

## The Nutritive Value of the Meat Quality of Locally Breed Chicken, Exotic Chicken and Turkey

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**Abstract:** Locally breed Chicken, exotic Chicken and Turkey were obtained from Ajegunle market in Oyo town and processed for their proximate composition and dietary minerals. The proximate composition reveals that the moisture content in percentage ranged from 5.00% in Turkey to 0.50% in exotic Chicken, the ash content ranges from 6.50% in Turkey to 2.00% in locally breed chicken. The fat content ranges from 18.0% in Turkey to 3.70% in locally breed Chicken; the protein content ranges from 68.97% in exotic Chicken to 50.95% in locally breed Chicken. Carbohydrate content ranges from 25.83% in locally breed chicken to 0.63% in Turkey. The fibre content of Turkey was 2.22% and 1.96% in local Chicken while fibre content was not detectable in exotic Chicken. The dietary minerals that were in abundance in the meat samples are Potassium whose concentration ranged from 603mg/100g in Turkey to 527mg/100g in exotic chicken. Sodium ranged from 370mg/100g in Turkey to 345mg/100g in exotic chicken. Calcium ranged from 575mg/100g in Turkey to 375mg/100g in exotic chicken while Magnesium ranged from 377mg/100g in local chicken to 256mg/100g in exotic chicken, Iron ranged from 465mg/100g in local chicken to 233mg/100g in Turkey. Zinc ranged from 622mg/100g in exotic chicken to 475mg/100g in Turkey.

**Keywords:** Proximate Analysis, Dietary Mineral, Chicken Meat, Meat Quality

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### I. Introduction

Poultry are farmed in great numbers, chicken being the most numerous. Poultry farming involves domesticating birds such as Chickens, Turkeys, Ducks and Geese. They are raised purposely for their meat and eggs. Chickens raised for eggs are usually called laying hens while chickens raised for meat are often called broilers. Poultry farming in the past used to entail throwing corn out to wandering chickens to pick up, and these chickens lay their eggs where they so wish. Egg production under this conventional system of rearing in the villages is very low. This is generally due to the insufficient feed supply and problem of diseases and social behavior (Ibe 1998). Egg production when raised extensively is about 40 eggs per year (Ikeobi et al., 1996) whereas under improved conditions, egg yields of local birds may be doubled (Nwosu 1979)

Exotic chickens are raised in specialized caging system, they are fed with specially formulated feeds which are rich in essential minerals, their growth are controlled and the egg production are monitored and controllable using feed formulation and vaccines. These exotic breeds are never allowed to range freely or scavenge for food. Turkey on the other hand is a large poultry bird that originated from the temperate parts of the world which is now a popular form of poultry in other parts of the world. Ancient Mesoamericans domesticated this subspecies, using its meat and eggs as major sources of protein and employing its feathers extensively for decorative purposes (UF Researchers 2012). Unlike chicken, duck, and quail eggs, turkey eggs are not commonly sold as food due to the high demand for whole turkeys and lower output of eggs as compared with other fowl. The value of a single turkey egg is estimated to be about US \$3.50 on the open market, substantially more than a carton of one dozen chicken eggs (Cecil 2012)

A lot of information abounds in literature on meat quality, nutrient status and nutritional composition of some animal meat. According to morphological perspective, it has been established that differences exist between pure indigenous, exotic and the crossbred chickens. It was reported that poultry breeding in Nigeria started in 1985 at the National Animal Production Research Institute, Zaria (Adebambo 1992). It has been reported that crossbreeding indigenous chicken with exotic improves the body weight greatly at 12 weeks (Nwosu 1979) and (Adeniyi et al., 2011). And that crossbreeding indigenous chicken with exotic breed will go a long way to enhance better productivity of these indigenous stocks and also help in planning sustainable breeding programme for future. A report of the proximate composition of beef, broiler meat, African catfish and tilapia reveal that all the meat types analyzed had no crude fibre and that beef had the highest lipid content of 4.59% followed by broiler meat 4.34%, tilapia 3.35% while the least value came from African catfish 3.18%. It was also reported that beef is relatively superior to other meat types in terms of protein and fat content while tilapia was the cheapest source of animal protein in the study (Nwosu et al., 1980) in a similar report that compared the proximate composition and fatty acid profile of Anurans meat with Chicken meat (Nielson et al (1988), the moisture content of chicken meat ( $76.03 \pm 0.15\%$ ) was significantly lower than both the anurans meat

(77.73% and 82.87%). Fat and ash content when compared to the edible portion of anuran, chicken meat had 14.48±0.18% of protein which was lower compared to anurans.

## II. Materials And Methods

Turkey, exotic Chicken and local Chicken used for this study were obtained from Ajegunle market in Oyo, Atiba Local Government in Oyo State. Sample pre-treatment include the mercy killing of the three bird samples. The feathers were plucked using boiled water, each samples were then cut into smaller pieces and later parboiled in hot water. The parboiled meat was then smoked and sun dried (oven was not used so that the volatile minerals will not escape).The dried samples were then milled into powder using Kenwood blender. The samples were stored in polyethylene containers for further analysis. All the chemicals used for the experiment are analar grade. Proximate analysis including the moisture the ash, crude fibre, and crude carbohydrate were determined by the method described by (AOAC 1990). The ten dietary minerals analyzed: K, Na, Ca, Mg, P, Fe, Mn, Cu, Pb and Zn were determined by AAS.

## III. Results And Discussion

Table 1: Proximate composition of the meats in percentage (%)

Sample	Moisture content	Ash content	Fat content	Fibre content	Protein content	Carbohydrate content
<i>G.gallusdomesticus</i> (Local chicken)	7.50	2.00	11.76	1.96	50.95	25.83
<i>M. Gallopavo</i> (Turkey)	5.00	6.50	18.06	2.22	67.59	0.63
<i>Gallus domesticus</i> ( Exotic Chicken)	0.50	4.00	3.70	ND	68.97	22.83

ND= not detectable at that limit.

The result of the proximate composition of Turkey, exotic Chicken and local Chicken Meats were presented in Table 1. Out of the three meat samples examined, the ash content of locally bred chicken is the lowest compared to the other two meat samples. The ash content is 6.50% in Turkey, 4.0% in exotic Chicken and 2.00% in local chicken. The values recorded for the three samples are however higher than those reported as the common range of ash present in poultry meat (0.7-1.3%).Nielson (1988). Ash in food determines largely the extent to which the dietary minerals would be available in a particular food sample. It also determines the rate at which food substances would make available the amount of energy locked in it. This implies that Turkey could furnish man with more energy and some viable minerals than the remaining meat sources.

Out of the three samples examined, moisture content is 5.0% in Turkey, 0.50% in exotic Chickens and 7.50% Local Chicken. This result shows locally bred chicken is the highest in moisture content compared to 5.00% in Turkey and 0.50% in exotic chicken. Moisture in food determines the keeping qualities of food. It also enhance the rate at which absorption takes place within the digestive system and influences the rate at which enzyme activities takes place on the food. The result shows that the local chicken's meat will be easily absorbed by the body, while that of exotic chicken will be least available for absorption in the body.

The percentage of crude protein is 67.59% in Turkey, 68.95% in exotic Chicken and 50.95% local chicken. The % of protein in locally bred chicken shows that it is a good source of proteins; however, this value is lower than 68.95% for exotic chicken and 67.59% obtained for Turkey as shown in table 1. Proteins are powerful compounds that build and repair tissues; it also helps to maintain the body's structure. Protein speeds up chemical reaction in the body, serves as chemical messenger, fight infection and transport oxygen from the lungs to the body tissue. Turkey has recently been shown to fall into a group of high-protein foods (including tuna and egg whites) that can help keep post-meal insulin levels within a desirable range.

The crude fat determined was 18.06% for Turkey, 3.70% for exotic chicken and 11.76% for local chicken. Turkey has the highest crude fat percentage followed by 11.56% for local chicken and the least value is determined in exotic chicken which is 3.70%. The higher percentage of fat in Turkey and local chicken meat may be responsible for their juiciness and sweet aroma upon cooking. The significant differences in the three results may be due to the facts that exotic chicken feeds mainly on concentrates and are hardly fat-rich, while both Turkey and local Chicken are scavengers who have access to more fat-rich foods than the exotic chicken which are usually kept in cages. The crude fat determined in exotic chicken 3.70% is close to the crude lipid value (2.87%) in a previous report (Nwosu 1980) . Fats play an important role in building the membranes that surround our cells in helping blood to clot. Also, presence of fat in the right proportion in the body helps the body to absorb certain vitamins and also to prevent the body from extreme cold and heat.

It has been reported that Chicken meat contains about two to three times as much polyunsaturated fat than most types of red meat when measured as weight percentage.( USDA 1990). Chicken fat is mostly found in the skin. Out of the three meats under consideration Turkey meat has the highest crude fat content this confirms

a report that fat and protein content of Turkey depend upon the diet that the turkey has been fed. Studies involving the use of linseed oil (flax oil), fish oil, and coconut oil in poultry feed all show a relationship between these fat-based feed components and the composition of the turkey meat.” Total fat can be obtained from crude fat by multiplying it with a factor of conversion (0.8) therefore the total fat of turkey is 14.45% , for exotic chicken is 2.96% and for locally bred chicken the total fat is 9.41%

The percentage of crude fibre is 2.22% in Turkey and 1.96% in local chicken. Crude fibre was not detectable (ND) in exotic chicken. This agrees with a previous report [9] where all the meat types analyzed including exotic Chicken had no crude fibre. Dietary fibre helps to reduce serum cholesterol level, risk of coronary heart disease, colon and breast cancer and hypertension. Fibres in food also help in maintaining blood sugar level thus lower the risk of cardio vascular disease.

Out of the three meat samples considered local Chicken has 25.83% of carbohydrate, this is the highest compared to the ones obtained for Turkey which is 0.63% and 22.83% for Exotic chicken. Locally bred chickens feed mainly on carbohydrate rich foods such as maize and guinea corn in their wandering and scavenging, thus a good source of energy and fibre. Carbohydrate content contributes to sweetness, appearance and external characteristics of such foods. No wonder the local chicken has a sweeter taste compared to the exotic chicken.

**Table 2 :** Mineral elements in the three meat samples in mg/100g by Atomic absorption Spectrophotometer  
ND=not detectable

<b>Mineral (mg/100g)</b>	<b>Gallus gallus(local chicken)</b>	<b>Gallus gallus(exotic chicken)</b>	<b>Meleagris Gallopavo(Turkey)</b>
K <sup>+</sup>	704	527	603
Na <sup>+</sup>	351	345	370
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	428	375	575
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	377	256	370
P <sup>3+</sup>	29.50	39	29.50
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	465	385	233
Mn <sup>2+</sup>	245	263	241
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	26	25	43
Pb <sup>2+</sup>	ND	ND	ND
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	594	622	475

Table 2 above presents the concentration of dietary minerals in the three poultry meats under consideration. The Potassium (K<sup>+</sup>) content ranged from 704mg/100g in Local chicken to 527mg/100g in Exotic chicken. The amount of Sodium (Na<sup>+</sup>) ranged from 370mg/100g obtained in Turkey to 345mg/100g obtained in exotic chicken. Potassium and Sodium work together in muscle contraction nerve transmission. Sodium ions are the main regulators of extra cellular fluid and volume (Whitney and Rofles2002). Recommended daily allowance (RDA) for potassium is 4700mg that means that 704mg in Local chicken provides about 14.98% of the daily recommended value

The concentration of Calcium ranged from 575mg/100g in Turkey to 428mg/100g in Local Chicken. Locally breed chicken supposed to suffer for calcium and phosphorus because the only source of these two minerals is when it mistakenly picked stone during feeding. Calcium is responsible for strong bones and teeth and accounts for ninety percent of the calcium in the body whereas the other one percent is circulating in the fluids in order to ionize calcium. Calcium metals also help in transmission of nerves impulses, in contractions of muscle, in blood clotting, in activation of enzyme reactions and secretion of hormone. This indicates that local chicken is very rich in calcium and should be consumed by both young and old people. The RDA value for Calcium is 1300mg, Calcium in Turkey can provide about 44.23% of the daily recommended value.

The Magnesium content (Mg<sup>2+</sup>) ranged from 377mg/100g in Local chicken to 256mg/100g in exotic chicken as shown in table 2 above. Magnesium helps in supporting the functioning of immune system; assists in preventing dental decay by retaining the calcium in tooth enamel; it has an important role in the synthesis of proteins, fat, nucleic acid, glucose metabolism as well as membrane transport system of cells. The RDA value of magnesium is 420mg; the Magnesium in local chicken can provide 87.76% of the daily recommended value. The concentration of Phosphorus in both Turkey and Local chickens are the same which is 29.50mg/100g but lower than 39.00mg/100g in Exotic chicken as shown in table 2.

The content of Iron (Fe<sup>2+</sup>) ranged from 465mg/100g in local chicken to 233mg/100g in Turkey. Iron is the central metal in the haemoglobin molecule for oxygen transport in the blood and is present in myoglobin located in muscles. Other food materials rich in iron include liver, leaf vegetables, beans, egg etc. Iron is an important mineral that many people don't get enough of. The daily requirement of Iron for adults is 8 mg for

men and 18 mg for menstruating women to compensate for the losses of iron with the monthly menstrual cycle. The Iron in locally bred chicken has higher value compared to exotic chicken and Turkey.

The Manganese content ranged from 263mg/100g in exotic chicken to 241mg/100g in Turkey. Exotic chicken has the highest value here, while turkey has the least value. One 3-oz. serving of ground turkey is reported to provide 24mg of Magnesium. This vital mineral helps the body produce energy from the food we eat, in addition to its role in bone health. (Mensah et al., 2002) The daily requirement for Magnesium for adults over age 30 is 420 mg for men and 320 mg for women. The Copper (Cu<sup>2+</sup>) content of local chicken and exotic chicken are so close in value, e value was 26mg/100g in locally bred chicken and 25mg/100g in exotic chicken. Copper in Turkey is 43mg/100g which is higher than the other two. Copper assists in the formation of haemoglobin. It also helps to prevent anemia, it is also involved in several enzymatic actions. Manganese is one of the co-factors in a number of enzymes just as molybdenum.

Lead (Pb<sup>2+</sup>) was not detected in any of the four meat samples, this is much expected since Lead is not a dietary mineral rather it is a toxic metal that is harmful to plant, animals and humans even in low concentrations. Zinc content ranged from 622mg/100g in exotic chicken to 457mg/100g in Turkey as shown in table 2 above. This important mineral is vital for wound healing and to keep the immune system strong. The daily requirement for zinc for adults is 11 mg for men and 8 mg for women.

#### IV. Conclusion

The study of the nutritive value of the sampled meat has shown that turkey meat has the highest crude fat and protein content depending on the type of diet been fed with. Local chicken taste sweeter than exotic chicken, compared to the due to its higher carbohydrate content than exotic chicken.

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