

POTENTIAL OF NATIVE ORGANIC FEEDING STUFFS IN POULTRY PRODUCTION

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Abstract. Supply of organic broilers with methionine in the starter period is difficult due to legislation. This results in a methionine gap which has to be filled. Normally, protein feeding stuffs also provide distinct amounts of methionine, whereas, bulk feeding stuffs like cereals have a low methionine content. The present project aimed to determine the content and the digestibility of amino acids of 15 bulk feeding stuffs which may be used in organic broiler production. In an animal experiment with slow growing broilers the ileal digestibility of amino acids was determined in the third and sixth week of life. Most of tested organic feeding stuffs contained less main nutrients and amino acids than the same feeding stuffs from conventional production. Amino acid digestibility was lower for feeding stuffs with high contents crude fibre and did not differ between the third and sixth week of life. The content of methionine related to the total crude protein content was similar in organic and conventional feeding stuffs. The methionine contribution of bulk organic feeding stuffs to the requirements of the birds was less than for conventional ones. Anyway, results increased the information on the nutrient contents of less common organic feeding stuffs.

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