FECT OF DIFFERENT FEED SUPPLEMENTS ON THE GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF RABBITS (Oryctolagus cuniculus)

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EFFECTS OF DIFFERENT FEED SUPPLEMENTS ON THE GROWTH PERFORMANCE OF RABBITS (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*)

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A Research Paper Submitted to the Faculty of the Agricultural Science Department of the Don Severino Agricultural College, Indang, Cavite in partial fulfillment of the requirements in Applied Research IV

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Adviser: Mr. Eraño C. Esguerra

Sixteen (16) one month old New Zealand rabbits were subjected to four dietary treatments: namely: control (T_1), camote leaves and vines (T_2), kang-kong leaves and stems (T_3), and ipil-ipil leaves (T_4).

There were insignificant differences on the total and daily gain in weight of the animals, total feed consumption and on the total and daily increase in body length of the animals.

Camote vines (T_2) were the best supplement to female rabbits (S_1) compared to kang-kong and ipil-ipil since they exhibited a better result in terms of total gain in weight. Even if it has the lowest protein content as compared to other supplements (PCRRD, 1976) the amount accepted by the animal affected its weight.

In male (S_2), ipil-ipil (T_4) showed the most favorable result. Its acceptance is low but the protein content of this supplement is the highest (PCRRD, 1976).

Ipil-ipil (T_4) showed favorable result of weight for it has the greatest increase in terms of liveweight.

Its consumption rate is the lowest as compared to other supplements.

Ipil-ipil contributed great effect on the body length of the animal. Since the body length is proportional to the weight of the animal.

Ipil-ipil supplement eliminates the behavior of wood gnawing of the rabbits because the 12% crude fiber required by the animal which other supplements do not satisfy.

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by

ADRIEL DAVE A. ALVAREZ

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INTRODUCTION

Rabbits, scientifically known as *Oryctolagus cuniculus*), are future sources of meat in the coming generation. It is a promising source of income not only for the family but for the economy as well. Rabbits are fast multiplier even though it needs only enough time for their management. They can be checked only when necessary. But rabbits, as well as other livestock, are now considered as small farm animals. The size of rabbits is somewhat larger than a matured cat.