et al. (2011) reported that, FRB supplemented group showed

a significantly ($p < 0.05$) better FCR compared to control group (Ahmad et al., 2017, Alam et al., 2018). Besides, Supriyati et al., (2015) stated that 15% inclusion of FRB in the diet provided the best feed conversion ratio (FCR) values. Fermentation produces enzymes, mainly amylase and protease, breaks down complex carbohydrates and proteins to be readily available as a source of energy. According to Haldar et al. (2011), the use of yeast cell in broiler diets improved feed conversion ratio as it reduces the pathogenic bacteria load in the intestine. As a result, more efficient use of nutrients from fermented rice bran lowers the feed conversion ratio. So, yeast fermented rice bran with addition of urea is better utilized because of favorable chemical changes of RB through fermentation.

Non-significant differences ($p > 0.05$) were found among the dietary groups in case of dressing characters. The dressing percentage (75%) was highest in control and 7.0% YUFRB group. Alam et al., (2018) revealed similar result that weight of dressed carcass was more or less similar in all the groups ($p < 0.05$). Therefore, dressing percentage was not different among the groups when fermented rice bran supplied to broilers. On the other hand, Zhang et al., (2005) reported that the inclusion of *S. cerevisiae* in broiler rations affect significantly all carcass parameters including dressing percentage that contradicts this result.

Table 4. Serum metabolites of birds receiving different dietary groups

Parameters	Dietary groups			p-values
	Control (7.0% RB)	3.5%RB+3.5% YUFRB	7.0% UFRB	
Creatinine (mg/dl)	0.09±0.01	0.10±0.05	0.12±0.02	0.578
Albumin (g/dl)	0.9±0.2	0.4±0.1	0.4±0.3	0.287
Urea (mg/dl)	5.5±1.3	9.6±2.2	7.2±1.4	0.275
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	100.7 ^a ±1.0	92.0 ^b ±0.3	73.7 ^c ±2.6	0.001

RB-Rice bran; YUFRB- yeast fermented rice bran along with urea

Mean±SD, ^{abc}Means with different superscripts within the same row differ significantly ($p < 0.05$).

Serum metabolites

Serum metabolites are presented in Table 4. Except cholesterol ($p < 0.05$), all the serum metabolites did not show significant changes for all dietary groups ($p > 0.05$). Blood cholesterol was higher (100.7 mg/dl) in control and lower (73.7 mg/dl) in 7.0% YUFRB group. Serum urea and creatinine level were increased than control group numerically. Blood parameters are good indicators of physiological, pathological and nutritional status of an animal and changes in hematological parameters have the potential of being used to elucidate the impact of nutritional factors and additives supplied in diet on any living creature. In this experiment, total cholesterol was reduced in fermented group that was also revealed by Alam et al. (2018). The reduction of cholesterol by increasing the levels of RB in the diets could relate to the high content of fatty acids

in RB, which increases insoluble complexes and soap compounds and leads to lower cholesterol absorption. Another study showed that *S. cerevisiae* was able to remove cholesterol in animal guts (Psomas et al., 2003). Bidura et al. (2012) reported that diet supplemented with rice bran fermented by *Saccharomyces spp.* decreased total cholesterol concentrations in male Bali ducklings. The urea values determined in this trial was consistent with those found by Batina et al. (2005).

Conclusion

When *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* was used with addition of urea for fermenting rice bran, it decreases the crude fiber and increases ether extract and crude protein. Thus fermentation reduces the limitation of rice bran and improves nutritive value. Its use in the broiler ration improves the production performances and

reduces cholesterol content in blood serum. So, it can be concluded that 7.0% yeast fermented rice bran added urea (YUFRB) may be an available and potential source of feed ingredient instead of raw rice bran to fulfill the demand of feed in poultry industry.

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Conflict of interest

None.

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