Effect of scent leaf (Ocimum gratissimum) meal on the growth performance and fecal bacterial load of cockerel chicks Olobatoke R.Y. and Sehaye R. A College of Agriculture, Division of Agricultural Colleges, Ahmadu Bello University, Kabba, Nigeria

Abstract: This experiment was carried out at the Poultry unit of Kabba College of Agriculture, to determine the effect of scent leaf meal (SLM) on the growth performance and fecal bacterial load of cockerel chicks. A total of 96 day old cockerel chicks were randomly allotted to 4 treatments, each treatment consisting of 4 replicates with 6 birds per replicate in a completely randomized design experiment. The treatments consisted of feeding SLM-supplemented diets to cockerel chicks at the inclusion rate of 0% (T₁=control), 1% (T₂), 2% (T₃) and 3% (T₄) respectively for seven weeks, after one week acclimatization period. The parameters assessed were body weight, feed consumption, feed conversion ratio (FCR), performance index and fecal total bacterial count. Data obtained were analyzed using repeated measures of ANOVA. Highest feed intake was recorded in birds fed 1% SLM

Biography- Roseline Olobatoke is an Associate Professor at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, where she is engaged in teaching, research and supervision of undergraduate and postgraduate projects. She has a passion for research in phytomedicine and has published more than 15 papers in peer reviewed journals. She has also served as a reviewer for journals of repute.

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6. Publication of speakers:

- 1. Effect of dietary garlic powder on layer performance, fecal bacterial load, and egg quality
- 2. Haematological assessment of bitter leaf (Vernonia amygdalina) efficiency in reducing infections in cockerels
- 3. Heavy metal concentration in soil in the tailing dam vicinity of an old gold mine in Johannesburg, South Africa
- 4. Incidence of non-typhoidal Salmonella in poultry products in the North West Province, South Africa
- 5. Incidence and antimicrobial susceptibility of coliforms in broiler products at the north west province of South Africa

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