

## Effects of feed quantitative restriction and coenzyme Q10 level on performance, plasma lipoproteins and organ weights of broiler chicks

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Received. June 03, 2018; Accepted August 18, 2018

### ABSTRAK

Suatu percobaan dilakukan untuk menganalisis efek tingkat pembatasan pakan dan durasi, dan tingkat koenzim Q10 diet pada kinerja pertumbuhan, karakteristik organ dan lipoprotein plasma. Desain faktorial yang didasarkan pada Rancangan acak lengkap dilakukan menggunakan dua tingkat pembatasan pakan (10 dan 20% lebih sedikit daripada standar pedoman strain Ross 308), dua tingkat lama pembatasan (7 dan 14 hari) dan tiga tingkat koenzim Q10 (0, 20 dan 40 mg/kg pakan). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa intensitas pembatasan memiliki pengaruh yang nyata terhadap asupan pakan pada minggu pertama, kedua dan keenam ( $P < 0,05$ ), penambahan berat badan pada minggu kedua dan keenam ( $P < 0,05$ ), dan rasio konversi pakan di minggu pertama usia ( $P < 0,05$ ). Durasi pembatasan berpengaruh nyata terhadap asupan pakan pada minggu ketiga usia ( $P < 0,05$ ), dan rasio konversi pakan pada minggu ketiga dan keenam ( $P < 0,05$ ). Tingkat koenzim Q memiliki pengaruh yang nyata terhadap asupan pakan pada minggu pertama dan keenam ( $P < 0,05$ ), penambahan berat badan pada minggu kedua, kelima dan keenam ( $P < 0,05$ ), dan rasio konversi pakan pada minggu kedua dan keenam dari usia ( $P < 0,05$ ). Kesimpulan penelitian adalah efek positif dari pembatasan pakan dan koenzim Q10 pada hasil ayam pedaging, penggunaan strategi pembatasan pakan dan diet koenzim Q10 dapat digunakan sebagai program manajemen untuk meningkatkan produktivitas broiler.

*Kata kunci : asupan pakan, pertumbuhan, rasio konversi pakan, HDL, ginjal*

### ABSTRACT

An experiment was conducted in order to investigate the effects of feed restriction level and duration and dietary coenzyme Q10 level on growth performance, organ characteristics and plasma lipoproteins. A factorial arrangement based on a completely randomized design was performed using two levels of feed restriction (10 and 20% less than the standard Ross strain 308 guidelines), two levels of restriction duration (7 and 14 days) and three levels of coenzyme Q10 (0, 20 and 40 mg/kg feed). The results of the experiment showed that restriction intensity had significant effect on feed intake in first, second and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), body weight gain in second and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), and feed conversion ratio in first week of age ( $P < 0.05$ ). Restriction duration had significant effect on feed intake in third week of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), and feed conversion ratio in third and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ). Coenzyme Q level had significant effect on feed intake in first and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), body weight gain in second, fifth and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), and feed conversion ratio in second and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ). In conclusion, considering the positive effects of feed restriction and

coenzyme Q10 on broiler yield, the simultaneous use of feed restriction strategy and dietary coenzyme Q10 can be considered as a management program in order to improvement of broiler productivity

*Keywords: feed intake, growth, feed conversion ratio, HDL, kidney*

## INTRODUCTION

Coenzyme Q (2,3-dimethoxy-5-methyl-6-poly prenyl-1,4-benzoquinol, ubiquinone) is found in all cell membranes, especially in the membranes of the heart, liver, kidneys and pancreas (Trumpower, 2012). Coenzyme Q10 is composed of a quinidine ring and a hydrophobic chain including 10 units of isoprenoid which is known as a fat-soluble vitamin in the internal membrane of cells, and also an essential ingredient in conversion of cellular energy and production of ATP (adenosine triphosphate) in whole body cells. The quinone ring in co-enzyme Q10 in the mitochondrial respiratory chain is responsible for receiving and transferring electrons to oxygen, and the proton concentration gradient caused by the synthesis of ATP. Also, coenzyme Q10 acts as a free radical scavenger and prevents oxidative damage in the body. Coenzyme Q10 is essential for ATP production and also acts as an antioxidant that is beneficial for reducing the effects of heat stress. In tropical areas, the restriction of providing an ideal environment for poultry farming is higher in ambient temperatures than in the areas with neutral heat for most of the year. Therefore, broiler chicks raised in these geographic areas are exposed to heat stress. Nutritionists try to increase nutrient concentrations in the diet to achieve higher growth performance (Trumpower, 2012).

Mitochondria plays the main antioxidant role where electrons leak and produce some free radicals, while if these free radicals are not scavenged by co-enzyme Q10, can oxidize intracellular macromolecules such as proteins, lipids and even DNA (Krizman *et al.*, 2009). Since Q10 is the only fat-soluble antioxidant that is synthesized internally, one of the most important antioxidant effects of coenzyme Q10 is probably the prevention of LDL oxidation. Ubiquinol can effectively prevent peroxidation of membrane lipids, as well as lipoproteins of the bloodstream, and its practical effect is to reduce bloodmalondialdehyde levels (Geng *et al.*, 2007). Lipoproteins are particles that transfer lipids from the intestine in the form of chylomicron and from the liver in the form of the very low density lipoprotein to the majority of tissues (for

oxidation) and adipose tissue (for storage) (Takasu *et al.*, 2012). Plasma lipoproteins include chylomicrons, very low density lipoprotein (VLDL), medium density lipoprotein (HDL), and High Density Lipoprotein (HDL), (Sheikholeslami-Vatani *et al.*, 2011; Ooi *et al.*, 2012 ; Blackett *et al.*, 2013).

Many tissues are dependent on plasma triglycerides as an important source of fatty acids for oxidation or energy storage. Plasma triglycerides are transmitted through the nutrition or synthesis in the liver in the blood stream (Yasuda, 2010), in the form of chylomicron packages rich of lipoproteins and LDL packages that carry the triglyceride (Yasuda, 2010). Studies have shown that high levels of cholesterol in the blood lead to atherosclerosis and the development of arterial disease and often lead to heart attack. Low-density lipoprotein is the most important lipoprotein that carries cholesterol in the bloodstream, which causes the delivery of cholesterol from the liver to the surrounding tissues.

There are many reports on effects of feed restrictions on broiler productivity (Jahanpour, *et al.*, 2014a; Shabani *et al.*, 2015; Rahimi *et al.*, 2015), immunity (Shabani *et al.*, 2015; Rahimi *et al.*, 2015), blood constitutes (Jahanpour *et al.*, 2013; Shabani *et al.*, 2015; Rahimi *et al.*, 2015), intestine microbiota (Jahanpour *et al.*, 2014b; Shabani *et al.*, 2015), carcass characteristics (Jahanpour *et al.*, 2015; Shabani *et al.*, 2015; Rahimi *et al.*, 2015) and organ weights (Rahimi *et al.*, 2015). However there is not any report on simultaneous use of coenzyme Q10 and feeding restriction programs. This study was conducted due to lack of simultaneous researches on coenzyme Q10 and restriction feeding.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Housing and Management

This experiment was conducted at the Islamic Azad University, Rasht Branch. The nutritional requirements of broiler chicks were met based on the recommendations of the Ross strain catalogue (Table 1).

The experiment was carried out using 60 pens in the size of 1.5 × 1 m. Management conditions

Table 1. Used Diets and Nutrients Analysis during Experimental Periods

Ingredient (g/kg)	Starter	Grower	Finisher
Corn	53.75	58.88	61.55
Soybean	39.5	33.5	30.00
Soybean Oil	1.7	2.5	3.5
Ca%22P%18	1.9	1.7	1.6
CaCO <sub>3</sub>	1.2	1.6	1.6
DL-Methionine	0.25	0.22	0.2
Lysine-Hydro-Chloride	0.05	0.05	0.05
Threonine	0.1	0.1	0.1
NaCl	0.2	0.2	0.2
Sodium bicarbonate (NaHCO <sub>3</sub> )	0.15	0.15	0.15
Vitamin- Mineral premix*	0.5	0.5	0.5
Vitamin A	0.1	0.1	0.1
Vitamin D <sub>3</sub>	0.15	0.1	0.1
Vitamin E	0.2	0.1	0.1
Vitamin K <sub>3</sub>	0.1	0.15	0.1
Vitamin B	0.1	0.1	0.1
Coccidioacetate	0.05	0.05	0.05

  

Nutrients Analysis			
Nutrients	Starter	Grower	Finisher
Metabolizable Energy (ME) (kcal/kg)	3010	3150	3200
Crude Protein (%)	22.0	20.0	18.0
Lysine (SID) (%)	1.44	1.10	0.95
Methionine (SID) (%)	0.51	0.44	0.36
Met+Cys (SID) (%)	1.09	0.94	0.36
Threonine (SID) (%)	0.93	0.79	0.64
Tryptophan (SID) (%)	0.25	0.21	0.18
Arginine (SID) (%)	1.48	1.26	1.02
Iso-Leucine (SID) (%)	0.95	0.81	0.65
Calcium (%)	1.00	0.90	0.85
Available Phosphorus (%)	0.50	0.45	0.42
Sodium (%)	0.16	0.16	0.16
Potassium (%)	0.90	0.90	0.90
Chloride (%)	0.22	0.22	0.22

such as temperature, humidity, light, ventilation, nutrition and vaccination were managed in accordance with the Ross strain rearing catalogue.

### Birds

A total of 600 Ross broiler chicks were purchased from the commercial local company. Chickens were weighed on the first day ( $44.5 \pm 0.9$  g) and randomly distributed in pens. Fifteen treatments were repeated each in 4 replicates and so there are 60 pens in total. Each replication consisted of 10 male chicks.

### Treatments

This research was organised based on a factorial experiment ( $2 \times 2 \times 3$ ) with 2 levels of restriction intensity (10% and 20% lower than the standard Ross 308 guidelines), 2 durations of restriction periods (7 and 14 days) and 3 levels of coenzyme Q10 (0, 20 and 40 mg/kg) (Table 2). In addition to these 12 treatments, 3 treatments were applied without quantitative feed restriction including levels of 0, 20 and 40 mg/kg of coenzyme Q10 (Table 2) as controls. So, the studied treatments were as:

Table 2. Arrangement of Studied Treatments

Treatment	Restriction Duration (day)	Restriction Intensity (%)	Coenzyme Q Levels (mg/kg)
1	0	0	0
2	0	0	20
3	0	0	40
4	7	10	0
5	7	10	20
6	7	10	40
7	14	10	0
8	14	10	20
9	14	10	40
10	7	20	0
11	7	20	20
12	7	20	40
13	14	20	0
14	14	20	20
15	14	20	40

Treatment 1 : Restriction intensity (0%),  
Restriction duration (0 day),  
Coenzyme Q10 (0 mg/kg)

Treatment 2 : Restriction intensity (0%),  
Restriction duration (0 day),  
Coenzyme Q10 (20 mg/kg)

Treatment 3 : Restriction intensity (0%),  
Restriction duration (0 day),  
Coenzyme Q10 (40 mg/kg)

Treatment 4 : Restriction intensity (10%),  
Restriction duration (7 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (0 mg/kg)

Treatment 5 : Restriction intensity (10%),  
Restriction duration (7 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (20)

Treatment 6 : Restriction intensity (10%),  
Restriction duration (7 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (40 mg/kg)

Treatment 7 : Restriction intensity (10%),  
Restriction duration (14 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (0 mg/kg)

Treatment 8 : Restriction intensity (10%),  
Restriction duration (14 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (20 mg/kg)

Treatment 9 : Restriction intensity (10%),  
Restriction duration (14 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (40 mg/kg)

Treatment 10 : Restriction intensity (20%),  
Restriction duration (7 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (0 mg/kg)

Treatment 11 : Restriction intensity (20%),  
Restriction duration (7 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (20 mg/kg)

Treatment 12 : Restriction intensity (20%),  
Restriction duration (7 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (40 mg/kg)

Treatment 13 : Restriction intensity (20%),  
Restriction duration (14 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (0 mg/kg)

Treatment 14 : Restriction intensity (20%),  
Restriction duration (14 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (20 mg/kg)

Treatment 15 : Restriction intensity (20%),  
Restriction duration (14 days),  
Coenzyme Q10 (40 mg/kg)

All experimental treatments were fed as *ad libitum* before and after the restriction period until slaughter (day 42), as in the control group. The time of quantitative feed restriction was from the age of 7th-14th days of age or 7th-21st days of age. Coenzyme Q10 was also used from 1 to 42 days of age.

#### Coenzyme Q10

Coenzyme Q10 (WEBBER NATURALS, Canada, Ottawa) was used in powder form.

Coenzyme Q10 purchased as capsule form, which was removed from the capsule and added as powder to the diet.

### Measurements

Feed intake and body weight gain recorded weekly. Blood samples were collected from chicks at all times so that one chick was randomly selected from each replication of each treatment and then 1cc blood sample was taken using a 2cc syringe from the chick vein. After blood sampling, the syringes were placed in the thirty degrees to separate the serum from the blood. The samples were then transferred to the laboratory for analysis.

At 42 days of age, after 4 hours of starvation, from each replication one chick with a minimum difference in mean ratio of the group and for separation of carcass yield and its components, and also to evaluate the changes of the organs after slaughter and plucked followed by carcasses separation.

### Statistical Analysis

The data were analyzed once in a factorial experiment with a total of 12 treatments (4th to 15th treatments) and once in a completely randomized design with a total of 15 treatments. Duncan test with 5% probability was used to compare the treatments. Data were analyzed using SPSS software.

## RESULTS

### Performance

The effects of restriction intensity, restriction duration and coenzyme Q level on the feed intake, body weight gain and feed conversion ratio at the first to sixth weeks are shown in Tables 3 and 4. Restriction intensity had significant effect on feed intake in first, second and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on feed intake in third, fourth and fifth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). Restriction intensity had significant effect on body weight gain in second and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on body weight gain in first, third, fourth and fifth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). Restriction intensity had significant effect on feed conversion ratio in first week of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on feed intake in second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ).

Restriction duration had significant effect on

feed intake in third week of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on feed intake in first, second, fourth, fifth and sixth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). Restriction duration had not had significant effect on body weight gain in all weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). Restriction duration had significant effect on feed conversion ratio in third and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on feed intake in first, second, fourth and fifth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ).

Coenzyme Q level had significant effect on feed intake in first and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on feed intake in second, third, fourth and fifth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). Coenzyme Q level had significant effect on body weight gain in second, fifth and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on body weight gain in first, third and fourth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). Coenzyme Q level had significant effect on feed conversion ratio in second and sixth weeks of age ( $P < 0.05$ ), while had not had significant effect on feed conversion ratio in first, third, fourth and fifth weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ).

Among 15 studied treatments, treatment 2 had the highest feed intake in first (24.725 g/chick/day), second (51.036 g/chick/day), third (98.986 g/chick/day) and fourth (149.800 g/chick/day) weeks significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ), while treatment 3 had the highest feed intake in fifth (199.446 g/chick/day) week ( $P < 0.05$ ), and treatment 1 had the highest feed intake in sixth (238.278 g/chick/day) week ( $P < 0.05$ ).

Among 15 studied treatments, treatment 14 had the highest body weight gain in first (22.043 g/chick/day) week significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ), while treatment 2 had the highest body weight gain in second (29.982 g/chick/day) week ( $P < 0.05$ ), and treatment 3 had the highest body weight gain in sixth (104.503 g/chick/day) week ( $P < 0.05$ ). The studied treatments had not significant difference in other weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ).

Among 15 studied treatments, treatment 10 had the best feed conversion ratio in first (0.789 g/g) week significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ), while treatment 8 had the best feed conversion ratio in second (1.621 g/g) week ( $P < 0.05$ ), and also treatment 13 had the lowest feed conversion ratio in third (1.281 g/g) week ( $P < 0.05$ ), and finally treatment 4 had the lowest feed conversion ratio in sixth (2.073 g/g) week ( $P < 0.05$ ). The studied treatments had not significant difference in other weeks of age ( $P \geq 0.05$ ).

Table 3. Effect of Restriction Intensity, Restriction Duration and Coenzyme Q Levels on Broiler Performance at 1st, 2nd and 3rd Weeks of Age

	1st week of age				2nd week of age				3rd week of age									
	Feed intake (g/chick/day)	Weight gain (g/chick/day)	Feed conversion ratio (g/g)	Feed intake (g/chick/day)	Weight gain (g/chick/day)	Feed conversion ratio (g/g)	Feed intake (g/chick/day)	Weight gain (g/chick/day)	Feed conversion ratio (g/g)	Feed intake (g/chick/day)	Weight gain (g/chick/day)	Feed conversion ratio (g/g)						
Restriction intensity (%)	10	19.964 <sup>a</sup>	0.969 <sup>a</sup>	47.297 <sup>a</sup>	27.140 <sup>a</sup>	1.758	80.306	54.555	1.482	20	17.371 <sup>b</sup>	0.819 <sup>b</sup>	43.362 <sup>b</sup>	24.704 <sup>b</sup>	1.763	81.065	55.305	1.474
SEM		0.109	0.011	<0.0001	0.371	0.028	0.724	0.840	0.025		<0.0001	<0.0001	0.4632	0.5318	0.9023	85.137 <sup>a</sup>	54.089	1.579 <sup>a</sup>
Restriction duration (day)	7	18.722	0.902	45.535	26.125	1.750				14	18.613	0.885	45.125	25.719	1.771	76.234 <sup>b</sup>	55.771	1.377 <sup>b</sup>
SEM		0.109	0.011	0.449	0.371	0.028	0.724	0.840	0.025		0.4826	0.2689	0.5232	0.4448	0.5954	<0.0001	0.1653	<0.0001
Coenzyme Q (mg/kg)	0	18.204 <sup>b</sup>	0.891	45.186	24.319 <sup>b</sup>	1.868 <sup>a</sup>	79.982	56.612	1.428	20	18.980 <sup>a</sup>	0.906	44.665	27.095 <sup>a</sup>	1.656 <sup>c</sup>	81.357	54.331	1.501
SEM		0.133	0.013	0.550	0.455	0.034	0.887	1.029	0.030	40	18.818 <sup>a</sup>	0.885	46.138	26.353 <sup>a</sup>	1.757 <sup>b</sup>	80.718	53.847	1.505
P		0.0005	0.5394	0.1728	0.0004	0.0004	0.5534	0.1421	0.1451	Treatment 1	24.004 <sup>a</sup>	1.135 <sup>a</sup>	50.647 <sup>ab</sup>	26.418 <sup>bcd</sup>	1.938 <sup>ab</sup>	96.082 <sup>a</sup>	58.982	1.644 <sup>ab</sup>
		24.725 <sup>a</sup>	1.148 <sup>a</sup>	51.036 <sup>a</sup>	29.982 <sup>a</sup>	1.706 <sup>bc</sup>	98.986 <sup>a</sup>	56.982	1.750 <sup>a</sup>	Treatment 2	24.679 <sup>a</sup>	1.176 <sup>a</sup>	50.346 <sup>abc</sup>	28.382 <sup>abc</sup>	1.777 <sup>bc</sup>	95.846 <sup>a</sup>	54.447	1.773 <sup>a</sup>
		19.396 <sup>cd</sup>	0.978 <sup>b</sup>	47.450 <sup>bcd</sup>	27.239 <sup>abcd</sup>	1.748 <sup>bc</sup>	83.229 <sup>cd</sup>	52.021	1.613 <sup>abc</sup>	Treatment 3	20.179 <sup>bc</sup>	1.015 <sup>b</sup>	46.014 <sup>d</sup>	28.211 <sup>abcd</sup>	1.636 <sup>c</sup>	83.200 <sup>cd</sup>	54.508	1.531 <sup>bc</sup>
		20.168 <sup>bc</sup>	0.938 <sup>b</sup>	47.572 <sup>bcd</sup>	26.922 <sup>abcd</sup>	1.769 <sup>bc</sup>	83.807 <sup>bcd</sup>	52.982	1.583 <sup>abc</sup>	Treatment 4	20.179 <sup>bc</sup>	1.015 <sup>b</sup>	47.929 <sup>abcd</sup>	27.793 <sup>abcd</sup>	1.732 <sup>bc</sup>	80.650 <sup>de</sup>	55.379	1.465 <sup>bcd</sup>
		19.293 <sup>d</sup>	0.983 <sup>b</sup>	47.764 <sup>bcd</sup>	23.396 <sup>e</sup>	2.042 <sup>a</sup>	74.704 <sup>f</sup>	57.786	1.302 <sup>de</sup>	Treatment 5	19.700 <sup>c</sup>	0.983 <sup>b</sup>	47.054 <sup>cd</sup>	29.279 <sup>ab</sup>	1.621 <sup>c</sup>	80.650 <sup>de</sup>	55.379	1.465 <sup>bcd</sup>
		20.303 <sup>b</sup>	0.962 <sup>b</sup>	47.054 <sup>cd</sup>	29.279 <sup>ab</sup>	1.621 <sup>c</sup>	80.650 <sup>de</sup>	55.379	1.465 <sup>bcd</sup>	Treatment 6	20.447 <sup>b</sup>	0.937 <sup>b</sup>	47.929 <sup>abcd</sup>	27.793 <sup>abcd</sup>	1.732 <sup>bc</sup>	76.247 <sup>ef</sup>	54.657	1.397 <sup>de</sup>
		20.447 <sup>b</sup>	0.937 <sup>b</sup>	47.929 <sup>abcd</sup>	27.793 <sup>abcd</sup>	1.732 <sup>bc</sup>	76.247 <sup>ef</sup>	54.657	1.397 <sup>de</sup>	Treatment 7	17.271 <sup>ef</sup>	0.789 <sup>c</sup>	43.004 <sup>e</sup>	23.311 <sup>e</sup>	1.849 <sup>abc</sup>	86.404 <sup>bc</sup>	57.053	1.516 <sup>bcd</sup>
		17.271 <sup>ef</sup>	0.789 <sup>c</sup>	43.004 <sup>e</sup>	23.311 <sup>e</sup>	1.849 <sup>abc</sup>	86.404 <sup>bc</sup>	57.053	1.516 <sup>bcd</sup>	Treatment 8	17.936 <sup>e</sup>	0.851 <sup>c</sup>	42.811 <sup>e</sup>	25.361 <sup>cde</sup>	1.689 <sup>c</sup>	88.761 <sup>b</sup>	55.504	1.601 <sup>abc</sup>
		17.936 <sup>e</sup>	0.851 <sup>c</sup>	42.811 <sup>e</sup>	25.361 <sup>cde</sup>	1.689 <sup>c</sup>	88.761 <sup>b</sup>	55.504	1.601 <sup>abc</sup>	Treatment 9	17.383 <sup>ef</sup>	0.845 <sup>c</sup>	46.357 <sup>d</sup>	25.707 <sup>cde</sup>	1.809 <sup>bc</sup>	85.425 <sup>bcd</sup>	52.468	1.631 <sup>ab</sup>
		16.857 <sup>f</sup>	0.813 <sup>c</sup>	42.525 <sup>e</sup>	23.328 <sup>e</sup>	1.834 <sup>abc</sup>	75.593 <sup>ef</sup>	59.589	1.281 <sup>e</sup>	Treatment 10	16.857 <sup>f</sup>	0.813 <sup>c</sup>	42.525 <sup>e</sup>	23.328 <sup>e</sup>	1.834 <sup>abc</sup>	75.593 <sup>ef</sup>	59.589	1.281 <sup>e</sup>
		17.504 <sup>ef</sup>	0.795 <sup>c</sup>	42.782 <sup>e</sup>	25.528 <sup>cde</sup>	1.678 <sup>c</sup>	72.818 <sup>f</sup>	51.936	1.406 <sup>cde</sup>	Treatment 11	17.504 <sup>ef</sup>	0.795 <sup>c</sup>	42.782 <sup>e</sup>	25.528 <sup>cde</sup>	1.678 <sup>c</sup>	72.818 <sup>f</sup>	51.936	1.406 <sup>cde</sup>
		17.275 <sup>ef</sup>	0.820 <sup>c</sup>	42.696 <sup>e</sup>	24.990 <sup>de</sup>	1.719 <sup>bc</sup>	77.393 <sup>ef</sup>	55.282	1.408 <sup>cde</sup>	Treatment 12	17.275 <sup>ef</sup>	0.820 <sup>c</sup>	42.696 <sup>e</sup>	24.990 <sup>de</sup>	1.719 <sup>bc</sup>	77.393 <sup>ef</sup>	55.282	1.408 <sup>cde</sup>
SEM		0.269	0.026	1.026	0.970	0.070	1.699	2.229	0.067	Treatment 13	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0072	<0.0001	0.3385	<0.0001
P		<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0072	<0.0001	0.3385	<0.0001	Treatment 14	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.0072	<0.0001	0.3385	<0.0001

Means with same superscript letters within the same column do not differ significantly ( $P \geq 0.05$ ); SEM: Standard Error of Means. Treatments 1-15: See Table 2.

Table 4. Effect of Restriction Intensity, Restriction Duration and Coenzyme Q Levels on Broiler Performance at 4th, 5th and 6th Weeks of Age

	4th week of age			5th week of age			6th week of age			
	Feed intake (g/chick/day)	Weight gain (g/chick/day)	Feed conversion ratio (g/g)	Feed intake (g/chick/day)	Weight gain (g/chick/day)	Feed conversion ratio (g/g)	Feed intake (g/chick/day)	Weight gain (g/chick/day)	Feed conversion ratio (g/g)	
Restriction intensity (%)	10	133.199	71.710	1.884	178.449	97.082	1.874	208.975 <sup>b</sup>	93.658 <sup>b</sup>	2.236
	20	134.814	69.668	1.942	176.577	102.109	1.749	214.011 <sup>a</sup>	98.199 <sup>a</sup>	2.182
SEM		0.576	1.379	0.037	1.701	2.320	0.055	1.429	0.555	0.019
P		0.0553	0.3021	0.2775	0.4414	0.1342	0.1186	0.0174	<0.0001	0.0523
Restriction duration (day)	7	133.840	72.009	1.881	178.160	98.785	1.832	209.725	96.343	2.179 <sup>b</sup>
	14	134.173	69.369	1.945	176.867	100.407	1.792	213.261	95.514	2.239 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.576	1.379	0.037	1.701	2.320	0.055	1.429	0.555	0.019
P		0.6848	0.1844	0.2305	0.5943	0.6242	0.6152	0.0886	0.2974	0.0327
Coenzyme Q (mg/kg)	0	133.386	71.228	1.902	175.185	104.609 <sup>a</sup>	1.696	213.241 <sup>a</sup>	97.530 <sup>a</sup>	2.191 <sup>b</sup>
	20	134.900	68.137	1.984	176.665	93.788 <sup>b</sup>	1.901	206.977 <sup>b</sup>	95.318 <sup>b</sup>	2.174 <sup>b</sup>
	40	133.734	72.702	1.851	180.689	100.390 <sup>ab</sup>	1.838	214.261 <sup>a</sup>	94.937 <sup>b</sup>	2.262 <sup>a</sup>
SEM		0.706	1.689	0.046	2.084	2.841	0.068	1.750	0.679	0.023
P		0.2952	0.1639	0.1291	0.1689	0.0350	0.1065	0.0114	0.0221	0.0270
Treatment 1		148.800 <sup>a</sup>	68.993	2.233	197.128 <sup>a</sup>	93.554	2.160	238.278 <sup>a</sup>	93.610 <sup>def</sup>	2.574 <sup>a</sup>
Treatment 2		149.800 <sup>a</sup>	67.911	2.274	199.000 <sup>a</sup>	101.822	1.954	237.189 <sup>a</sup>	104.150 <sup>a</sup>	2.278 <sup>bc</sup>
Treatment 3		149.100 <sup>a</sup>	74.339	2.011	199.446 <sup>a</sup>	105.554	1.895	238.204 <sup>a</sup>	104.503 <sup>a</sup>	2.281 <sup>bc</sup>
Treatment 4		131.893 <sup>c</sup>	74.872	1.832	173.407 <sup>c</sup>	108.125	1.605	208.946 <sup>bc</sup>	100.818 <sup>gbc</sup>	2.073 <sup>d</sup>
Treatment 5		133.503 <sup>bc</sup>	69.536	1.926	176.464 <sup>bc</sup>	91.746	1.930	190.825 <sup>d</sup>	86.203 <sup>g</sup>	2.210 <sup>cd</sup>
Treatment 6		131.114 <sup>c</sup>	77.586	1.693	188.514 <sup>ab</sup>	90.986	2.140	214.064 <sup>bc</sup>	97.895 <sup>hcd</sup>	2.187 <sup>cd</sup>
Treatment 7		132.757 <sup>c</sup>	65.857	2.041	174.814 <sup>c</sup>	98.893	1.773	207.746 <sup>c</sup>	91.371 <sup>efg</sup>	2.280 <sup>bc</sup>
Treatment 8		135.536 <sup>bc</sup>	69.818	1.943	176.632 <sup>bc</sup>	92.382	1.958	216.211 <sup>bc</sup>	96.235 <sup>bcde</sup>	2.247 <sup>bed</sup>
Treatment 9		134.393 <sup>bc</sup>	72.593	1.867	180.864 <sup>bc</sup>	100.361	1.842	216.057 <sup>bc</sup>	89.425 <sup>fg</sup>	2.419 <sup>ab</sup>
Treatment 10		134.650 <sup>bc</sup>	71.114	1.899	176.753 <sup>bc</sup>	101.525	1.749	217.379 <sup>bc</sup>	96.721 <sup>bcde</sup>	2.248 <sup>bed</sup>
Treatment 11		137.864 <sup>b</sup>	67.161	2.058	178.129 <sup>bc</sup>	94.418	1.898	213.100 <sup>bc</sup>	101.850 <sup>ab</sup>	2.093 <sup>cd</sup>
Treatment 12		134.014 <sup>bc</sup>	71.786	1.875	175.689 <sup>bc</sup>	105.911	1.669	214.035 <sup>bc</sup>	94.571 <sup>def</sup>	2.263 <sup>bed</sup>
Treatment 13		134.243 <sup>bc</sup>	73.071	1.838	175.764 <sup>bc</sup>	109.893	1.659	218.893 <sup>b</sup>	101.211 <sup>ab</sup>	2.163 <sup>cd</sup>
Treatment 14		132.696 <sup>c</sup>	66.036	2.010	175.436 <sup>c</sup>	96.607	1.816	207.772 <sup>c</sup>	96.982 <sup>bcde</sup>	2.146 <sup>cd</sup>
Treatment 15		135.414 <sup>bc</sup>	68.843	1.970	177.689 <sup>bc</sup>	104.304	1.704	212.886 <sup>bc</sup>	97.857 <sup>bed</sup>	2.178 <sup>cd</sup>
SEM		1.467	4.021	0.121	3.878	5.516	0.135	3.270	1.953	0.059
P		<0.0001	0.7449	0.1311	<0.0001	0.2560	0.1489	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001

Means with same superscript letters within the same column do not differ significantly ( $P \geq 0.05$ ); SEM: Standard Error of Means. Treatments 1-15: See Table 2.

### Blood Plasma Constitutes

The effects of restriction intensity, restriction duration and coenzyme Q level on the plasma constitutes at the 42nd day of age are shown in Table 5.

Restriction intensity, restriction duration and coenzyme Q level had not had significant effect on plasma HDL, LDL, LDL/HDL and VLDL levels ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). The studied treatments had not significant difference for HDL, LDL, LDL/HDL ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). However, among 15 studied treatments, treatment 11 had the highest VLDL (31.250 mg/dl) significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ).

### Organ Weights

The effects of restriction intensity, restriction duration and coenzyme Q level on the organ components at the 42nd day of age are shown in Table 6.

Restriction intensity, restriction duration and coenzyme Q level had not had significant effect on weight and relative weight of head, lungs, kidneys, brain and testes ( $P \geq 0.05$ ). The studied treatments had not significant difference for weight and relative weight of head, lungs, kidneys, brain and testes ( $P \geq 0.05$ ), except among 15 studied treatments, treatment 5 had the highest relative weight of head (3.442%) and treatment 7 also had the highest relative weight of kidneys (0.744%) significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ).

## DISCUSSION

Application of feed restriction had significant effect on the feed intake of broiler chickens, so that 40 mg coenzymes had the highest feed intake, indicating the effect of feed restriction on feed intake. The highest feed intake was observed in the unlimited group and the lowest was observed in groups with a 20% restriction and a 20 mg / kg coenzyme Q10. In this regard, other researchers who observed reduced feed intake by restricting feed intake, reduced volume of the gastrointestinal tract (Rameshi *et al.*, 2007) and reduced the need for bird maintenance (Rahimi *et al.*, 2015) due to low feed intake by them. Feed intake in coenzyme treatment was lower than treatment 1 (control) without this supplement. Since coenzyme Q10 plays a vital role in supplying energy to tissues, it can provide part of the energy needed and save energy consumption for the production of energy from the bird's body.

Appetite should be regulated in accordance

with the needs of the bird. However, broiler chicks, unlike commercial egg hatchers, are not able to adjust their consumption to maintain a constant amount of energy and adapt it to their energy requirements (Shabani *et al.*, 2015). Additionally, selection of increase in the body weight is associated with an increase in appetite and ultimately an increase in body fat due to the positive association between growth rate and body fat preservation. Genetic factors such as strain and sex and environmental factors such as nutrition, temperature, renewal programs, and herd density affect carcass fat. Nutrition is the most important factor among the environmental factors. In nowadays strains, in addition to preservation of excessive energy than required, in addition to the growth, or the energy-to-protein ratio, increases the amount of fat in the carcass, even feeding with conventional diets based on standard tables also causes production of almost twice as much fat. Although with increasing energy levels, the conversion rate and energy efficiency improve, but these diets are expensive and less profitable in addition to increasing fat preservation (Lee and Lesson, 2001). In fact, the daily requirements of modern broiler chicks for amino acids and energy have increased with increasing growth rate, but this increase in the need for energy and amino acids is not the same and the ratio of growth to amino acids is higher than this ratio than energy (Rahimi *et al.*, 2015). By increasing the rate of body fat in present strains, the rate of required oxygen for metabolism has also increased and they become susceptible to lack of oxygen and ultimately to metabolic diseases (Jahanpour *et al.*, 2014).

In the case of conversion factors and the effect of feed restriction and coenzyme Q10 levels on it, there was a significant difference in the conversion coefficient between treatments with a restriction level and a supplementation level of coenzyme Q10. It seems that reducing feed intake and improvement of the conversion factor after applying feed restriction is due to a temporary decrease in the base metabolic rate in feed-limited birds (Rahimi *et al.*, 2015) and lower body weight at early growth, which reduces the need for energy for bird storage.

The results of carcass analysis showed that there was no significant difference between head weights, head weight percentage, lung weight, lung weight percentage, kidney weight, kidney weight percentage, brain weight, brain weight percentage, testis weight, and testis weight



Table 5. Effect of Restriction Intensity, Restriction Duration and Coenzyme Q Levels on Broiler Plasma Constituents at 42nd Day of Age

		HDL Cholesterol (High Density Lipoproteins) (mg/dl)	LDL Cholesterol (Low Density Lipoproteins) (mg/dl)	LDL/HDL	VLDL (Very low density lipoprotein) (mg/dl)
Restriction intensity (%)	10	88.917	38.167	0.433	25.375
	20	88.375	38.083	0.429	25.583
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		2.009	2.198	0.029	1.200
P		0.8499	0.9788	0.9186	0.9030
Restriction duration (day)	7	88.042	36.375	0.417	27.083
	14	89.250	39.875	0.446	23.875
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		2.009	2.198	0.029	1.200
P		0.6732	0.2675	0.4757	0.0668
Coenzyme Q (mg/kg)	0	87.625	36.938	0.431	24.750
	20	88.437	40.125	0.444	26.375
	40	89.875	37.313	0.419	25.312
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		2.461	2.691	0.035	1.470
P		0.8081	0.6609	0.8809	0.7317
Treatment 1		94.750	36.750	0.425	25.500 <sup>abc</sup>
Treatment 2		107.250	38.000	0.325	23.250 <sup>abc</sup>
Treatment 3		98.250	41.250	0.425	17.500 <sup>c</sup>
Treatment 4		87.750	31.250	0.350	26.250 <sup>abc</sup>
Treatment 5		85.000	32.500	0.375	29.250 <sup>a</sup>
Treatment 6		92.000	37.000	0.425	24.250 <sup>abc</sup>
Treatment 7		86.000	38.000	0.475	29.750 <sup>a</sup>
Treatment 8		92.500	50.250	0.525	18.000 <sup>bc</sup>
Treatment 9		90.250	40.000	0.450	24.750 <sup>abc</sup>
Treatment 10		87.250	42.750	0.500	24.250 <sup>abc</sup>
Treatment 11		87.250	39.000	0.450	31.250 <sup>a</sup>
Treatment 12		89.000	35.750	0.400	27.250 <sup>ab</sup>
Treatment 13		89.500	35.750	0.400	18.750 <sup>bc</sup>
Treatment 14		89.000	38.750	0.425	27.000 <sup>abc</sup>
Treatment 15		88.250	36.500	0.400	25.000 <sup>abc</sup>
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		4.891	4.940	0.065	2.849
P		0.2179	0.6484	0.7863	0.0306

Means with same superscript letters within the same column do not differ significantly ( $P \geq 0.05$ ); SEM: Standard Error of Means. Treatments 1-15: See Table 2.

Table 6. Effect of Restriction Intensity, Restriction Duration and Coenzyme Q Levels on Broiler Head, Lung and Kidneys Characteristics at 42nd Day

	Head weight (g)	Relative weight of head (%)	Lungs weight (g)	Relative weight of lungs (%)	Kidneys weight (g)	Relative weight of kidneys (%)	Brain weight (g)	Relative weight of brain (%)	Testes weight (g)	Relative weight of testes (%)	
Restriction intensity (%)	10	74.946	3.094	13.127	0.541	15.568	0.638	2.976	0.123	2.031	0.083
	20	75.354	3.105	13.504	0.555	15.577	0.645	3.307	0.137	2.116	0.087
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		1.360	0.057	0.440	0.017	0.715	0.028	0.180	0.007	0.142	0.005
P		0.8331	0.9096	0.5481	0.5455	0.9928	0.8721	0.2017	0.1931	0.6738	0.6170
Restriction duration (day)	7	76.800	3.118	13.539	0.549	15.248	0.619	3.127	0.127	2.153	0.087
	14	73.500	3.081	13.092	0.547	15.897	0.664	3.156	0.132	1.993	0.082
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		1.360	0.057	0.440	0.017	0.715	0.028	0.180	0.007	0.142	0.005
P		0.0948	0.6429	0.4778	0.9731	0.5253	0.2639	0.9096	0.6988	0.4295	0.5414
Coenzyme Q (mg/kg)	0	75.794	3.156	13.232	0.553	16.376	0.134	3.216	0.134	1.837	0.076
	20	73.531	3.115	13.237	0.556	15.073	0.633	2.992	0.126	2.039	0.086
	40	76.125	3.028	13.477	0.535	15.269	0.607	3.217	0.129	2.344	0.093
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		1.666	0.069	0.539	0.021	0.875	0.035	0.221	0.009	0.173	0.006
P		0.4945	0.4246	0.9351	0.7888	0.5313	0.2947	0.7106	0.7900	0.1295	0.2413
Treatment 1		67.500	2.719 <sup>c</sup>	12.068	0.487	11.377	0.458 <sup>c</sup>	1.973	0.079	1.520	0.061
Treatment 2		72.250	3.002 <sup>abc</sup>	11.815	0.492	14.600	0.602 <sup>abc</sup>	2.585	0.107	1.565	0.065
Treatment 3		73.375	3.019 <sup>abc</sup>	12.500	0.520	13.550	0.551 <sup>abc</sup>	3.010	0.123	2.375	0.096
Treatment 4		80.675	3.296 <sup>ab</sup>	12.603	0.517	17.500	0.717 <sup>a</sup>	2.917	0.119	1.823	0.075
Treatment 5		76.750	3.442 <sup>a</sup>	12.498	0.555	13.332	0.590 <sup>abc</sup>	3.053	0.136	1.958	0.088
Treatment 6		78.000	2.902 <sup>bc</sup>	14.000	0.523	15.677	0.578 <sup>bc</sup>	2.998	0.112	2.395	0.089
Treatment 7		76.500	3.279 <sup>ab</sup>	14.500	0.623	17.325	0.744 <sup>a</sup>	3.270	0.140	1.810	0.077
Treatment 8		65.750	2.689 <sup>c</sup>	13.228	0.537	13.227	0.536 <sup>abc</sup>	2.570	0.102	1.848	0.074
Treatment 9		72.000	2.957 <sup>bc</sup>	11.933	0.490	16.345	0.664 <sup>abc</sup>	3.048	0.126	2.353	0.094
Treatment 10		72.750	3.028 <sup>abc</sup>	13.333	0.554	16.352	0.684 <sup>ab</sup>	3.320	0.139	2.075	0.085
Treatment 11		76.375	3.101 <sup>abc</sup>	14.500	0.590	16.500	0.673 <sup>abc</sup>	3.470	0.141	2.540	0.104
Treatment 12		76.250	2.941 <sup>bc</sup>	14.300	0.553	12.128	0.470 <sup>bc</sup>	3.005	0.116	2.130	0.083
Treatment 13		73.250	3.021 <sup>abc</sup>	12.493	0.517	14.325	0.591 <sup>abc</sup>	3.358	0.139	1.640	0.067
Treatment 14		75.250	3.227 <sup>ab</sup>	12.725	0.542	17.232	0.732 <sup>a</sup>	2.875	0.124	1.813	0.077
Treatment 15		78.250	3.311 <sup>ab</sup>	13.675	0.576	16.925	0.718 <sup>a</sup>	3.818	0.161	2.498	0.105
SEM (Standard Error of Means)		3.315	0.139	1.062	0.044	1.724	0.067	0.427	0.017	0.341	0.013
P		0.1708	0.0129	0.6967	0.7069	0.2127	0.0489	0.4416	0.2879	0.4579	0.3525

Means with same superscript letters within the same column do not differ significantly ( $P \geq 0.05$ ); SEM: Standard Error of Means. Treatments 1-15: See Table 2.

percentage ( $P>0.05$ ). This may be due to the effective use of feed in chickens under restrictions after removal of restrictions on rehabilitation. However, the percentage of carcasses in the head, lungs, kidneys, brain, and testicles in the groups that received coenzyme supplementation was higher than in unrestricted treatments.

The feed restriction program up to 28 days did not have a negative effect on body weight gain, indicating that birds are receiving nutritionally adequate nutrition for growth (Onbaşilar, *et al.*, 2009; Wijtten *et al.*, 2010).

The results of the study show that the application of the eight-hour feed restriction program at younger ages has no significant difference in feed intakes. In some reports, the effect of different feed restrictions on broiler chickens performance was investigated. There was no significant difference in feed intake (Butzen *et al.*, 2013; Saber *et al.*, 2011). The strain factor is one of the factors affecting feed intake (Wijtten *et al.*, 2010). Possible reason for having no feed intake can be that the bird's digestive tract can adapt to nutritional restrictions. Research results showed that in the long-term restriction of feed along with age, as a response the digestive system will increase its storage parts such as strain, pre-gastric and gizzard in order to adapt the feed restriction aimed to use and maintain most feed so that the bird can feed more of the feed at the hours (Ozkan *et al.*, 2010).

A review by Fanooci and Toriki (2010) showed that there is no significant difference in the total feed conversion factor (49-9 days) between finite feeding chickens and non-limited control diets.

Wijtten *et al.* (2010) stated that the type of feed restriction and bird genetics is effective on the results of breast and abdominal fat percentage. Body fat, especially abdominal fat, is affected by many factors such as strain, diet, sex, temperature and rearing conditions. There are various reports on the effects of different feed restriction programs on the level of abdominal fat. This difference may be due to genetic variations, intensity and duration of feed restriction, rearing period, and feed intake (Dastar *et al.*, 2013). Richards *et al.*, (2003), Liew *et al.*, (2003), and Mellouk *et al.*, (2018) reported different results on another commercial strain i.e. Cobb 500. Recent reports (Jahanpour *et al.*, 2015) observed that feed restriction programs have no effect on carcass fat content.

## CONCLUSION

As conclusion, considering the positive effects of feed restriction and coenzyme Q10 on broiler yield, the simultaneous use of feed restriction strategy and dietary coenzyme Q10 can be considered as a management program in order to improvement of broiler productivity. Coenzyme Q10 (20 mg/kg) reduced plasma VLDL level and increased yield, so the use of coenzyme Q10 can be effective for improvement of broiler performance.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This manuscript is prepared based on PhD thesis of first author at Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran. We are grateful to the Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran for support.

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