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شبكة المعلومات الجامعية  
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# شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الالكتروني والميكروفيلم





شبكة المعلومات الجامعية

# جامعة عين شمس

التوثيق الالكتروني والميكرو فيلم

## قسم

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# **VITAMIN C SUPPLEMENTATION AND ITS EFFECT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF JAPANESE QUAIL**

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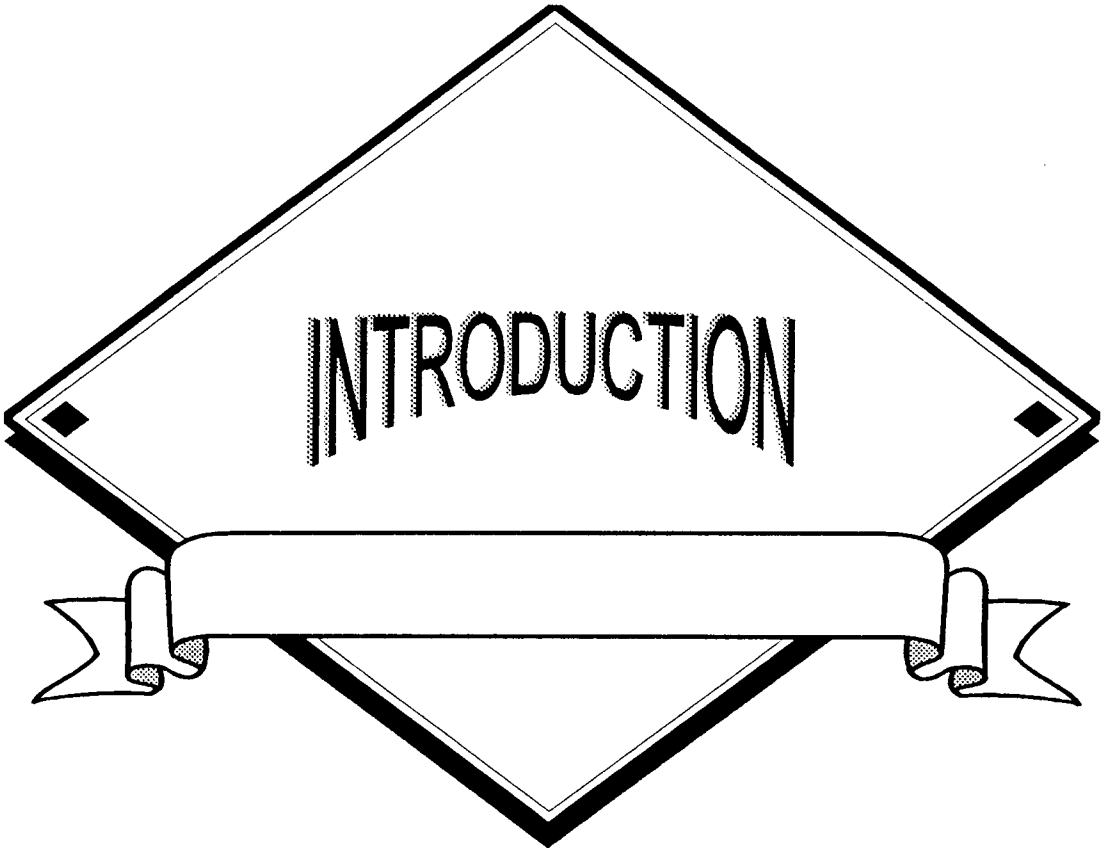
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# INTRODUCTION

# 1. INTRODUCTION

Vitamin C is not regarded as a dietary requirement for poultry because it can be synthesized at a sufficient rate to meet the needs under usual conditions. Therefore, it is not the practice to add vitamin C to poultry diets. However, particular environmental, nutritional and pathological conditions increase metabolic need for vitamin C beyond the innate synthetic ability of the bird.

Vitamin C is a powerful reducing agent and is of general importance as an antioxidant influencing many oxidation-reduction reaction in biological systems. Vitamin C also acts as a co-factor for some enzymes such as prolyhydroxylase and play an important role in the synthesis of collagen in tissues and bone. Vitamin C functions as regulator of the catabolism of cholesterol bile acid in the guinea pigs and has been demonstrated to be a factor in lipid regulation of guinea pig, rabbit and rat. Supplemental vitamin C influenced body energy stores that are used for energy purposes during periods of reduced energy intake (McKee *et al.*, 1997). It has been reported that supplemental vitamin C in guinea pigs not only enhanced carnitine biosynthesis in cultured hepatocytes but also, via the synthesized carnitine, induced the partitioning of fatty acids towards  $\beta$ -oxidation (Ha *et al.*, 1994). A negative correlation between rat adrenal vitamin C concentrations and the

rate of steroid synthesis were observed by (Kitabchi and West 1975). Vitamin C inhibits the 11-hydroxylation and 21-hydroxylation step in beef adrenal steroid synthesis.

Vitamin C increased iron bioavailability by retarding ferritin degradation (Hoffmann *et al.*, 1991) and enhanced iron absorption from gastrointestinal tract which plays an important role in erythropoiesis (Swenson, 1982). Vitamin C also had a beneficial effect during egg incubation and after hatch on embryonic development (Zakria and Al-Latif, 1998).

The present work aimed to shed more light on the efficacy of supplemental vitamin C on performance of Japanese quail, internal organs weight, biochemical analysis of plasma, hematological picture and histological traits.



