Accepted Manuscript

Efficacy of crude and immobilised enzymes from *Bacillus licheniformis* for production of biodegraded feather meal and their assessment on chickens

Charles Oluwaseun Adetunji, Isaac Oluseun Adejumo



PII:	S2352-1864(17)30419-4
DOI:	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eti.2018.05.002
Reference:	ETI 234
To appear in:	Environmental Technology & Innovation
Received date :	16 November 2017
Revised date :	4 May 2018

Accepted date: 10 May 2018

Please cite this article as: Adetunji C.O., Adejumo I.O., Efficacy of crude and immobilised enzymes from *Bacillus licheniformis* for production of biodegraded feather meal and their assessment on chickens. *Environmental Technology & Innovation* (2018), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eti.2018.05.002

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

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4	Charles Oluwaseun Adetunji ^{1,2} , Isaac Oluseun Adejumo ^{3*}
5	
6	¹ Applied Microbiology, Biotechnology and Nanotechnology Laboratory, Department of
7	Biological Sciences, Landmark University, Omu-Aran, Nigeria
8	² Jawaharlal Nehru University, School of Life Sciences, Laboratory of Genetic Manipulation
9	for Stress Alleviation and Value Addition in Plants, New Delhi-110067, India
10	(Email address: charliguitar@yahoo.com)
11	³ Animal Nutrition, Biotechnology and Food Safety laboratory, Department of Animal
12	Science, Federal University Gashua, Nigeria
13	*Corresponding author: smogisaac@gmail.com)

14 Abstract

Keratinase enzymes are a special type of protease that has a bio-degradative potential for 15 degrading keratin-containing substrates by the enzymes they produced during bioprocessing. 16 The study was carried out to investigate the effect of microbial degraded feather meal on 17 broiler chickens. The strain was previously isolated from a feather dumping site. The effects 18 19 of crude and immobilised enzyme-degraded feather meal were investigated on growth performance, haematology and intestinal histology of broiler chickens. Maximum activity of 20 the keratinolytic enzyme was at 45°C, the maximum bio-degradative potential at 48 h of 21 fermentation, while the pH 7 exhibited the maximum keratinolytic activity. The values 22 obtained for feed conversion ratio for birds on feather meal were statistically similar to the 23 value obtained for those on the control diet. The microbial biodegradation of feather wastes 24 25 could be a better approach to overcome high feed cost and environmental pollution arising 26 from solid waste disposal.

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28 Keywords: Bacillus licheniformis; biotechnology; feather wastes, food security

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1. Introduction

Poultry meat forms a major part of human diet most especially protein around the globe with a consumption rate of 14 kg person per year. The poultry feather wastes constitute a major part of the agricultural solid wastes generated after processing and utilization of the viscera. Therefore, management of poultry feather wastes has been a major problem over the years, Download English Version:

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