Influence of a staggered Savoury content in hen diets on laying and breeding performance

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Herbs or herbal plant extracts can beneficially affect the feed intake, secretion of digestive juices and the immune system of animals. The objective of these studies was to determine the effect of a diet supplemented with savoury on performance of laying hens. Laying hybrids were allocated to 4 or 6 groups with 36 hens per group over 13 laying month. Three times eggs were stored in the incubator. The effect of savoury (5/10 g/kg) was investigated and in Trial 2, two groups could choose between a control diet and a diet with Savoury. In Trial 1 10 g Savoury significantly decreased egg weight in comparison to the control and the 5 g Savoury group. In Trial 2 supplement of Savoury decreased the daily feed intake of the hens. In the two groups choosing diets, feed intake of the control diet was significantly higher. The daily egg production mass was significantly reduced in the groups with Savoury diet and the choice diet group with 5 g Savoury. Only in the choice group with 10 g Savoury did the hens achieve the same level of egg mass production as the control animals. The hatching parameters were not influenced by the feed supplement.