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1 **PERFORMANCE AND NUTRIENT DIGESTIBILITY OF RICE BRAN-BASED**  
 2 **RATION WITH ADDED LIME (*Citrus aurantifolia*) JUICE IN PELUNG**  
 3 **ROOSTER**

4  
 5  
 6 **NUTRIENT DIGESTIBILITY AND PERFORMANCE IN MALE PELUNG**  
 7 **CHICKEN FED RICE BRAN-BASED RATION WITH ADDITIONAL**  
 8 **LIME (*Citrus aurantifolia*) JUICE**  
 9

10 **ABSTRACT**

11 The study aimed to ~~determine~~ evaluate the effect of additional lime juice in a  
 12 rice bran-based ration ~~fed to Pelung roosters~~ on the utilization of nutrients in male  
 13 Pelung chickens. Sixty four ~~heads~~ birds of 12 weeks old male Pelung chickens, ~~12~~  
 14 ~~weeks old~~ were used in this research and assigned into randomized completely block  
 15 design. The treatments were dietary addition of lime juice ~~in the ration~~ at the level of 0  
 16 (T0), 1(T1), 2 (T2) and 3 ml (T3). Parameters measured were feed consumption,  
 17 protein, fat and fiber ~~digestibility~~ digestibilities, apperant metabolizable energy (AME),  
 18 rate of passage, feed conversion ratio (FCR) and daily weight gain. Results showed that  
 19 addition of lime juice did not affect feed consumption, but significantly ( $P<0.05$ )  
 20 increased coefficient ~~digestibility~~ digestibilities of protein, fat and fiber, AME, rate of  
 21 passage, FCR and daily weight gain of Pelung roosters. Even though adding dietary  
 22 addition of 2 or 3 ml lime juice ~~in the ration had~~ resulted similar amount values of  
 23 AME, and digested protein, fat and fiber ~~digested~~, but both levels were ~~shown~~ brought  
 24 about a better protein, and fat ~~and fiber~~ digestions, and AME ~~and absorption~~ when  
 25 compared to those ration without or with 1 ml lime juice. The conclusion ~~was~~ is that  
 26 dietary addition of 3 ml lime juice ~~in the ration~~ increases the digestion processes in the  
 27 gastrointestinal and increasing daily weight gain of male Pelung chickens.

28 **Keywords:** Pelung rooster, lime juice, nutrient digestibility, ~~lime juice, Pelung rooster,~~  
 29 daily weight gain  
 30

**Comment [U1]:** The title possibly be better to be changed as indicated by the blue-color sentence

**Comment [U2]:** Fiber digestibility of 2 and 3 ml lime juice added diet was similar to that of 1 ml lime juice, even that of 2 ml was the same to that of kontrol diet, only 3 ml lime juice indicated significant compared to control diet. Please check carefully the data of Table 1.

**Comment [U3]:** No data of absorption was described in the Table of results. Pleaase omit.

**Comment [U4]:** The sentence (s) of Conclusion should be better in the form of present tens

**ABSTRAK**

31  
 32 Penelitian bertujuan untuk mengetahui pengaruh penambahan sari jeruk nipis  
 33 dalam ransum berbasis dedak padi terhadap pencernaan nutrisi pada ayam Pelung jantan.  
 34 Ayam Pelung jantan umur 12 minggu berjumlah 64 ekor, ~~penelitian dilakukan umur 12~~  
 35 ~~minggu dan menggunakan~~ dialokasikan ke dalam rancangan acak kelompok. Perlakuan  
 36 yang diberikan adalah jeruk nipis dicampur dalam ransum ~~adalah~~ dengan level 0(T0),  
 37 1(T1), 2(T2) and 3 ml(T3). Parameter yang diukur adalah konsumsi ransum, pencernaan  
 38 protein, lemak, dan serat, energi metabolis semu, laju digesta, konversi ransum dan  
 39 pertambahan bobot badan harian. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penambahan  
 40 jeruk nipis tidak berpengaruh terhadap konsumsi ransum, tetapi nyata ( $P < 0,05$ )  
 41 meningkatkan ~~signifikan terhadap~~ pencernaan protein, lemak, dan serat, energi metabolis  
 42 semu, laju digesta, konversi ransum dan pertambahan bobot badan harian ayam Pelung  
 43 jantan. Meskipun penambahan 2 atau 3 ml jeruk nipis dalam ransum tidak menunjukkan  
 44 perbedaan terhadap energi metabolis semu, pencernaan protein, lemak dan serat, tetapi  
 45 pencernaan protein, dan lemak ~~dan serat~~ lebih baik dibandingkan ransum basal dengan 1  
 46 ml jeruk nipis. Simpulan bahwa penambahan 3 ml jeruk nipis meningkatkan proses  
 47 pencernaan nutrisi dalam saluran pencernaan dan meningkatkan pertambahan bobot  
 48 badan harian pada ayam Pelung jantan.

49 **Kata kunci:** ayam pelung jantan, jeruk nipis, pencernaan nutrisi, ~~jeruk nipis, ayam~~  
 50 ~~pelung jantan~~, pertambahan bobot badan

51

Comment [U5]: Same as Comment U2

52

## INTRODUCTION

53 Pelung chicken is a local type chickens originated from Cianjur, West Java,  
 54 which is included among those of broiler and a fancy chicken that produce a very good  
 55 sound of crow. The farmer that bred this Pelung chicken usually used fine rice bran in  
 56 the diet as high as 60% from the total ration. Sutardi (1992) stated that rice bran  
 57 contain 73.85% neutral detergent fiber (NDF) ~~73.85%~~, 35.04% acid detergent fiber  
 58 (ADF) ~~35.04%~~ and 3-4% lignin ~~3-4%~~. Therefore, ~~60% rice bran in the~~ diet composed of  
 59 high rice bran (60%) caused high dietary content of crude fiber ~~content of the ration~~ that  
 60 would also increase the fiber consumption. High crude fiber content in the diet will  
 61 affect rate of passage of the digesta, ~~hence affected~~ and further bring about the negative  
 62 impact on either the nutrient digestibility ~~as well as the~~ or nutrient absorption. The  
 63 higher passage rates of the digesta, the fewer the nutrients ~~to~~ can be absorbed and  
 64 utilized by the animal body, and vice versa. To improve nutrient digestibility of the  
 65 ration that would affect the nutrient utilization for production while at the same time  
 66 improving the quality of crowed, a research on the different level of lime juice added  
 67 into rice bran-based ration had been implemented to Pelung roosters.

**Comment [U6]:** The meaning of this sentence is unclear. Please consider to revise

**Comment [U7]:** Please add further explanation of why the famer (s) fed the chicken with high rice bran, before stating reference (s).

68 Research of Khotimah (2002) showed that 100 ~~grams~~ g of lime fruit contains the  
 69 substances that most relevant to the present study, such as 7% citric acid and 27 mg  
 70 vitamin C. ~~and 0.04 mg vitamin B1, as high as 86 g of water, 37 calories of energy,~~  
 71 ~~0.80 g protein, 0.1 g fat, 12.30 g carbohydrates, 40 mg calcium, 22 mg phosphorus, and~~  
 72 ~~0.60 mg of iron.~~ The citric acid of this lime fruit is a useful of organic acid acidifier  
 73 which contributes to ~~acidify the digesta of~~ the acidification and lowering pH of the  
 74 gastrointestinal tract. ~~which affect pH of the stomach,~~ It was also reported that the low  
 75 pH affect digesta rate of passage because of the decrease ~~of~~ in pathogen bacteria

**Comment [U8]:** The sentence is difficult to understand and confucing. Please revise

**Comment [U9]:** It is not necessary to describe all items of nutritional contents, but it will be better to select the most relevant to the problem of the present research. For example, citric acid and vit C, are much more reliable and connect with the following sentence

76 (Khotimah, 2002). All of these positive effects ~~in~~ on the digestive tract condition would  
 77 bring about ~~to~~ the increase in ~~of~~ dietary protein ~~digested~~ digestibility and nitrogen  
 78 retention.

79 ~~The use~~ Dietary inclusion of organic citric acid ~~in the diet~~ would increase the  
 80 nutrient absorption, ~~especially due to the improved~~ digestion in the small intestine (Rice  
 81 *et al.*, 2002). According to Rafacz *et al.* (2005), addition of citric acid ~~as high as at the~~  
 82 level of 2 to 6% in the rations and fed to cross-bred chicken of Colombia hen and  
 83 Hampshire rooster, increased body weight gain and feed efficiency, ~~while but decreased~~  
 84 ~~the feed~~ conversion ratio. Atapattu and Nelligaswatta (2005) stated that 2% of organic  
 85 citric acid in the ration significantly increased the digestibility of dietary protein and  
 86 fiber in broiler chickens. Acidifier inclusion in the ration has a positive influence on ~~the~~  
 87 growth of the chickens through lowering pH of the digestive tract. A low pH ~~in~~ of the  
 88 digestive tract reduced pathogenic bacteria since they were not resistant ~~of to~~ low pH  
 89 atmosphere (Ghazalah *et al.*, 2011). Therefore, acidifier agent, would at the same time  
 90 functions as an antimicrobial. ~~On the other hand~~ Similarly, Ghazalah *et al.* (2011) also  
 91 stated that the reduction on the buffering capacity in the gastro-intestinal tract has a  
 92 positive relation to the coefficient digestibility of protein, fat, and fiber, as well as the  
 93 energy metabolism.

94 ~~Optimization~~ Optimalization condition of the digestive tract and the process of  
 95 digestion ~~and condition of the digestive tract~~ would be an entrance on the nutrient  
 96 utilization that should be highly accommodated. Ecosystem of poultry digestive tract is  
 97 a very important aspect on the improvement of the nutrient digestibility, animal health  
 98 and eventually the bird's performances. The study was conducted in order to ~~know the~~  
 99 ~~effect of adding different level~~ evaluate the effect of dietary inclusion of lime juice ~~in~~

**Comment [U10]:** Considering the content of this sentence is similar to that of Kothimah (2002) above, so please combine and put/place after Khotimah

100 ~~the ration~~ on protein utilization and performance of 12 weeks old male Pelung ~~rooster~~  
 101 chickens.

## 102 MATERIALS AND METHODS

103 The ~~material~~ experimental animal used in this study were 64 birds of 12 weeks  
 104 old male Pelung ~~roosters~~ chicken, ~~12-weeks-old~~ with an average body weight of  
 105  $1,084.44 \pm 210.89$  g. ~~and the basal ration. Composition of basal ration were 60% rice~~  
 106 ~~bran, 35% concentrates of CP 521, 5% mineral mix, and lime juice.~~ Diet provided to the  
 107 chickens which was known as basal ration was composed of 60% rice bran, 35%  
 108 concentrates of CP 521, and 5% mineral mix. The basal ration contains metabolizable  
 109 energy (ME) of 2,353.91 kcal/kg and 14.57% protein. The category of treatments were  
 110 the inclusion level of lime juice into the diet

111 The research was assigned into randomized completely block design (RCBD)  
 112 with 4 treatments and 4 groups as replication. Each group consists of 4 birds of male  
 113 Pelung ~~roosters~~ chicken. The grouping was based on body weight as follows:

114 G1 = 740-910 g with an average of  $835.51 \pm 49.48$  g

115 G2 = 910-1,080 g with an average of  $985.69 \pm 42.04$  g

116 G3 = 1,080 to 1,250 with an average of  $1,160.63 \pm 55.69$  g

117 G4 = 1,250 to 1m420 with an average of  $1,369.06 \pm 65.97$  g

118 The dietary treatments were given for 4 weeks ~~which was adding with the~~  
 119 different addition level of lime juice ~~to the basal ration~~, as the following:

120 T0 = no addition of lime juice

121 T1 = addition of 1 mL lime juice

122 T2 = addition of 2 mL lime juice

123 T3 = addition of 3 mL lime juice.

124 ~~Data-gathered~~ Parameters observed were daily feed intake, digestibilities of  
 125 protein, fat, and fiber, apparent metabolizable energy utilization, rate of passage, feed  
 126 conversion ratio and weekly daily body weight gain. Coefficient of nutrient digestion  
 127 digestibility was measured at the end of the experiment using total collection method,  
 128 and computed according to Sibbald and Wolynetz (1984), as follows:

129 1. Coefficient digestibility of protein (CDP, %) =

$$130 \frac{(\text{crude protein consumption} - \text{feces protein})}{\text{crude protein consumption}} \times 100\%$$

**Comment [U11]:** Please change feces into excreta, in poultry feces is mixed with urine called excreta

131 2. Protein Digested (g) = Protein Consume x CDP

133 3. Coefficient digestibility of fiber (%) =

$$134 \frac{(\text{crude fiber consumption} - \text{feces fiber})}{\text{crude fiber consumption}} \times 100\%$$

**Comment [U12]:** Which one of the technical term is true "Protein digested" or "Protein retained" ?? And also no data of protein digested is described in this manuscript. Please check the data either in Table 1 or Table 2

**Comment [U13]:** Same as Comment U11

$$135 \text{ 4. Coefficient digestibility of fat (\%)} = \frac{(\text{crude fat consumption} - \text{feces fat})}{\text{crude fat consumption}} \times 100\%$$

**Comment [U14]:** Same as Comment U11

136 5. Apperant Metabolizable Energy (AME, kcal/kg) =

$$137 \frac{(\text{gross energy consumption} - \text{feces gross energy})}{\text{feed consumption}} \times 1000$$

**Comment [U15]:** Same as Comment U11. Is the formula true?? Please check

$$138 \text{ 6. Feed Conversion Ratio} = \frac{\text{feed consumption}}{\text{body weight gain}}$$

139 Rate of passage measurement was recorded based on the total collection method  
 140 using indicator according to Indreswari *et al.* (2009).

141  
 142 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

143  
 144  
 145 **Effect on Nutrient Utilization**

146 The average of coefficient digestibilities of protein, fat, and fiber, and apperant  
 147 metabolizable energy were are presented in Table 1. ~~Based on the analysis of varianee,~~



148 Dietary addition of lime juice ~~in the diet was~~ significantly affected protein, fat, and fiber  
 149 digestibilities, and apparent metabolizable energy. ~~Duncan Multiple Range Test shown~~  
 150 ~~that the increase of~~ The higher lime juice addition into the rice bran-based ration,  
 151 ~~significantly increased the utilization of~~ the better dietary protein, fat, fiber, and  
 152 metabolizable energy ~~utilized by male Pelung roosters after chickens during~~ 4 weeks  
 153 feeding period.

**Comment [U16]:** It was actually not protein, fat and fiber UTILIZATIONS but DIGESTIBILITY

154 [The similarity of protein consumption was affect of the used of basal ration that  
 155 had the same protein content of all treatment rations. Besides addition of 1 to 3 ml lime  
 156 juice to the ration did not affect the metabolizable energy (ME) of the basal diet. Poultry  
 157 consumption is more influenced by the ME content of the ration. The ME content of  
 158 the basal diet was 2,353.9 kcal/kg and addition of lime juice would not affect the ME  
 159 content of the basal ration, since lime juice had no energy value to the roosters. Poultry  
 160 will consume ration to meet their energy needs. The higher the energy level of the ration  
 161 the lower the feed consumption, while if the ME content of the ration is low, the feed  
 162 consumption will increase. Factors affecting feed intake was nutrient content, especially  
 163 energy and protein level of the ration (Suprijatna *et al.*, 2005).]

**Comment [U17]:** It is not reliable and less logical when discuss about the effect of lime juice on ME. Also it should be consistence with the purpose of the present study, and the author (s) has/have realized to compose one basal diet with the same protein and ME before experiment. Please consider to omit

164 ~~Based on Duncan's multiple range test,~~ Additions of 2 and 3 mL of lime juice  
 165 into the ration ~~had brought about~~ significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) higher coefficient digestibilities  
 166 of protein and fat, ~~and fiber~~ and apparent ME as compared to ration either without lime  
 167 juice ~~addition and ration or~~ with 1 mL added of lime juice (Table 1). ~~but it was not~~  
 168 ~~significantly different from ration with 3 mL lime juice.~~ However, only dietary  
 169 inclusion of lime juice at the level of 3 mL indicated significantly higher fiber  
 170 digestibility compared to control diet. In general, additional of 3 mL lime juice into the

**Comment [U18]:** This paragraph is very common scientific discussion, especially those concerning the relationship between feed consumption and dietary ME content. Please consider to omit

**Comment [U19]:** Same as Comment U2

171 rice bran-based ration could improved ~~the~~ protein, fat ~~dan~~ and fiber digestibilities, and  
 172 apparent ME when fed to the 12 weeks old male Pelung ~~Rooster~~ chickens.

173 The coefficient digestibility of crude protein was range from 72.79 to 77.43%.  
 174 ~~This~~ The result of this study was lower than that of the research of Hassan *et al.* (2010),  
 175 who ~~found-out~~ reported that the value of coefficient digestibility of protein ~~added~~  
 176 ~~organic acid~~ in broiler chickens ~~added-organic acid was to~~ 89.02%. The diference value  
 177 of protein digestibility was probably due to the chicken species dependent. However,  
 178 ~~analysis of variance showed that~~ the present study indicated that lime juice ~~level~~  
 179 ~~addition into the~~ rice bran-based ration affected the coefficient digestibility of ~~the~~  
 180 protein. As the level of lime juice ~~added into~~ the ration increased, the coefficient  
 181 digestibility of protein ~~was also~~ increased ~~to~~ by 4-5% higher as compared to the ration  
 182 without lime juice.

183 ~~Based on Duncan's multiple range test, 3 mL of lime juice in the ration had~~  
 184 ~~significantly (p<0.05) higher coefficient digestibility of protein, fat and fiber as~~  
 185 ~~compared to ration without lime juice addition and ration with 1 mL added of lime juice~~  
 186 ~~but it was not significantly different from ration with 3 mL lime juice. Additional of 3~~  
 187 ~~mL lime juice in the rice bran-based ration improve the protein, fat dan fiber~~  
 188 ~~digestibility fed to 12 weeks Pelung Rooster.~~

189 The Citric acid in the lime juice ~~allegedly~~ is believed to be able to ~~make~~  
 190 improve atmosphere condition of the digestive tract ~~into acid condition hence~~ by  
 191 lowering the pH ~~in~~ of the proventriculus and ventriculus, so that the enzymes in these  
 192 digestive tract actively work to digest ~~the dietary~~ nutrient, especially protein. Beside ~~this~~  
 193 ~~function~~, it was simultaneously able to suppress the growth of harmful bacteria that can  
 194 ultimately improve health of the digestive tract which in turn would also affect the

Comment [U20]: This paragraph has been moved to the page 7 above starting on line 162

195 nutrient digestibility. ~~Expressed on~~ Gastric acidification gives an impact on both in  
 196 changing the activation of the enzyme pepsinogen into pepsin and ~~absorb~~ nutrients  
 197 absorption. that have been flattened by microorganisms (depend on pH range and types of  
 198 microorganisms). Rice *et al.* (2002), described that the use of organic citric acids in the  
 199 diet increased nutrients absorption, especially at the small intestine. Ghazalah *et al.*  
 200 (2011), the addition of acidifier had a positive influence on the growth of chickens  
 201 including lowering pH of the digestive tract, so that it can reduced pathogenic bacteria  
 202 that are not resistant to the low pH of the atmosphere, is directly used as an  
 203 antimicrobial, lowering the counter weight capacity related to the improvements of  
 204 digestibility values of crude protein, fat, crude fiber and energy metabolism. Atapattu  
 205 and Nelligaswatta (2005) stated, the effect of organic citric acid at 2 % level  
 206 significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) increased the value of crude protein digestibility and crude fiber.  
 207 Selle *et al.* (2000) showed that citric acid could degrade phytate, hence increasing the  
 208 digestibility of crude protein and crude fiber.

### 209 **Effect ~~To~~ on Performance**

210 Performance of pelung chickens observed was feed intake, rate of passage,  
 211 feed conversion ratio (FCR) and body weight gain ~~that shown at~~ (Table 2). Feed  
 212 consumption of Pelung cocks aged 12 weeks were T0=98; T1=104.08; T2=99.03 and  
 213 T3=101.27 g/bird/day, with an overall average of 100.59 g/bird/ day. According to  
 214 Nataamijaya (2006), the average feed consumption ranged from 90-125 g/bird/day.  
 215 Feed intake is influenced by several factors like energy and crude fiber in the ration,  
 216 body weight, temperature and local climate, and ration palatability (Wahju, 1997).  
 217 However, addition of 1-3 ml lime juice in the ration did not significantly affect feed

**Comment [U21]:** Is this idiomatic usage correct?? It seems to be very hard to understand

**Comment [U22]:** Please omit this statement if since the author (s) has/have no data of the microorganism type. A certain microorganism in relation to the nutrients utilization by the host is indirect activity, but not direct action.

**Comment [U23]:** Very long sentence, difficult to understand. Please revise! Considering the similar contents, it will be better to move, insert and be combined with the sentences in page 8, lines 187-192.

**Comment [U24]:** Is there any relationship of the present study with phytate? If yes, please give additional scientific explanation based on own author (s) argumentation

**Comment [U25]:** Please avoid to rewrite the data in the text

218 consumption of Pelung rooster but significantly affect the protein, fat and fiber digested  
219 and body weight gain of chicken.

220 ~~Based on the variance analysis, giving Feeding~~ lime juice significantly slow the  
221 rate of passage down. T0 treatment was significantly different from T3. While the  
222 amount of rate of passage ~~in among~~ between the treatments of T1 and T2 ~~were~~ was not  
223 significantly different. This suggests that the addition of lime juice at the level of 3 ml  
224 significantly slow the rate of passage. The higher the lime juice added, the ~~higher~~ faster  
225 the rate of passage. This would greatly affected the amount of protein, fat and fiber that  
226 can be digested and further absorbed and utilized by the body for gaining body weight.

227 Body weight gain of Pelung rooster increased significantly as the level of lime  
228 juice increases (Table 2). Ration without lime juice had body weight gain of 10.85  
229 g/bird/day which significantly lower as compare to those ration with added lime juice  
230 either 1, 2 or 3 mL that had weight gain of 12.95, 12.53 and 14.15 g/bird/day,  
231 respectively. This is supported by FCR at 0.3 ml (T3) lower than without lime juice  
232 (T0). The experiment Adil *et al.* (2010), diets supplemented with organic acids showed  
233 a significant ( $P < 0.05$ ) improvement in the FCR as against the chicks fed the control  
234 diet. Nezhad *et al.* (2007), ~~who~~ reported that the addition of citric acid to a broiler diet  
235 improved feed efficiency, ~~and the results on~~ as an indication of the beneficial effects of  
236 citric acid on feed conversion. Feed conversion ratio can increase with age Pelung  
237 rooster. Chicken age 12-16 week have FCR 3.85-4.40 (Iskandar and Susanti, 2007).

238 The citric acid in lemon juice ~~would~~ decreased the pH ~~and acidity~~ of the  
239 gastrointestinal tract, which than affected the populations of pathogenic bacteria. This  
240 condition has created a suitable atmosphere inside the GIT that supports the process of  
241 digestion and absorption of nutrients. The more nutrients can be absorbed, the more

**Comment [U26]:** It will be better to express the condition of data first according to statistical analysis, and followed by own argumentations prior to reference (s) cytation.

**Comment [U27]:** No symbol of treatmnet such as T0, T1, T2 , T3 was found either in the text or Table of data. Please maintain the consistency writing ! It can also be suggested that this statistical results should be better to move and place at the beginning of this paragraph.

**Comment [U28]:** Same as Comment U25

**Comment [U29]:** Same as Comment U27

**Comment [U30]:** The statements are irrerelevant to the treatment and data. The increase in FCR is an unexpected result. Please omite !!

242 nutrients are possible to be utilized for body tissue. Body weight gain is caused by the  
 243 increased of nutrient digestibility ~~of the ration~~, that was shown on the increase of  
 244 protein digested of T2 and T3 ration (addition of 2 ml and 3 ml of lime juice). The  
 245 increased of protein digested improved the body weight gain. Rafacz *et al.* (2005),  
 246 stated the addition of citric acid as much as 2-6% in chicken rations increase body  
 247 weight gain, feed efficiency and feed conversion ratio.

248 Organic acids are among the alternative growth promoters that are being used to  
 249 stimulate growth performance in poultry (Hassan *et al.*, 2010; Mohamed *et al.*, 2014).  
 250 Many studies demonstrated that supplementation of organic acids to broiler diets  
 251 increased growth performance (Gunal *et al.*, 2006; Abd El-Hakim *et al.*, 2009; and  
 252 Abdel-Fattah *et al.*, 2008), improved gut morphology, reduced diseases, and overcame  
 253 some management problems (Gunal *et al.*, 2006), and reduced FCR (Abd El-Hakim *et al.*  
 254 *et al.*, 2009) compared to those of unsupplemented diet. ~~Abd El-Hakim *et al.* (2009) found  
 255 that addition of organic acids of broiler diets improved FCR and growth performance.  
 256 Abdel-Fattah *et al.* (2008) found that broiler chicks fed dietary organic acids had  
 257 superior improvement in live body weight, body weight gain, and FCR compared to  
 258 those of unsupplemented diet.~~

259 On the other hand, the negative effects of phytate in rice bran could be  
 260 eliminated by addition of lime juice which shown on the increased of protein  
 261 digestibility. The increase of digested protein would then increased the protein  
 262 absorbed, which in turn increases the weight gain. According to Selle *et al.* (2000) citric  
 263 acid could hydrolyze phytate resulting on the increased the digestibility of protein and  
 264 fiber of the ration that contain phytate. Hanafi (2001) also stated that generally 20% fine  
 265 rice bran or more in the ration inhibit the growth due to the presence of phytic acid,

**Comment [U31]:** No data about protein digested or protein retained. Table 1 indicated only protein digestibility

**Comment [U32]:** Is it true that lime juice can be able to eliminate or have a degradable effect on phytate?? It seems to be impossible, please consider to make correct !! Also please indicate the amount of pytate in the diet

**Comment [U33]:** The reviewer has read the content of this reference (Selle *et al.*, 2000), but no any description has been found regarding citric acid can eliminate phytate. Please make a honest scientific description

266 which formed complexes with proteins, pectin, and starch or fiber polysaccharides of  
 267 the ration. This would become an obstacle on protein and phosphorus digestion hence  
 268 affecting nutrient utilization for weight gain. Phytate affects the digestibility of protein  
 269 and amino acids in the ration (Kurniawati dan Yuanita, 2014). According Sukria and  
 270 Liebert (2004) that citric acid (30 g/kg) in a corn soybean-based chicken diet with low  
 271 native phytase activity and supplementation of microbial phytase increased growth  
 272 performance, protein, and phosphorus deposition.

273  
 274

### CONCLUSION

275 Based on the results of the research can be concluded that the best utilization of  
 276 nutrient ~~ration~~ is ~~the ration T3~~ namely rice bran-based diet with the addition of lime  
 277 juice ~~as much as~~ at the level of 3 ml. The inclusion of lime juice in the ration of male  
 278 Pelung ~~rooster~~ chicken ~~could~~ can enhance the nutrient ~~digestion~~ digestibility so that  
 279 increases the nutrient ~~digested~~ utilization, and ~~feed conversion ratio resulting on the~~  
 280 ~~increase of~~ finally improves body weight gain and feed conversion ratio.

281

282

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348  
349

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350 Table 1. Average of Coefficient Digestibility of Protein, Fat, Fiber and Apperant  
 351 Metabolizable Energy of Rice Bran-Based Ration With Added Lime  
 352 Juice Fed To 12 Weeks Old Pelung Rooster For 4 Weeks  
 353

| Parameter                                | Level of Lime Juice (mL) |                      |                      |                      |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|  | 0                        | 1                    | 2                    | 3                    |
| Coefficient Digestibility of Protein (%) | 72.79 <sup>b</sup>       | 73.65 <sup>b</sup>   | 76.90 <sup>a</sup>   | 77.43 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Coefficient Digestibility of Fat (%)     | 71.85 <sup>b</sup>       | 74.40 <sup>b</sup>   | 83.87 <sup>a</sup>   | 82.06 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Coefficient Digestibility of Fiber (%)   | 19.18 <sup>b</sup>       | 22.59 <sup>ab</sup>  | 23.16 <sup>ab</sup>  | 25.18 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Apperant Metabolizable Energy (kcal/kg)  | 2401.99 <sup>b</sup>     | 2420.90 <sup>b</sup> | 2532.67 <sup>a</sup> | 2553.60 <sup>a</sup> |

354 Different superscript of **average mean** value for each parameter showed significantly difference ( $P \leq 0.05$ )

355  
 356  
 357  
 358 Table 2. Average of Feed Consumption, Rate of Passage and Daily Weight Gain  
 359 of 12 Weeks Old Pelung Rooster Rice Fed Bran-Based Ration With  
 360 Added Lime Juice Fed For 4 Weeks  
 361

| Parameter                     | Level of Lime Juice (ml) |                      |                      |                     |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
|                               | 0                        | 1                    | 2                    | 3                   |
| Feed Consumption (g/bird/day) | 98.00                    | 104.08               | 99.03                | 101.27              |
| Rate of Passage (min)         | 183.60 <sup>b</sup>      | 205.58 <sup>ab</sup> | 203.28 <sup>ab</sup> | 221.23 <sup>a</sup> |
| Feed Conversion Ratio         | 5.08 <sup>a</sup>        | 4.08 <sup>ab</sup>   | 3.94 <sup>ab</sup>   | 3.35 <sup>b</sup>   |
| Body Weight Gain (g/bird/day) | 10.85 <sup>b</sup>       | 12.95 <sup>ab</sup>  | 12.53 <sup>ab</sup>  | 14.15 <sup>a</sup>  |

362 Different superscript of **average mean** value for each parameter showed significantly difference ( $P \leq 0.05$ )

363

1 **NUTRIENT DIGESTIBILITY AND PERFORMANCE IN MALE PELUNG**  
2 **CHICKEN FED RICE BRAN-BASED RATION WITH ADDITIONAL**  
3 **LIME (*Citrus aurantifolia*) JUICE**

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9

10  
11 **ABSTRACT**  
12

13 Rearing Pelung chicken in Indonesia in general using ration with high  
14 proportion of rice bran, even up to 60%. Considering the high contents of fiber, lignin,  
15 and phytic acid, thus feeding high portion of rice bran bring about low nutrient  
16 digestibility. The study was aimed to evaluate the effect of additional lime juice in a rice  
17 bran-based ration on the utilization of nutrients in male Pelung chicken. Sixty four birds  
18 of 12 weeks old male Pelung chicken were used in the present research, and assigned  
19 into randomized completely block design. The treatments were dietary addition of lime  
20 juice at the level of 0, 1, 2 and 3 mL/100 g. Parameters measured were feed and  
21 nutrients consumption, protein, fat and fiber digestibilities, apparent metabolizable  
22 energy (AME), rate of passage, feed conversion ratio (FCR) and daily body weight gain.  
23 Results showed that addition of lime juice did not affect feed and nutrient consumption,  
24 but significantly ( $p<0.05$ ) increased coefficient digestibilities of protein, fat and fiber,  
25 AME, rate of passage, FCR and daily body weight gain. However, dietary addition of 2  
26 or 3 mL lime juice resulted similar values of AME, and protein, fat and fiber  
27 digestibilities, and both levels brought about better protein and fat digestibilities, and  
28 AME when compared to other treatments. The conclusion is that dietary inclusion of 3  
29 ml lime juice increases the digestive processes in the gastrointestinal and increasing  
30 daily weight gain of male Pelung chicken.

31 **Keywords:** male Pelung chicken, lime juice, nutrient digestibility, daily body weight  
32 gain

33 **ABSTRAK**

34 Pemeliharaan ayam Pelung di Indonesia pada umumnya menggunakan ransum  
35 dengan proporsi dedak padi tinggi. Porsi dedak padi mencapai 60%, namun, berhubung  
36 dedak padi mengandung serat kasar, lignin dan asam fitat tinggi menyebabkan  
37 pencernaan nutrisi rendah. Penelitian bertujuan untuk mengetahui pengaruh penambahan  
38 sari jeruk nipis dalam ransum berbasis dedak padi terhadap pencernaan nutrisi pada  
39 ayam Pelung jantan. Ayam Pelung jantan umur 12 minggu berjumlah 64 ekor,  
40 dialokasikan ke dalam rancangan acak kelompok. Perlakuan yang diberikan adalah  
41 jeruk nipis yang dicampur dalam ransum dengan level 0, 1, 2 and 3 ml/100 g. Parameter  
42 yang diukur adalah konsumsi ransum dan nutrisi, pencernaan protein, lemak, serat,  
43 energi metabolis semu, laju digesta, konversi ransum dan pertambahan bobot badan

44 harian. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penambahan jeruk nipis tidak berpengaruh  
45 nyata terhadap konsumsi ransum dan nutrien, tetapi nyata ( $p < 0,05$ ) meningkatkan  
46 pencernaan protein, lemak, dan serat, energi metabolis semu, laju digesta, konversi  
47 ransum dan pertambahan bobot badan harian. Penambahan 2 atau 3 ml jeruk nipis dalam  
48 ransum tidak menyebabkan adanya perbedaan energi metabolis semu, pencernaan  
49 protein, lemak dan serat, tetapi pencernaan protein dan lemak lebih baik dibandingkan  
50 perlakuan lainnya. Simpulan bahwa penambahan 3 ml jeruk nipis memperbaiki proses  
51 pencernaan nutrien dan meningkatkan pertambahan bobot badan harian pada ayam  
52 Pelung jantan.

53 **Kata kunci:** ayam pelung jantan, jeruk nipis, pencernaan nutrien, pertambahan bobot  
54 badan harian

## 55 INTRODUCTION

56 Pelung chicken is an indigenous chickens originated from Cianjur, West Java  
57 Indonesia, which is usually reared as a fancy chicken with a very good sound of crow.  
58 Although Pelung chickens at first were kept and bred for fancy due to their sound of  
59 crow, by looking at their exterior performance it is considered that those chickens are  
60 very potential to be developed becoming more economically valuable. However,  
61 problems of feed supply continuation either quality or quantity as well as feed cost are  
62 often to be an obstacle for small holder of Pelung chicken farming. Farmers are mostly  
63 fed the chickens by mixing commercial concentrate with rice bran in order to achieve  
64 low feed cost. Portion of rice bran used in the ration is sometime extremely high, up to  
65 60%. There are numerous weaknesses of feeding high portion of rice bran to the  
66 poultry, including Pelung chicken. It is well known that rice bran contains high crude  
67 fiber, lignin and phytic acid which can detrimental on the productive performance via its  
68 negative effects on nutrients digestibility. (Ridwan, R., S. Ratnakomala, n.d.) stated that  
69 rice bran contain 73.85% neutral detergent fiber (NDF) and 35.04% acid detergent fiber  
70 (ADF). High level of dietary crude fiber affected rate of passage of the digesta, hence  
71 providing impact on either nutrients digestibility or absorption. The faster rate of

72 passage of the digesta the fewer nutrients to be absorbed and utilized by the body, and  
73 vice versa. There are several factors have been known to overcome the problems of low  
74 digestibility, acidifier such as citric acid, is one substance that possible to be  
75 implemented to improve nutrients digestibility.

76 Citric acid is able to provide beneficial effects, such as lowering the digestive  
77 tract pH value of poultry. Low intestinal pH is greatly possible to suppress the growth  
78 of pathogenic microorganisms, stimulates digestive enzymes, and improve health  
79 condition of the digestive tract. This phenomenone lead to the increase in nutrient  
80 utilization and ultimately improves productive performance. Previous study indicated  
81 that feeding 3% dietary citric acid would increased nutrient digestibility and apparent  
82 metabolizable energy (Martinez-Ameaqua, Parsons, & Baker., 2006). According to  
83 (Rafacz-Livingston, Parsons, & Jungk., 2005), dietary addition of citric acid at a range  
84 of 2 to 6% and fed to cross-bred chicken of Colombia hen and Hampshire rooster,  
85 increased body weight gain and feed efficiency, but decreased feed conversion ratio.  
86 (Van Antwerpen et al., 2007) reported that additional 2% organic citric acid in the ration  
87 significantly increased protein and fiber digestibilities in broiler chickens. It is clear that  
88 dietary inclusion of acidifier has a positive influence on growth of the chickens through  
89 lowering pH of the digestive tract. Acidic condition of the digestive tract reduced  
90 pathogenic bacteria since they were not succceptible to low pH atmosphere (Ghazalah et  
91 al., 2011). Therefore, acidifier at the same time would function as an antimicrobial  
92 agent. On the other hand, (Ghazalah et al., 2011) also stated that the reduction of  
93 buffering capacity has a positive relation to the coefficient digestibility of protein, fat,  
94 and fiber, as well as the energy metabolism.



118 G2 = 910-1,080 g with an average of  $985.69 \pm 42.04$  g

119 G3 = 1,080 to 1,250 with an average of  $1,160.63 \pm 55.69$  g

120 G4 = 1,250 to 1m420 with an average of  $1,369.06 \pm 65.97$  g

121 The treatments based on the level of lime juice addition to the basal diet were  
122 given for 4 weeks as follows:

123 T0 = no addition of lime juice

124 T1 = addition of 1 mL lime juice/100 g ration

125 T2 = addition of 2 mL lime juice/100 g ration

126 T3 = addition of 3 mL lime juice/100 g ration

127 Parameters observed were daily feed intake, protein, fat, fiber consumptions, and  
128 metabolizable energy, rate of passage, feed conversion ratio and body weight gain.  
129 Coefficient of nutrient digestibility was measured at the end of the experiment using  
130 total collection method, and computed according to Sibbald and Wolynetz (1984), as  
131 follows:

132 1. Coefficient digestibility of protein (CDP, %) =

133 
$$\frac{(\text{crude protein consumption} - \text{excreta protein})}{\text{crude protein consumption}} \times 100\%$$

134 2. Coefficient digestibility of fiber (%) =

135 
$$\frac{(\text{crude fiber consumption} - \text{excreta fiber})}{\text{crude fiber consumption}} \times 100\%$$

136 3. Coefficient digestibility of fat (%) = 
$$\frac{(\text{crude fat consumption} - \text{excreta fat})}{\text{crude fat consumption}} \times 100\%$$

137 4. Apparent Metabolizable Energy (AME, kkal/kg) =

138 
$$\frac{(\text{gross energy consumption} - \text{excreta gross energy})}{\text{feed consumption}} \times 1000$$

139 5. Feed Conversion Ratio =  $\frac{\text{feed consumption}}{\text{body weight gain}}$

140 Rate of passage measurement was recorded based on the total collection method  
141 combined with indicator according to (Indreswari, Wahyuni, Suthama, & Ristiana.,  
142 2009).

## 143 **RESULTS**

### 144 **Effect on Nutrient Utilization**

145 Protein, fat and crude fiber consumptions were not affected by whatever levels  
146 of dietary inclusion of lime juice (Table 2) since feed consumption indicated the same  
147 value among treatments (Table 3). However, feeding lime juice significantly ( $p < 0.05$ )  
148 increased digestibility of nutrient (crude protein, crude fat and crude fiber). When the  
149 inclusion level of lime juice into the rice bran-based ration increased by 2 mL (T2) and  
150 3 mL (T3) the coefficient digestibilities of protein and fat, and apparent metabolizable  
151 energy was significantly higher than control (T0). Coefficient digestibility of protein  
152 improved to be higher by 4 to 5% when the additional level of lime juice into the ration  
153 increased (T2 and T3) as compared to control, the ration without lime juice (T0). The  
154 significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) slower rate of passage and the significant increase in coefficient  
155 digestibility of fiber were only found in the treatment of highest level of lime juice  
156 inclusion (T3). However, both parameters (rate of passage and fiber digestibility)  
157 among other three treatments (T0, T1 and T2) were not significantly different.

158

159

160



161 **Effect on Growth Performance**

162 Feed consumption did not affected by the dietary inclusion of lime juice, but  
163 other parameter such as final body weight, body weight gain either cummulative or  
164 daily measurement, and feed conversion ratio were significantly ( $p<0.05$ ) affected by  
165 the treatment (Table 3). Final body weight and cummulative body weight gain were  
166 significantly ( $p<0.05$ ) improved by the lime juice inclusion of whatever levels with the  
167 highest value when 3 mL lime juice (T3) was given. The different phenomenone was  
168 found for daily body weight gain dan feed conversion ratio that body weight gain  
169 indicated significanly ( $p<0.05$ ) higher value but feed conversion ratio was lower with  
170 feeding 3 mL lime juice (T3) only as compared to that of none lime juice addition (T0).

171

172 **DISCUSSION**

173

174 **Effect on Nutrient Utilization**

175 Feeding lime juice did not interfere with feed consumption since this parameter  
176 indicated the same value among treatments (Table 3). However, the effect of dietary  
177 lime juice inclusion was more profound on nutrien digestibilities. Digestibilities of  
178 nutrient due to the feeding effect of lime juice at 2 mL/100 g ration (T2) and at 3  
179 mL/100 g ration (T3) were significantly higher as compared to that of feeding lime juice  
180 at 1 mL/100 g ration (T1). It is known that feeding lime juice can be able to lowering  
181 the digestive track pH, especially proventriculus and uper intestine, thus stimulating the  
182 digestive enzyme activity. The increase of the determined-metabolizable energy in T2  
183 and T3 was atributable to the the improved digestive process due to the effect of  
184 additional lime juice.

185 Feeding lime juice was also reported to improve the balance of bacterial  
186 population in the digestive tract. The balance improvement is suggested to be correlated  
187 with the change in potential hydrogen since the decrease in digestive tract pH bring  
188 about the beneficial bacteria developed more than pathogenic bacteria. This condition  
189 can ensure the better digestive tract health and thus provided a positive impact on the  
190 utilization of substrate (especially protein) by animal body. The higher protein  
191 availability was closely indicated by the increased protein digestibility and supported by  
192 the improved fiber digestibility and also the slower rate of passage (Table 2).

193 The citric acid content in the lime juice is able to make atmosphere of digestive  
194 tract into acidic condition, hence lowering the pH in the proventriculus, ventriculus and  
195 upper intestine, so that the enzymes in these digestive tract actively work to digest the  
196 dietary protein. As it has been briefly discussed in the previous paragraph that the acidic  
197 condition was also simultaneously suppress the growth of harmful bacteria that can  
198 ultimately improve digestive tract health which in turn would also affect nutrient  
199 digestibility. addition of 3% citric increased nutrient digestibility and apparent  
200 metabolizable energy.(Ghazalah et al., 2011) reported that the addition of acidifier has a  
201 positive influence on the growth of chickens due to the lowering pH of the digestive  
202 tract so that pathogenic bacteria that are not resistant to the low pH can be reduced. This  
203 suggested that acidifier could function as an antimicrobial, lowering the population  
204 count related to the improvement of digestibility values of crude protein, fat and crude  
205 fiber, and metabolizable energy as found in the present study. Gastrointestinal  
206 acidification bring about the impact on both changing the activation of the enzyme  
207 pepsinogen into pepsin and absorb nutrients that have been flattened by microorganisms  
208 (depend on pH range and types of microorganisms). (Martinez-Ameaqua et al., 2006),

209 described that dietary addition of 3% citric acids increased nutrient digestibility and  
210 apparent metabolizable energy. (Van Antwerpen et al., 2007) stated that the feeding  
211 effect of organic citric acid at the level of 2 % significantly increased protein and crude  
212 fiber digestibilities.

### 213 **Effect on Growth Performance**

214 Dietary inclusion of lime juice can increase the efficiency of nutrients utilization  
215 with the consideration that since nutrients consumption was the same but resulted the  
216 increase in nutrients digestibility (Table 2). The beneficial effect of lime juice as a  
217 acidifier was further supported by the data of increased body weight gain with lower  
218 feed conversion ratio (Table 3). Feed conversion ratio in T2 and T3 treatments were  
219 higher when compared to those in T0 and T1. This suggests that the beneficial effect of  
220 lime juice as an acidifier was correlated with the improved nutrients utilization  
221 efficiency. It was consistent with the finding of (Deepa, Jeyanthi, & Chandrasekaran.,  
222 2011) that feeding citric acid could improve body weight gain and feed conversion  
223 ratio.

224 Lowering pH of the digestive tract, due to additional lime juice, increased  
225 digestibility of crude protein because lower digestive tract pH is a favourable condition  
226 to support the activity of digestive enzyme. Digestive enzyme, especially pepsin has an  
227 important role on protein digestion. The increasing protein digestibility (Table 2) is a  
228 substrate contributing higher protein availability for body tissue synthesis. The higher  
229 body tissue synthesis provided an impact on the increase in body weight gain and  
230 improved performance in general. The higher nutrient digestibility, the more can be  
231 absorbed and be utilized for growth of body tissue. Body weight gain is closely related

232 to the increased nutrient digestibility, and the case in the present study was indicated by  
233 the increase of protein digestibility of T2 and T3 ration (addition of 2 mL and 3 mL of  
234 lime juice, respectively). The increase of protein digestibility improved body weight  
235 gain. The present result was consistency with the report of (Rafacz-Livingston et al.,  
236 2005) that the addition of citric acid by 2 to 6% in chicken rations increased body  
237 weight gain, feed efficiency and feed conversion ratio.

238 Other possibility of the improvement performance of male Pelung chicken fed  
239 additional lime juice was possibility due to the presence of flavonoid in lime juice. Lime  
240 juice contain flavonoid which has a positive effect on growth (A, OC, Okeke, & O.,  
241 2004). Chemical property of flavonoid could inhibit growth of virus, bacteria and fungi.  
242 The more specific that active compound of flavonoid has the direct role as an  
243 antibacterial to reduce bacteria activity. Therefore, feeding lime juice contains flavonoid  
244 increasing animal health and finally brought about the higher body weight gain  
245 compared to control. (Barrett, Grandison, & Lewis, 1999) supported the present result  
246 that feeding citric acid increased lymphoid organs weight percentage (bursa fabricius  
247 and thymus) as an indicator body health. Feeding citric acid in broiler chicken even with  
248 low dietary protein level (19%) could increased body health indicated by anti-body titer  
249 (Malkoski et al., 2001).

250 Organic acids were among alternative growth promoters that were being used to  
251 stimulate growth performance in poultry (Biswas, Balac, Narlakanti, Haque, & Hassan,  
252 2013) (Mohamed, Clementine, Didier, Gérard, & Marie Noëlle, 2013). Previous study  
253 demonstrated that supplementation of organic acids to broiler diets increase growth  
254 performance, improve gut morphology, reduce diseases and overcome some  
255 management problems (Gunal, Yayli, Kaya, Karahan, & O. Sulak., 2006) . (Abd El-

256 Hakim, Cherian, & Ali., 2009) found that addition of organic acids to broiler diets  
257 improved FCR and growth performance. (Abdel-Fattah, El-Sanhoury, El-Mednay, &  
258 Abdel-Azeem., 2008) found that broiler chicks fed dietary organic acids had superior  
259 improvement in live body weight, body weight gain and FCR compared to those of  
260 unsupplemented diet. Feed conversion ratio of birds fed lime juice at the level of 0.3 mL  
261 (T3) was lower than that given without lime juice (T0). The present result can be  
262 compromised with the study of (Iqbal, Kazi, Bhangar, Akhtar, & Sarfraz, 2008) who  
263 reported that the birds given diet supplemented with organic acids showed a significant  
264 improvement in FCR as compared to the chicks fed the control diet. (Nezhad, Shivazad,  
265 Nazeeradi, & Babak., 2007) indicated that the addition of citric acid to a broiler diet  
266 improved feed efficiency, and the results implied that the beneficial effects of citric acid  
267 was on feed conversion.

268         Feeding high level of rice bran (60%) contributed to the content of phytate in  
269 feed by 4.14%, because rice bran containing 6.9% phytat. Phytate have affinity as  
270 chelating agent on divalent ions of some minerals (Ca, Fe, Cu, Mn, dan Zn) and also on  
271 protein, thus such nutrients availability for poultry growth is low. This condition can  
272 interfere with the body metabolism and resulted low body weight gain. Phytate affected  
273 the digestibility of dietary protein and amino acids in poultry (Kurniawati & Yuanita.,  
274 2014). The negative effects of phytate in rice bran could be eliminated by addition of  
275 lime juice, and the evidence of the process can be proved by the increased protein  
276 digestibility (Table 2). The increase in digested protein would then correlates with the  
277 increase in absorbed protein, which in turn increased body weight gain. Generally,  
278 ration composed of 20% rice bran or more could inhibit growth due to the presence of  
279 phytic acid, which formed complexes with protein, pectin, and starch or fiber

280 polysaccharides. This would become an obstacle on protein and phosphorus digestion  
281 hence affecting nutrient utilization for growth. Inclusion of citric acid (30 g/kg) in corn-  
282 soybean based diet for chicken with low native phytase activity and supplementation of  
283 microbial phytase increased protein and phosphorus depositions, and growth  
284 performance (Sukria & Liebert., 2004).

285

286

### CONCLUSION

287 Based on the results of the research can be concluded that the best nutrient  
288 utilization is achieved by T3 treatment, namely rice bran-based diet added with 3 mL  
289 lime juice. Dietary inclusion of higher level of lime juice in male Pelung chicken can  
290 enhance the nutrient digestibility and finally resulting the increase in body weight gain  
291 and improvement of feed conversion ratio.

292

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Table 1. Basal Rations and Nutrient Content (As Fed Weight Basis)

| Feedstuff                  | Composition |
|----------------------------|-------------|
|                            | -----%----- |
| Rice Bran                  | 60          |
| Concentrate CP 521 Merck   | 35          |
| Mineral Mix                | 5           |
| Total                      | 100         |
| Nutritional Content (%) :  |             |
| Metabolic Energy (kcal/kg) | 2,353.91    |
| Crude Protein (%)          | 14.57       |
| Crude Fat (%)              | 6.57        |
| Crude Fiber (%)            | 21.37       |
| Calcium (%)                | 0.45        |
| Phosphor (%)               | 0.34        |

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Table 2. Average of Nutrient Consumption, Coefficient Digestibility of Protein, Fat, Fiber and Apparent Metabolizable Energy of Rice Bran-Based Ration with Added Lime Juice Fed to 12 Weeks Old Male Pelung Chicken

| Parameter                                | Treatments                |                            |                           |                           |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | T0<br>(0 mL)              | T1<br>(1 mL)               | T2<br>(2 mL)              | T3<br>(3 mL)              |
| Protein consumption (g)                  | 14.28±1.08                | 15.16±2.15                 | 14.42±3.28                | 14.76±3.34                |
| Fat consumption (g)                      | 6.44±1.56                 | 6.84±1.72                  | 6.51±1.58                 | 6.65±1.14                 |
| Fiber consumption (g)                    | 20.94±1.26                | 22.24±1.37                 | 21.16±0.98                | 21.64±1.15                |
| Rate of passage (min)                    | 183.60±5.74 <sup>b</sup>  | 205.58±10.04 <sup>ab</sup> | 203.28±5.75 <sup>ab</sup> | 221.23±10.36 <sup>a</sup> |
| Coefficient digestibility of protein (%) | 72.79±1.18 <sup>b</sup>   | 73.65±1.24 <sup>b</sup>    | 76.90±1.05 <sup>a</sup>   | 77.43±1.74 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Coefficient digestibility of fat (%)     | 71.85±2.66 <sup>b</sup>   | 74.40±2.00 <sup>b</sup>    | 83.87±2.66 <sup>a</sup>   | 82.06±2.70 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Coefficient digestibility of fiber (%)   | 19.18±2.35 <sup>b</sup>   | 22.59±2.14 <sup>ab</sup>   | 23.16±2.37 <sup>ab</sup>  | 25.18±2.15 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Apparent Metabolizable Energy (kcal/kg)  | 2401.99±5.30 <sup>b</sup> | 2420.90±4.56 <sup>b</sup>  | 2532.67±5.08 <sup>a</sup> | 2553.60±5.86 <sup>a</sup> |

373 <sup>a-b</sup>Mean value of each parameter followed by different superscript showed significantly difference  
 374 (P≤0.05)  
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377 Table 3. Average of Feed Consumption, Daily Weight Gain and Feed  
 378 Conversion Ratio of 12 Weeks Old male Pelung Chicken Rice Fed  
 379 Bran-Based Ration with Added Lime Juice Fed  
 380

| Parameter                             | Treatments                 |                            |                             |                           |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
|                                       | T0<br>(0 mL)               | T1<br>(1 mL)               | T2<br>(2 mL)                | T3<br>(3 mL)              |
| Feed consumption (g/bird/day)         | 98.00±5.90                 | 104.08±6.41                | 99.03±4.59                  | 101.27±5.39               |
| Initial body weight (g/bird)          | 998.50±12.44               | 1058.66±13.09              | 1095.54±13.52               | 1085.45±11.64             |
| Final body weight (g/bird)            | 1331.10±10.05 <sup>c</sup> | 1400.46±12.44 <sup>b</sup> | 1446.38±11.88 <sup>ab</sup> | 1481.65±9.05 <sup>a</sup> |
| Cummulative body weight gain (g/bird) | 332.60±7.12 <sup>c</sup>   | 341.80±8.80 <sup>b</sup>   | 350.84±9.10 <sup>ab</sup>   | 396.2±7.27 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Daily body weight gain (g/bird/day)   | 10.85±0.71 <sup>b</sup>    | 12.95±1.16 <sup>ab</sup>   | 12.53±0.89 <sup>ab</sup>    | 14.15±1.69 <sup>a</sup>   |
| Feed conversion ratio                 | 9.02±4.08 <sup>b</sup>     | 8.04±4.70 <sup>ab</sup>    | 7.90±5.04 <sup>ab</sup>     | 7.16±4.82 <sup>a</sup>    |

381 <sup>a-c</sup>Mean value of each parameter followed by different superscript showed significantly difference  
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Bogor, August 22, 2016

**Subject: Final Decision of Your Manuscript**

Dear I. Mangisah, B. Sukamto, H. I. Wahyuni, I. Estiningdriati, W. Saputro, & L. Krismiyanto:

I am pleased to inform you that your article submitted to Media Peternakan, entitled: "Nutrient Digestibility and Performance of Male Pelung Chicken Fed Rice Bran-Based Ration Supplemented with Lime (*Citrus aurantifolia*) Juice" has been approved to be published in Media Peternakan Vol. 39 No. 2 Year 2016 (August Edition). Please find the PROOF of your manuscript in the attached file. If there are still any corrections in the manuscript, please give us the revised article before August 25, 2016.

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Thank you for your article submission, and we are looking forward to receive your incoming articles.

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