

Supplementation of black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*) on productivity and blood hematology

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ABSTRACT: *Black Soldier Fly* larvae are natural antibiotics. The use of methanol extract in BSF larvae has a dual function, namely high protein content and high antibiotic content to kill Gram-negative bacteria. The biological structure of BSF larvae with *antimicrobial peptide* (AMP) acts as an inhibitor of pathogenic microorganisms, has a high lauric acid function as a natural antimicrobial and chitin, the polysaccharide plays a role in enhancing the immune response of the animal. This study aims to gain the best type of BSF protein from feed treatments containing live BSF, dry BSF, and BSF extract to increase blood productivity and hematology. The results of this study show that the best P3 treatment for the productivity of laying hens at the age of 18 to 26 weeks with the use of BSF extract since it contains the highest protein compared to other treatments. Productivity variables show the best P3 treatment, each egg weight 57.17 g bird⁻¹, daily egg production 90.88%, egg mass 2408.16 g bird⁻¹ and ration conversion 2.0. The mean hematology of the blood showed the highest P3 treatment, each erythrocyte $2.91 \pm 0.13 \times 10^6 \text{ mm}^{-3}$, leucocytes $17.69 \pm 3.68 \times 10^3 \text{ mm}^{-3}$, hematocrit $27.8 \pm 1.14\%$, hemoglobin $9.96 \pm 1.12\%$, MCV $95.77 \pm 4.41 \text{ fl}$, MCHC $35.99 \pm 5.21\%$, MCH $34.38 \pm 4.53 \text{ pg}$, lymphocytes $61.2 \pm 4.86\%$, heterophile $31.2 \pm 2\%$, monocytes $5 \pm 0.62\%$ and ratio H/L 0.51 ± 0.04 .

Keywords: black Soldier Fly (BSF); antimicrobial peptide (AMP); productivity; hematology.

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INTRODUCTIONS

AGP (antibiotic growth promoter) improves chicken performance. It is estimated that the use of AGP increases chicken growth by 4-8% and feed conversion by 2-5%. The role of AGP can kill pathogenic bacteria in the digestion of chickens, such as *Salmonella* sp., *Campylobacter* sp., *Enterococci* sp., and *Escherichia coli*. Uncontrolled and inappropriate use of antibiotics leads to microbial resistance to these antibiotics. This problem requires a solution in the form of a product that can boost livestock growth without causing resistance. AGP problems are also associated with local Indonesian fishmeal whose quality does not meet the standards of quality fish meal requirements for animal feed ingredients and whose price is high. Alternative solutions for animal protein are needed at affordable prices and as a replacement for AGP, namely Black Soldier Fly (BSF).

BSF larvae (Black Soldier Fly) have a relatively high protein content of 40-50% and a fat content of 29-32% (Bosch *et al.*, 2014). According to Rambet *et al.* (2016), BSF flour has the potential role in replacing fishmeal up to 100% for broiler feeds, without affecting the digestibility of the dry matter (57.96 - 60.42%), energy (62.03 - 64.77%) and protein (64.59 - 75.32%). BSF larvae also have the enzymes protease, amylase and lipase; proteases convert proteins into amino acids, amylases convert starch into maltose and lipases convert fats into fatty acids and glycerol (Kim *et al.*, 2011). BSF larvae are natural antibiotics. BSF larvae extracted with methanol solvent have been reported to exhibit antibiotic properties in Gram-negative bacteria such as *Klebsiella pneumonia*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and *Shigella sonnei*.

Conversely, the results of the analysis also showed that larval extracts were not effective for Gram-positive bacteria such as *Bacillus subtilis*, *Streptococcus mutans* and *Sarcina lutea* (Choi *et al.*, 2012). Methanol extract from BSF larvae can inhibit the

proliferation of Gram-negative bacteria and thus double their use as animal feed sources, namely high protein content and high antibiotic content, to kill harmful Gram-negative bacteria. According to Choi *et al.* (2012), there is an antimicrobial activity of hemophilia and BSF larval extract. The innate immune system of all insect classes has adapted well in extreme environments such as excrement, excrement, compost and organic waste containing bacteria, viruses and fungi. The biological structure of BSF larvae has antimicrobial peptides (AMPs) that act as inhibitors of pathogenic microorganisms (Park *et al.*, 2014). This view is supported by Kim and Rhee (2016) that high lauric acid BSF larvae are a type of fatty acid that acts as a natural antimicrobial agent and chitin. Polysaccharides play a role in enhancing the immune response of the animal (Bovera *et al.*, 2015).

Maggot is the larvae of black soldiers or flower insects. They have a strict consistency. In the digestive tract are digestive enzymes (amylase, lipase and protease), which convert organic waste into protein and body fat. *Hermetia illucens* larvae also have the enzymes protease, amylase and lipase. Proteases convert proteins into amino acids; amylases convert starch into maltose and lipases convert fats into fatty acids and glycerol. (Kim *et al.*, 2011). Enzymes are a group of proteins that regulate and conduct chemical changes in biological systems. Enzymes are produced by organs in animals and plants that catalytically carry out various reactions such as hydrolysis, oxidation, reduction, isomerization, addition, radical transfer, and carbon chain breakage (Sumardjo, 2009). The nutrient content of maggots (*Hermetia illucens*) was among others: energy 5 282 Kcal GE / kg, crude protein 42.1%, fat 26%, calcium 7.56% and phosphorus 0.9% (Newton *et al.*, 1977; Arango Gutierrez *et al.*, 2004, St-Hillaire *et al.*, 2007, and Makkar *et al.*, 2014). It was reported that the calcium mineral contained

in the BSF flour was 88% (Finke, 2012). Another advantage is that it has antimicrobial and antifungal properties so that it can increase the body's resistance to bacterial and fungal diseases.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

The BSF larvae used were obtained from PT. Indo Bogor Biocycle. The larvae used received rations in the form of crude palm oil wastes and were harvested at the age of 15 days. After harvest, the larvae were treated with three forms, namely was fresh BSF, dried BSF and BSF extract.

Making Feed from BSF

Fresh BSF. In this method, a self-mixing system (basal) is used, i.e. all feed components are divided into rations according to the nutrient requirements of the laying hens, as shown in table 1. Fresh BSF is given after the basal ration has spread in the ration (topping) (Barros *et al.*, 2014).

Dried BSF. The first stage of dried BSF production was to separate pupa from the cocoon layer by washing and steaming at 95-100°C for 10 minutes. The larvae were then heated to 55°C for 24 hours to remove the water. Then the larva was ground to the flour with a blender and put in airtight plastic. The percentage of fishmeal used in the basic ration was reduced to 5% and 8% BSF (dry). The processing of BSF by a drying process may increase the possibility of transmitting pathogenic bacteria to livestock such as *Salmonella sp.* (Lalander *et al.*, 2013).

Extract BSF. The steps for producing the BSF extract were carried out according to the modified method of Choi

et al. (2012). BSF larvae were washed and steamed for 10 minutes at 95-100°C (steam), then the larvae were heated at 55°C for 24 hours to remove water, then the larvae were ground to flour with a blender and then with a denanol ratio of 1:10 (b/v) for 24 hours at room temperature, then the solution was filtered out twice with Whatman paper. The extract was then evaporated using an evaporator rotary vacuum at 40°C.

Chemical Properties of BSF

Analysis of nutrient content and amino acid composition in fresh BSF, dry BSF, and BSF extract. Nutrient content analysis methods using proximity tests with fresh BSF, dried BSF and BSF extracts, including analysis of dry matter (%), crude protein (%), crude fiber (%), crude fat (%), Ash (%), gross energy, metabolic energy, calcium, phosphorus and NaCl.

The analysis of protein quality in fresh BSF, dry BSF, and BSF extract consisted of chemical amino acid evaluations, amino acid content and essential amino acid index (IAAE). The first step is the analysis of the amino acid content by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) according to the IK.LP-04.7-LT-1.0 method, then the calculation of the chemical scores of the amino acids and the IAAE is performed. According to McDonald *et al.* (2010), the formula for calculating the chemical amino acid values for fresh BSF, dried BSF and BSF extracts is chemical evaluation = (the most deficient content of essential amino acids in the sample / amino acids similar to eggs) x 100. According to McDonald *et al.* (2010) IAAE calculation formula for fresh BSF, dry BSF and BSF extract are:

$$\text{IAAE} = (A/A_e \times B/B_e \times C/C_e \times \dots \times J/J_e)^{1/n}$$

information :

A, B, C, J : concentration (g kg⁻¹) of fresh essential BSF amino acids
A_e, B_e, C_e, J_e : concentration (g kg⁻¹) of the same essential amino acids found in eggs
n : the amount of essential amino acids that are counted

The explanation of the above formula is that the total essential amino acids contained in the tested ration material and compared with the total essential amino acids contained in foods, namely protein, are compared. The higher the IAAE value, the higher the quality of the protein. The provisions of this formula also apply to dry BSF and BSF extracts.

Maintenance of Laying Hens

Laying hens were placed in group battery cages (4 treatments x 5 replications x 10 heads). Maintenance was carried out for eight weeks, starting with the age of chicken 18 weeks to 26 weeks. Provision of 120 g / head/day ration and drinking water was given in ad libitum. The provision of

treatment rations was given twice a day at 08.00 am and at 03.00 pm. Every day a record of the cage's temperature and humidity was carried out, feed consumption, egg production, HDP and mortality. Egg collection was carried out every day at 09.00 am, then weighing and counting the number of eggs obtained.

Calculation of Production Performance of Laying Hens

Feed consumption (g bird⁻¹ day⁻¹). The difference in ration administration with the rest of the ration for a week. Consumption of cumulative ration and consumption of daily ration per bird. According to Scott et al. (1992), the formula for calculating ration consumption is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cumulative feed consumption (g bird}^{-1}\text{)} &= \frac{\text{feed intake (g)} - \text{feed leftovers (g)}}{\text{total of laying hens (bird)}} \\ \text{Daily feed consumption (g bird}^{-1}\text{ day}^{-1}\text{)} &= \frac{\text{feed intake (g)} - \text{feed leftovers (g)}}{\text{total of laying hens (bird)} \times 7 \text{ (day)}} \end{aligned}$$

Egg weight (g bird⁻¹). Egg weight was measured by daily weighing during the study and then averaged according to treatment and replication.

Hen day production (%). The percentage comparison between the number of eggs produced by laying hens in a group for one day and the number of chickens in this group. According to Djulardi (2006), the formula for calculating Hen Day Production is:

$$\text{HDP(\%)} = \frac{\text{total eggs}}{\text{total of laying hens (bird)}} \times 100\%$$

Egg mass production (g bird⁻¹). Calculation of egg mass production is obtained by multiplying hen day production by egg weight.

Feed conversion. The ratio between ration consumption and body weight gain or egg mass production. According to Yuwanta (2010), the formula for calculating feed conversion is:

$$\text{Feed conversion} = \frac{\text{feed intake (g week}^{-1}\text{)}}{\text{egg mass production (g week}^{-1}\text{)}}$$

Blood drawing

Blood sampling was carried out in the last week of the study, which is the twenty-sixth week; this blood sample was used for hematological analysis. When blood is drawn in the morning. Blood collection from the jugular vein is 3 ml and put in a tube containing an anticoagulant (EDTA / Ethylenediaminetetraacetic Acid).

In vitro antibacterial activity test on fresh BSF, dry BSF and BSF extract

The preparation of the ingredients starts with the production of fresh BSF, dried BSF, and BSF extract. The next process is the sterilization of tools and media from MHA (*Muller Hilton Agar*). Tools and media used for antibacterial tests were sterilized using an autoclave at 121°C in 30 minutes. This study uses the agar diffusion method (inhibition of zone growth) against *Salmonella enteritidis* strains.

These bacteria were subcultured in *Tryptic soy agar* (TSA) medium and incubated at 350 ° C for 24 hours. Bacteria derived from subcultures grown in TSA medium are suspended until a population of

10^7 CFU/ml is obtained. Volumetric pipettes take up to 0.1 ml of suspension and are then added to the MHA medium by leveling the surface of the MHA medium with a spatula. The MHA medium was allowed to stand at room temperature for 15 minutes. Fresh BSF, dried BSF, and BSF extract was mixed with a solution of dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) at varying concentrations, dissolved ie 10 mg ml^{-1} ; 20 mg ml^{-1} ; 40 mg ml^{-1} ; 160 mg ml^{-1} and 320 mg ml^{-1} . Medium MHA holes depressions. A solution of $20 \text{ }\mu\text{l}$ of fresh BSF, dry BSF and BSF extract from each concentration was added to a well in MHA medium and then incubated at 350°C for 24 to 48 hours (McBeath, 1992). Each treatment was

tested for antibacterial activity as indicated by the diameter of the clear zone that forms around the hole. Evaluation of inhibition of bacteria, namely: strong with clear zones $> 6 \text{ mm}$, moderate with clear zones $<3-6 \text{ mm}$ and weak with clear zones $<3 \text{ mm}$ (Pan *et al.*, 2009).

Statistical Analysis

Physical quality, chemical quality testing of egg-laying eggs, IOFC, blood lipid metabolism test for laying hens were analyzed using randomized design followed with an advanced test using Duncan (Mattjik dan Sumertajaya, 2002). Data processing was done by using the computer software program of Microsoft Excel 2010 and SPSS for Windows version 21.

Table 1. The composition of the isoprotein formulation and the nutrient content of the treatment ration

Material	Treatment (%)			
	P0	P1	P2	P3
Maize	56,12	54,67	54,50	54,01
Bran	6,92	3,60	5,63	6,74
Coconut oil	1,98	1,95	1,70	1,96
Fish meal	8,00	5,00	5,00	5,00
Soybean meal	22,65	22,45	20,84	19,96
Fresh BSF	-	8,00	-	-
Dried BSF	-	-	8,00	-
extract BSF	-	-	-	8,00
CaCO ₃	3,49	3,49	3,49	3,49
Salt	0,24	0,24	0,24	0,24
Premix	0,20	0,20	0,20	0,20
Methionine	0,20	0,20	0,20	0,20
Lysin	0,20	0,20	0,20	0,20
Total	100	100	100	100
Proximate composition ¹⁾				
Crude Protein (%)	20,16	20,01	20,00	20,00
Crude Fat (%)	5,31	6,70	6,96	6,63
Crude Fiber (%)	2,78	2,92	3,20	3,34
Metabolis Energy (kkal kg ⁻¹)	2900,55	2908,10	2901,43	2903,88
Calسيوم (%)	4,00	4,01	4,00	4,10
Phosphor (%)	0,36	0,27	0,27	0,27
Lysin (%)	0,86	0,87	0,85	0,88
Methionine (%)	0,44	0,44	0,49	0,45

¹⁾ Calculation results based on Leeson and Summers (2005), P0: ration contains 8% fish meal; P1: ration with 5% fish meal + 8% fresh BSF; P2: ration with 5% fish meal + 8% dried BSF; P3: ration with 5% fish meal + 8% extract BSF.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The quality of essential amino acids of Black Soldier Fly larvae

The results of the analysis of amino acid compositions in Black Soldier Fly larvae as compared to fish meal and eggs are shown in Table 2. Amino acids play an essential role in controlling egg size (Leeson and Summers 2005). Insects have a high crude protein content, which is composed of different types of amino acids. Three types of amino acids play an essential role in the immune system,

including arginine, histidine and glutamine. According to Taruan (2012), this glutamine derives from the synthesis of the amino acid glutamic, which plays a role in immune cells.

The IAAE values in the BSF type were lower compared to the fish meal (34.08). 53.18 and 56.65. The IAAE value is determined by calculating the content of all essential amino acids in feed components compared to eggs, as the content of essential amino acids is complete/standard.

Table 2. Comparison of BSF larvae amino acid content compared with fish meal and eggs

Type of Amino Acid	Contents (% b/b)*				
	Fresh BSF ¹⁾	Dried BSF ¹⁾	Extract BSF ¹⁾	Fish meal ²⁾	egg ³⁾
Histidine	1.58	1.99	2.37	1.16	2.1
Threonine	1.78	2.55	2.53	1.95	4.9
Tyrosine	2.03	4.34	3.88	1.56	4.5
Methionine	1.41	1.60	1.75	1.26	4.1
Valin	1.92	2.99	3.74	2.52	7.3
Phenylalanine	1.85	2.85	3.01	1.95	6.3
Isoleucine	1.71	2.23	4.42	1.99	8
Leucine	1.99	3.64	2.98	3.65	9.2
Lysine	1.70	2.44	2.47	3.41	7.2
Arginine	1.93	3.02	4.26	2.52	6.4
Serin	1.81	2.49	4.33	1.69	8.5
Glutamic acid	2.27	4.68	5.36	6.13	14.3
Alanine	2.06	2.92	3.67	3.02	6.2
Glycine	1.97	3.40	3.74	3.41	3.6
Aspartic acid	1.97	3.64	4.32	4.67	9.4
Proline	1.91	2.81	3.64	2.34	4.4
Chemical score⁴⁾	29.51	39.02	42.68	55.24	100
essential amino acid index⁵⁾	34.08	53.18	56.65	56.79	-

*The content is based on total amino acids; ¹⁾analysis results from PT. Saraswanti Indo Genetech (2019); ²⁾Heuże *et al.* (2015); ³⁾Leeson and Summers (2005); ^{4,5)}Calculation results are based on amino acid content (McDonald *et al.* 2010).

Based on Table 2, the chemical and IAAE values are directly proportional to the value of protein quality in the feed ingredients. The quality of the feed is determined by the amount of amino acid composition in the nutrients of the feed. Amino acids are divided into two groups, essential amino acids, and nonessential

amino acids. Essential amino acids are easily absorbed by the body so that they support the metabolism but can not be produced in the body. Therefore, it must be added in the form of a feed to meet the nutrient needs. The amount of amino acid composition in the feed can directly affect the protein content needed to produce the

ration (McDonald et al., 2010). The data in Table 2 show that BSF larvae have different amino acid compositions. Due to the high protein content, BSF larvae also contain all essential amino acids, in particular, methionine as a limiting factor for plant protein.

There is an equation for the highest amino acid content in live BSF. Dried BSF and BSF extract are glutamic acid, including nonessential amino acids, which equals 2.27%, 4.68% and 5.36%. The equation is also seen in the lowest essential amino acid content (deficiency) for live BSF, dried BSF and BSF extract is methionine, which is 1.41%; 1.60% and 1.75%. Proteins and amino acids (especially methionine) play an important role in controlling egg size, poultry size, and genetic makeup (Leeson and Summers 2005).

In general, the ratio of BSF amino acid extract content is higher compared to fish meal, except for leucine, lysine, glutamic acid and aspartic acid. The method of reducing protein quality in feed ingredients can be performed by calculating

the chemical and IAAE scores. The chemical evaluation of the BSF type is lower than the chemical evaluation of fish meal of 55.24%. The chemical score is determined by the results of amino acid calculations, which are compared between the amino acid content of the poorest dietary constituents (lowest score) of similar amino acids to eggs, as these have a complete/standard protein. The essential amino acids contained in the egg protein have a chemical value of 100 and are therefore used as a standard/comparison of a feed component of Leeson and Summers (2005).

Effect of treatment on production performance of laying hens aged 18-26 weeks

The average performance data of laying hens aged 18 to 26 weeks during the study are shown in Table 3. Based on the analysis results, it was found that the use of BSF larvae as a feed supplement in the diet had no significant effect on feed consumption and feed conversion, but had a significant impact on egg production and egg mass (p <0.05).

Tabel 3. The average performance of laying hens is 18-26 weeks

Variable	Treatment			
	P0	P1	P2	P3
Feed consumption (g bird ⁻¹ day ⁻¹)	112.15	112.10	112.16	112.12
Egg weight (g bird ⁻¹)	54.82	53.56	54.76	57.17
Hen day production (%)	81.71	86.93	81.95	90.88
Egg mass production (g bird ⁻¹)	1845.37	2064.66	1851.46	2408.16
Feed conversion	2.29	2.17	2.20	2.00

Note : Different superscripts on the same line show significant differences (P <0.05). P0: Ration contains 8% fish meal. P1: Ration contains 5% fish meal + 8% fresh BSF. P2: Rations containing 5% fish meal + 8% dried BSF. P3: Ration containing 5% fish meal + 8% BSF extract.

Several factors affect the performance of chickens in rations containing BSF larvae. First, BSF contains a lot of protein and fat, which can affect the digestibility and palatability of larvae flour. BSF Kroeckel *et al.* (2012). Second, the main causes of reduced feed consumption in chickens are the high ash content in BSF larvae and the higher inclusion rates in feed

components (Makkar *et al.*, 2014). Third, different or unprocessed on fresh BSF processing methods may affect the digestibility of chickens so that the whole body parts of the BSF larvae are not optimally exposed in the chicken body (Dierenfeld and King, 2009). Fourth, many studies indicate that BSF larvae flour is high in protein, but it is important to

conduct a thorough assessment of the limiting amino acids in diets containing BSF larvae (Barragan *et al.*, 2017). Fifth, bacteria isolated from BSF larvae can be used as probiotics to improve animal performance, such as those found in fish (Ushakova *et al.*, 2016). Sixth, the high lipid content in BSF larvae is related to the oxidation process at high temperatures, or in the body. The BSF larvae are contained against diet, flavonoids, and terpenoids (Belluco *et al.* 2013, Shantibala *et al.*, 2014). Laying hens in the laying period is faster in metabolic processes than in the growing season, as laying hens have an energy requirement for producing an egg of 65-110 kcal (Amrullah 2004).

Feed consumption

The feed consumption data for laying hens by adding different BSF treatments in the diet (P1, P2, and P3) did not differ significantly from the consumption of the control ration (P0). These data show that the addition of various mixed BSF larvae did not affect the palatability of laying hens. However, it was found that the highest consumption of P2 treatment ration was 112.16 g compared to other treatments (Table 3). According to Damayanti *et al.* (2017), the particle size of the feed affects the homogeneity of the distribution of feed ingredients, which correlates with the liability when mixed and processed into rations. The P1 treatment in this study used live BSF larvae that were carried out after the preparation of the ration by spreading (topping). However, based on the data in Table 3, the P1 treatment did not affect the ration consumption compared to the P0, P2, and P3 treatments. The value for laying hens in this study is lower than the standard use level for ISA BROWN laying hens 18-26 weeks of age, which is 115 g bird⁻¹ day⁻¹ (Hendrix Genetic Company 2015).

Egg weight

Based on Table 3, the use of BSF larvae in the diet had a significant effect on egg weight ($P < 0.05$). The results showed a weight at the lowest P1 treatment, while the highest P3 treatment was compared with P0

and P2 treatments. The mean value of all examined eggs ranged from 53.56 to 57.17 g, point 1 (Table 3).

The P3 treatment has a higher protein because it contains BSF extract as the availability of essential amino acids is more balanced, so it can more efficiently be converted to egg weight (Leeson and Summers 2005). The weight value of laying hens in this study is lower than the standard weight of ISA BROWN laying hens at the age of 18 to 26 weeks, which is 60.8 g of item-1 (Hendrix Genetic Company 2015). The average egg weight of the P3 treatment, i.e., rationing containing the BSF extract, was the highest compared to other treatments. Several factors affecting egg weight include genetics, age, diet, poultry body size, climate, egg production, protein, and amino acids (especially methionine), which play an important role in the control of egg size. Leeson and Summers (2005).

Hen day production

Based on Table 3, the use of BSF larvae in the diet had a significant effect on egg weight ($P < 0.05$). The results of the analysis of variance showed that egg production was highest in P3 treatment compared to other treatments, namely, 90.88%. The production value of laying hen eggs in this study is below the standard value of ISA BROWN for laying hens production at 96% after 26 weeks (Hendrix Genetic Company 2015). According to Farooq *et al.* (2002) are various factors influencing egg production, chicken stocks, the age of first oviposition, ration, mortality, clubbing, health and maintenance management, maximum egg production and persistence of oviposition. The research results of Kirunda *et al.* (2001) have the result that at high temperatures, the egg production of white Leghorns decreases. High ambient temperatures lead to a decrease in egg production, so more energy is needed to help the laying hens to regulate their body temperature, while a reduction in feed consumption results in a reduced diet of the body, resulting in reduced egg

production (Bird *et al.* 2003) and Mashaly *et al.* (2004). Low feed consumption and energy consumption during the production phase can lead to a reduction in egg production and mass (Widjastuti *et al.*, 2014).

Egg mass production

Based on Table 3, the use of BSF larvae in the diet significantly affected the egg period ($P < 0.05$). The average egg mass production during this study ranged from 1845.37 to 2408.16 g bird⁻¹ (Table 3). The P3 treatment had a higher egg mass value than the normal ISA BROWN lay 26 weeks at 2300 g bird⁻¹ (Hendrix Genetic Company 2015), whereas the P0, P1, and P2 treatments had a lower than egg standard P0 was 1845.37 g bird⁻¹, P1 was 2064.66 g bird⁻¹ and P2 was 1851.46 g bird⁻¹. The quality of the protein in the ration plays an important role in the production of egg mass, which correlates closely with egg weight and egg production. According to Mousavi *et al.* (2013) that the balance of protein and amino acid content in the diet can increase optimal productivity. Egg mass values are influenced by heat stress, egg production and egg weight (Vercese *et al.*, 2012). Sh *et al.* (2013) found that the value of low egg mass production correlated positively with the value of low egg mass production, while egg mass production was the result of egg daily egg production.

Feed conversion

Based on Table 3, the use of BSF larvae in the diet had no significant effect on feed conversion ($P < 0.05$). The average ration conversion in this study ranged from 2.29 to 2.00 (Table 3). The P3 treatment had the lowest conversion value of 2.00, the provision of BSF extract-containing rations had no significant effect on feed conversion to laying hens. The ratio of ration consumption between treatments was not very different, but the P3 treatment had the highest egg weight, the highest daily egg production and the highest egg mass compared to other treatments. The P3 treatment has a lower ration conversion

value compared to the standard conversion of ISA BROWN laying hens at 26 weeks from 1.95 (Hendrix Genetic Company 2015).

The P1 treatment has a feed conversion value of 2.17, the provision of BSF containing rations also has no significant effect on feed conversion in laying hens, indicating that the BSF seeding method of life after ration preparation (topping) has no significant effect the feed conversion has ($P < 0.05$). One of the parameters for the efficiency of livestock in the conversion of spent rations is that the conversion value of the rations is lower than between treatments, as the conversion value of the rations increases, the higher the cost of production (expensive). Some factors influencing ration transformation are egg production, nutrient nutrition and egg weight. Research by Cayan and Erener (2015) has shown that the conversion of 22 weeks of old Lohmann brown chicken rations fed with olive leaf meal is 2.05-2.07.

Effect of treatment on blood hematology of 26-week-old laying hens

Mean hematological data from 26-week old laying hens are shown in Table 4. Based on the analysis results, it was found that the use of BSF larvae as fish meal supplement feed had no significant effect on the erythrocytes, the mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration (MCHC) and the mean corpuscular concentration volume (MCV), mean corpuscular hemoglobin (MCH), heterophile / Lymphocyte (H/L) ratio, however, has a significant effect on hematocrit, leukocytes, hemoglobin, lymphocytes, heterophile and monocytes ($P < 0.05$). According to Guyton and Hall (2010), cattle have normal hematology in healthy conditions.

Each component of the blood cells circulates in blood vessels. Hematologic features of the blood aim to determine the onset of the disease and to provide information on physiological changes and pathological conditions. External causes of physiological changes are microorganism

diseases and changes in ambient temperature, while changes are caused internally by age, nutritional status, health, body heat and stress (Guyton and Hall 2010). The hematological profile of the blood is influenced by the provision of rations containing different BSF types for each treatment. Based on Table 2, the amount of amino acid composition in feeds can improve the ration quality so that the protein performance in the ration can be met (McDonald *et al.*, 2010). Rations containing live BSF have advantages, namely a high lauric acid content, which acts as a natural antimicrobial agent (Bovera *et al.*, 2015). Living BSF has a high chitin content so it can enhance the body's immune response (Schiavone *et al.*, 2017). The antimicrobial content of peptides derived from amino acids can

inhibit the growth of pathogenic bacteria in the digestive tract (Park *et al.* 2014), whereas dried BSF and BSF extracts have no chitin during processing due to the steam process.

Chitin is a fibrous protein that is not water-soluble but is damaged by denaturation (Klunder *et al.*, 2012). The benefit of dry BSF is a longer storage life of the feed as it eliminates water content and reduces fat (Klunder *et al.*, 2012). The ration containing additional BSF has advantages, namely, that BSF larvae extracted with methanol as a solvent have antibiotic properties in Gram-negative bacteria (Choi *et al.*, 2012), so their use as an animal feed source has a dual function, namely high protein content and high antibiotic content to kill harmful Gram-negative bacteria.

Table 4. Hematological mean blood of laying hens aged 26 weeks

Variable	Treatment				Standard
	P0	P1	P2	P3	
Erythrocytes (10^6 mm^{-3})	2.61 ± 0.16	2.9 ± 0.21	2.82 ± 0.39	2.91 ± 0.13	1.3 - 4.5 ¹
Leukocytes (10^3 mm^{-3})	15.71 ± 3.47	16.17 ± 2.2	15.4 ± 2.61	17.69 ± 3.68	12 - 30 ¹
Hematocrit (%)	24.80 ± 1.44^b	27.60 ± 1.33^a	26.60 ± 1.33^{ab}	27.80 ± 1.14^a	22 - 55 ¹
Hemoglobin (%)	8.56 ± 0.66	9.64 ± 0.63	9.2 ± 0.68	9.96 ± 1.12	7 - 18 ¹
MCV (fl)	95.17 ± 3.25	95.24 ± 3.43	95.63 ± 9.53	95.77 ± 4.41	90 - 140 ²
MCHC (%)	34.73 ± 4.14	35 ± 2.7	34.64 ± 2.76	35.99 ± 5.21	26 - 36 ²
MCH (pg)	33.04 ± 4.06	33.35 ± 3.12	33.37 ± 5.84	34.38 ± 4.53	33 - 47 ²
Lymphocytes (%)	50.80 ± 5.06^b	58.60 ± 3.37^{ab}	52.80 ± 2.8^{ab}	61.20 ± 4.86^a	29 - 84 ¹
Heterophil (%)	25.20 ± 1.14^b	28.40 ± 3.19^{ab}	25.20 ± 1.69^b	31.20 ± 2.00^a	15 - 50 ¹
Monocyte (%)	3.4 ± 1	4.8 ± 0.73	3 ± 0.62	5 ± 0.62	0 - 7 ¹
Rasio (H/L)	0.5 ± 0.04	0.49 ± 0.06	0.48 ± 0.03	0.51 ± 0.04	0.45 - 0.50 ¹

Note : Different superscripts on the same line show significant differences ($P < 0.05$). P0: Ration contains 8% fish meal. P1: Ration contains 5% fish meal + 8% fresh BSF. P2: Rations containing 5% fish meal + 8% dried BSF. P3: Ration containing 5% fish meal + 8% BSF extract. ¹Campbell *et al* (2012); ²Schalms *et al* (2010).

Erythrocytes

Feeding fishmeal with different types of BSF larvae had no significant effect on the number of erythrocytes (Table 4). The average number of laying hens in this study ranged from 2.61 to 2.91 x 10⁶ mm⁻³. The average erythrocyte value of laying hens in the study was 1.3-4.5 x 10⁶ mm⁻³ in the normal range of erythrocytes (Campbell *et al.*, 2012). The quality of red blood cells is influenced by nutrients, hemoglobin levels, and hematocrit. Chicken bodies in healthy conditions take place in normal metabolic processes so that the absorption of nutrients for the formation of red blood cells can be optimal, especially protein and vitamins are sufficient for the chicken needs. The blood always maintains a stable state in order to maintain a balance of physiological changes in the interior, so that the body functions normally. Blood needs enough protein for the formation of erythrocytes to maintain the body's homeostasis (Dellmann and Brown 1992).

The red color of the blood cells is caused by the content of hemoglobin, which consists of protein and oxygen uptake by the lungs. When the blood flows through the body, hemoglobin releases oxygen and binds to carbon dioxide (Kahn 2005). According to Zhu *et al.* (2005), the content of polyunsaturated fatty acids with high concentrations in erythrocytes causes oxidative stress on erythrocyte cells. The cause of hemolysis is the content of radical compounds with excessive amounts in erythrocytes causing cell membrane damage and hemoglobin leaking from the cell. Various factors that affect the number of erythrocytes include physiological status, chicken age, sex, chicken activity, nutritional content in the diet, and environmental conditions (temperature and humidity) (Guyton and Hall 2010, Campbell 2015). According to Scanes (2015), poultry has a higher body temperature and metabolism rate compared to mammals due to the short lifespan and phylogenically resistant poultry, so that there is a slight reduction in the number of

erythrocytes compared to mammals (Campbell 2015).

Leukocytes

Based on the analysis of variance, the provision of fish meal-containing rations with various species of BSF larvae had a significant effect ($P < 0.05$) on the average number of leukocytes. The average number of laying hens in this study, according to Ihwantoro (2014), was between 15.40 and 17.69 x 10³ mm⁻³ and was 22.24 ± 6.11 and 27.34 ± 4.88. The average value of laying hens in this study is in the normal leukocyte range of 12.0 - 30.0 x 10³ mm⁻³ (Campbell *et al.*, 2012). This shows that not all treatments in this study were indicated to be infected by specific pathogens. According to Moyes and Schutle (2008), high leukocyte counts can not be considered a pain/stress burden for livestock, as the increased leukocyte count aims to respond quickly and humorously to pathogenic pathogens in the body. Leukocytes play an active role in responding to the body's immunity. There are two ways in which the leukocyte defense system is formed by the body's defense mechanism (antibodies) when foreign substances enter the body and directly destroy bacteria, viruses and other foreign substances. According to Frandson (1992), the nature of leukocytes in the bloodstream does not work when infected tissue is detected, and leukocytes are alert to nonspecific disorders such as viral and bacterial infections that form an active immune system. Infections and inflammation in the body can lead to leukocytosis (Weiss and Wardrop, 2010). Foreign bodies that cause infection respond quickly because leukocytes are active and robust antibody-forming entities (Guyton and Hall 2010). This is the ability of the nucleus to move independently and actively respond to pathogens that invade the body (Campbell 2015).

Hematocrit

Hematocrit is the percentage of red blood cells from whole blood (whole blood). The hematocrit values when using

live BSF, BSF dry extract, and BSF in the ration are significantly higher ($P < 0.05$), respectively, at 8% than in control. The highest hematocrit in P3 was 27.80% (Table 4).

The average number of hematocrit hens in this study ranged from 24.80 to 27.80% over the Ihwantoro study (2014) and was $23.33 \pm 0.75\%$. The average hematocrit of laying hens in this study is within the normal range of hematocrit of 22-55% (Campbell *et al.*, 2012). Some factors that affect the hematocrit value are the country and type of animals, age and production phase, gender, disease, and climate. According to Guyton and Hall (2010), a low hematocrit below normal is an indicator of why chickens develop anemia when testing for an erythrocyte index because the hematocrit value correlates positively with the number of erythrocytes (Scanes 2015). The number of erythrocytes that exceeds the normal limit results in higher hematocrit (Guyton and Hall 2010) because erythrocytes have the largest cell mass in the blood (Virden *et al.*, 2007). The hematocrit test is used to analyze the status of blood normality, anemia, and polysetamy, as well as the indicator of oxygen transport capacity, i.e., the ability of the blood to carry oxygen (O_2) throughout the body. The effect of a decrease in oxygen transport capacity is caused by an increased plasma volume in the blood, although the number of erythrocytes does not decrease (Wagner *et al.*, 2008). Laying hens are resistant to physiological changes from the inside in order to maintain the balance of the body's environment (homeostasis). Therefore, the hematocrit level tends to decrease in the laying of eggs due to the process of hemodilution, i.e., an increase in the plasma volume and an increase in the erythrocyte mass. Plasma levels normalize after ovulation of the last follicle (Challenger *et al.*, 2001; Vézina *et al.*, 2003).

Hemoglobin

Hemoglobin levels were significantly higher ($P < 0.05$) than the control when

using different BSF types in the diet, respectively, at 8%. The highest hemoglobin level at P3 was 9.96% (Table 4). The average amount of hemoglobin in laying hens in this study was between 8.56% and 9.96% higher than that of Ihwantoro (2014) and was $7.26 \pm 0.25\%$. The average hemoglobin level in laying hens in this study is within the normal hemoglobin level, which is between 7.0% and 18.0% (Campbell *et al.*, 2012). According to Weiss and Wardrop (2010), oxygen levels and the number of erythrocytes can influence hemoglobin levels. When the number of erythrocytes is low, the hemoglobin value also decreases. Hemoglobin has a high affinity for oxygen, contains iron-rich protein, has a red pigment in erythrocytes, and an indicator of oxygen availability in the blood. The protein content in the ration is mixed with iron to form hemoglobin, a complex organic compound containing four red porphyrin pigments (heme) as part of hemoglobin, which contains iron atoms plus globin as part of Frandson's globular protein (1992), heme combines Using the protein globin forms a hemoglobin chain that acts as a distributor of oxygen (O_2) that transports carbon dioxide (CO_2) from the tissues to the lungs (Guyton and Hall 2010).

MCV

Based on the analysis of variance, the provision of fish meal-containing rations with various species of BSF larvae had no significant influence ($P < 0.05$) on MCV. The average MCV of laying hens in this study ranged from 92.41 to 95.77 fl in the normal MCV range from 90.0 to 140.0 femtoliters (Schalms *et al.*, 2010). Research data (Table 4) shows that feeding rations containing fishmeal with various BSF larvae do not affect the size of red blood cells in laying hens during treatment, which means that in laying hens, no anemia occurs. The median corpuscular volume is an erythrocyte index analysis used to determine the status of anemia in cattle based on erythrocyte size (Guyton and

Hall, 2008). The value of MCV is used to classify the type of anemia (Schalms *et al.*, 2010).

MCHC

Based on the analysis of variance, the provision of fish meal-containing rations with various species of BSF larvae had no significant influence ($P < 0.05$) on the MCHC. The average MCHC of laying hens in this study ranged from 34.73 to 35.99% in the same range as in the Ihwantoro study (2014) and compared the maintenance of open house systems between domestic chickens and commercial laying hens after 32 weeks each $30.20 \pm 5.58\%$ and $27.80 \pm 1.52\%$.

The average MCHC of the laying hens in this study is in the MCHC standard range of 26.0 - 36.0% (Schalms *et al.*, 2010). Research data (Table 4) show that feeding rations containing fishmeal with various types of BSF larvae did not affect the concentration of hemoglobin in red blood cells in laying hens during the treatment period. Mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration is an erythrocyte index analysis used to determine the status of anemia in cattle based on hemoglobin concentration (Guyton and Hall 2008) and to determine the value of MCHC for calculating hemoglobin and hematocrit levels (Fischbach and Marshall 2009).

MCH

Based on the analysis of variance, the provision of fish meal-containing rations with various species of BSF larvae had no significant effect ($P < 0.05$) on MCH. The average MCH of laying hens in this study ranged from 32.65 to 34.38 pg in the normal range of MCH, between 33.0 and 47.0 pg (Schalms *et al.*, 2010). Research data in Table 4 show that feeding rations containing fishmeal with various BSF larvae did not affect the weight of red blood cell hemoglobin in laying hens during the treatment period. Mean Corpuscular Hemoglobin is an erythrocyte index analysis used to determine the status of anemia in cattle based on the weight of hemoglobin (Guyton and Hall 2008).

Lymphocytes

Lymphocytes are differentiations of leukocytes that have no granules. Lymphocyte counts using different BSF types in the diet were significantly ($P < 0.05$) significantly higher, respectively, than the control (8%). The highest lymphocyte value at P3 was 60.40% (Table 4). The average number of laying hen lymphocytes in this study ranged from 50.80 to 60.40%, more than the Ihwantoro (2014) study ($21.06 \pm 9.02\%$). The average value of laying hen lymphocytes in this study is in the normal range of lymphocytes, namely between 29.0 and 84.0% (Campbell *et al.*, 2012).

Lymphocyte counts correlate positively with the ability to adapt, laying hens to ambient temperature. According to Davis *et al.* (2008), high levels of corticosteroid hormone production are caused by a hot environment, so that high corticosteroid hormone levels in the blood can inhibit lymphocyte formation. According to Ganong (2008), the cause of lymphocyte levels above normal is pathological factors, lymphocytes work harder to eliminate foreign bodies entering the body, while the cause of lymphocyte levels below normal is the lack of challenges (viruses or bacteria) that invade the body (Odetola *et al.* 2012).

According to Tizard (2000), lymphocytes are divided into two, namely T-lymphocytes (T-cells) derived from the thymus and functioning as cellular immune response cells, and B-lymphocytes (B-cells) derived from the exchanges produced Form antibodies from plasma cells resulting from humoral immune responses. Lymphocytes can respond to macrophage-linked antigens by producing antibodies as special effector cells (Tizard 2000). According to Nicholas (2004), B lymphocytes (B cells) play a role in antibody production (immunoglobulin) by forming humoral mediated immunity (HMI), while T lymphocytes (T cells) play a role in cytotoxic production to destroy drug-infected cells disease by cytotoxic T

cells (Tc), which form cell-mediated immunity (CMI).

Heterophile

Heterophilic values using different BSF types in the diet, each 8% significantly ($P < 0.05$) significantly higher than the control. The average number of heterophile laying hens in this study ranged from 26.40 to 32.60%, which was higher than that of Ihwantoro (2014), which equals $71.55 \pm 10.37\%$. The average value of heterophile laying hens in this study is within the normal range of 15.0-50.0% (Campbell *et al.*, 2012). Heterophyll is a phagocytic cell that contributes to the phagocytosis of germs and viruses. The highest heterophile value at P3 was 32.60% (Table 4), which means that in P3 treatment, the use of BSF extracts in rations had great potential for controlling germ and viral infections by producing nonspecific immune responses.

According to Campbell (2015), heterophile act phagocytically and against pathogens by penetrating and destroying the endothelial wall. According to Tizard (2000), the main function of heterophiles is to destroy foreign material through the process of phagocytosis. Heterophyll is the first defense system in which infections and granulocytes occur in most birds. Some factors that affect the value of heterophiles in the blood are infections (bacteria, fungi, viruses and parasites), inflammation, stress, certain toxicities, trauma and leukemia. Regions of the body in which infection is present are controlled by heterophiles by penetrating the endothelial wall and destroying drugs and increasing their numbers when an acute infection occurs. According to Schalm *et al.* (2010), heterophiles act as the first defense in poultry, inhibiting bacteria by attachment, chemotaxis, phagocytosis and killing of bacteria. Heterophyll can be affected by genetic and antimicrobial properties that positively correlate with disease resistance in the body (Redmon *et al.*, 2011).

Monocytes

Monocytes are the differentiation of leukocytes without granules and as

precursors of macrophages in the bloodstream. Monocyte values using different BSF types in the diet, each 8% significantly ($P < 0.05$) significantly higher than the control. The highest monocyte value at P3 was 5.00% (Table 4). The average number of laying hens monocytes in this study, according to Ihwantoro (2014), was between 3.00 and 5.00%, at $6.17 \pm 2.50\%$. The average value of laying hens monocytes in this study is in the normal range of monocytes, which is between 0 and 7.0% (Campbell *et al.*, 2012). The average normal monocyte value indicates that the status of laying hens is healthy, has no physiological disorders or acute infections.

According to Mitchell and Johns (2008), monocytes are the second defense system after heterophiles, and monocytes transform into macrophages when inflammation occurs in body tissue. Monocytes produce non-specific immunity through phagocytosis, forming macrophages (Hamzah *et al.*, 2012). Monocytes and heterophiles have phagocytic abilities, i.e., they eat foreign bodies. The difference is that monocytes are not yet able to overcome acute infections and overcome heterophilic acute infections and die after their work. The function of monocytes is to respond immediately to infections caused by pathogens by migrating into inflamed tissue areas and turning into macrophage cells. Another task of monocyte/macrophage cells is to supply antigens to lymphocytes, which interact in the immune system as the first defense against diseases and heat stress. Subowo (2009).

Ratio Heterophile / Lymphocyte (H/L)

The value of the H/L ratio using different BSF types in the diet is significantly 8% ($P < 0.05$) significantly higher than the control. The highest value of the H/L ratio at P3 was 0.51 (Table 4). According to Ihwantoro (2014), the average H/L ratio of laying hens in this study ranged from 0.48 to 0.51 and was 3.47 ± 0.57 . The average H/L ratio of laying hens

in this study is in the normal range of H/L ratios of 0.45 - 0.50 (Campbell *et al.*, 2012).

The measurement of the H/L ratio aims to capture the challenge levels of poultry as the main indicator. Ambient temperature is a major factor in poultry stress, especially during the day, as there is a risk of heat stress being negative. The mechanism of endocrine is used in poultry to maintain the balance of normal body state under stress (Mostl and Palme 2002). For example, glucocorticoid secretion in the blood increases when the laying hens are under heat stress. The value of the H/L ratio may increase as the heat stress condition causes a decrease in lymphocyte counts (Zulkifli *et al.*, 2000, Altan *et al.*, 2000). Increased secretion of glucocorticoid hormones may affect the immune system as it interferes with interleukin (IL) performance. This type of cytokine plays an important role as a cell messenger in the antibody system (Blecha 2000).

CONCLUSION

The results of this study showed that the best P3 treatment for laying hens productivity was 18-26 weeks old with the use of BSF extract because it contained the highest protein compared to other treatments. The mean hematological blood values indicate the highest P3 treatment.

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