



## Comparison of The Effects of Dietary Supplementation of Natural Antimicrobial Feed Additives on Lipid Oxidation, Microbial Content and Quality of Broiler Raw Meat

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### ABSTRACT

The study aimed to compare the effects of dietary supplementation of probiotic and olive leaf-, grape seed- and pomegranate peel extracts as natural antimicrobial on lipid oxidation, microbiological content and quality of raw broiler meat. Chickens were fed the control diet (CONT) and diets supplemented with probiotic (P), oleuropein (olive leaf extract, OLE100 and OLE200), proanthocyanidin (grape seed extract, GSE100 and GSE200) and proanthocyanidin (pomegranate peel extract, PPE100 and PPE200) at 100 and 200 mg/kg levels to the CONT diet. All dietary treatments significantly reduced MDA value of breast meat at 9<sup>th</sup> day, total aerobic bacteria and coliform bacteria contents of breast meat at 14<sup>th</sup> day. The P, OLE200, PPE100 and PPE200 diets significantly decreased lactic acid bacteria content of breast meat at 14<sup>th</sup> day. The pH value of raw breast meat at 24 h was significantly reduced by dietary treatments compared to the CONT diet. Feeding the P, PPE100 and PPE200 diets significantly increased water holding capacity of breast meat compared to those of broilers fed the CONT, GSE100 and GSE200 diets. The P, OLE200, PPE100 and PPE200 diets significantly reduced drip loss of breast meat at 7<sup>th</sup> day compared to the CONT, OLE100, GSE100 and GSE200 diets. Cooking loss of breast meat was significantly decreased by all dietary treatments except GSE diet compared to the CONT diet. It was concluded that probiotic, olive leaf- and pomegranate peel- extracts have potential to be used as natural antimicrobial feed additives in terms of the lipid oxidation, microbial content and quality of broiler meat.

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### Introduction

Chicken meat is a preferred valuable source of animal protein by consumers worldwide due to its low price and desirable nutrient profile that has low fat and relatively high polyunsaturated fatty acids (Zhang et al., 2016; Saleh et al., 2017). Fresh meat and meat products are generally stored in refrigerator at +2-4°C until marketing. Microbial growth and lipid oxidation occurred during refrigeration storage negatively influenced the shelf-life, sensory, nutritional qualities and consumer acceptance of fresh meat and meat products (Hayes et al., 2010; Kaur et al., 2015). To inhibit the above mentioned negatives on meat and meat products, the use of by products of fruit juice industry and probiotic as natural antimicrobial feed additives in broiler diets due to the health risks of their synthetic forms came into prominence (Kaur et al., 2015).

Waste products like peel, seed and leaf fractions of some fruits like pomegranate, grape and olive have higher antimicrobial activity than their pulp fractions (Kaur et

al., 2015). There are limited literature related to the comparison of the effects of pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts on the broiler meat and meat products.

Pomegranate peel constituted approximately 50% of the whole fruit and is an inedible by-product obtained during processing to pomegranate juice (Turgut et al., 2017; Saleh et al., 2017). Pomegranate peel and its extract are a major source of flavonoids, condensed- and hydrolysable- tannins (Ahmed et al., 2015). Grape seed is a by-product of wine and grape juice processing enriched in proanthocyanidins (condensed tannins) (Mielnik et al., 2006; Brannan, 2009). The olive leaf is an agricultural waste of olive oil processing rich in oleuropein and hydroxytyrosol (Benavente- Garcia et al., 2000).

There are some studies demonstrating the effects of pomegranate peel extract (Kanatt et al., 2010), grape seed extract (Kaur et al., 2015) and olive leaves and their

extracts (Marangoni et al., 2017) as antimicrobial feed additives due their polyphenolic compounds on chicken meat quality.

Probiotics defined as viable microorganisms are used as an alternative to antibiotic growth promoters in poultry industry. There are some literature associated with the preventing effect of dietary probiotic on the microbial contamination of meat due to its antimicrobial property (Khaksefidi and Rahimi, 2005). Some studies pointed out that the probiotic supplementation to chicken diet improves the sensory and nutritional qualities, lipid oxidation stability and microbial safety of chicken meat (Kim et al., 2016; Abdulla et al., 2017).

The present study aimed to compare the effects of probiotic and fruit industry residue extracts as natural antimicrobial feed additives on lipid oxidation, microbial content and quality of broiler raw meat.

## Materials and Methods

### Ethical Note

This study was conducted following the animal ethics guidelines of the Research Policy of Gaziosmanpaşa University.

### Birds and Housing

A total of five hundred seventy-six one-d-old Ross 308 male broiler chicks were randomly assigned to 8 groups, each of which was replicated 3 times with 24 broiler chicks per replicate. All chicks were housed on litter in a floor system with the controlled temperature and humidity. Each pen was provided with a single feeder and automatic nipple drinkers. A 23 h light and 1 h dark lighting program was applied during the experiment. The diets in mash form and drinking water were provided *ad libitum*.

### Diets

Prior to experimental diet formulation, feed ingredients were analysed for their crude protein (CP), ether extract, starch and total sugar according to the methods of the AOAC (2007). All diets were formulated to meet minimum nutrient requirements established by nutrition specifications for Ross 308. The diets per treatment were formulated to cover all the fattening period (starter, grower and finisher). The starter diet (23% CP and 3.025 Kcal/kg ME) from 0 to 10 d, the grower diet (22% CP and 3.150 Kcal/kg ME) from 11 to 28 d and the finisher diet (19% CP and 3200 Kcal/kg ME) from 29 to 42 d were provided for broilers during the experiment. The experimental diets included an feed additives-free basal diet (CONT) and the other diets supplemented with probiotic (P) (Protexin™; 1.5, 1.0 and 0.5 kg/tonne for the starter, grower and finisher diets, respectively), oleuropein (olive leaf extract: OLE), proanthocyanidin (grape seed extract: GSE) and proanthocyanidin (pomegranate peel extract: PPE) at the levels of 100 and 200 mg/kg to the CONT diet. With attention of oleuropein content of OLE and proanthocyanidin contents of GSE and PPE, OLE, GSE and PPE were supplemented by providing oleuropein and proanthocyanidin levels at 100 and 200 mg/kg diet.

### Olive Leaf Extract

To obtain the olive leaf extract, the olive leaves were collected from *olea europaea* L. trees cultivated under organic farming practices in Ayvalik. Collected leaves were firstly dried in air-oven at 30°C for 24 h and then ground to pass 2 mm screen. A 10 g of olive leaves powder was extracted for 24 h with 100 ml of 70% (v/v) aqueous ethanol at room temperature by a shaking incubator at 180 rpm. The extracts were filtered with Whatman No.1 filter paper. The filtrates were transferred to a rotary evaporator to remove ethanol under reduced pressure at 38°C, 120 rpm. The remaining aqueous solutions were lyophilized at -50°C, 0.028 mbar and the crude extracts were kept in vacuum bags at -80°C until the use.

### Grape Seed Extract

The Horoz Karası grape seeds (*Vitis vinifera* L.) were supplied from a local juice processing industry (Dimes Ltd. Company, Tokat, Turkey) and collected first air-oven dried at 70°C for 24 h. Dried grape seeds were ground to pass 2 mm screen and extracted in a Soxhlet extractor with petroleum ether (60-80°C for 6 h) to extract the fatty material. The defatted grape seed powder (100 g) was extracted in a back cooler on the jacket heater for 8 h separately with 150 ml of acetone:water:acetic acid (90:9.5:0.5). The extracts were handled further according to the procedure for olive leaf extract.

### Pomegranate Peel Extract

Pomegranate fruits (*Punica granatum* L., Hicaznar) were supplied from the Agricultural Research Institute of West Mediterranean (Antalya, Turkey). The fresh fruits were manually peeled and cut using a shear and freeze-dried. Dried peels were powdered to get 60-mesh size using a mixing granuler. For obtaining the pomegranate peel extract, the fine powdered sample (10 g) was extracted three times with 10 ml 70% ethanol in water at room temperature (~25°C) for 4 h in a magnetic shaker. The extracts were handled further according to the procedure for olive leaf extract.

### Analysis of Oleuropein of OLE and Proanthocyanidin Contents of GSE and PPE

The oleuropein content of OLE and diets was analyzed by a HPLC method of Baycin et al., (2007) in the Sciences of Izmir Institute of Technology (Izmir, Turkey). The proanthocyanidin content of GSE and PPE was determined by the Acid Butanol assay according to the method of Bate-Smith (1975).

### Determination of Lipid Oxidation of Meat

On d 42, 16 birds whose BWs were similar to the group average were selected from each treatment group. A total of 128 broilers were slaughtered by severing the jugular vein to determine the lipid oxidation of meat. Lipid oxidation was determined according to the method of Botsoglou et al. (2002). In brief, 2 g of samples were thoroughly homogenized with aqueous trichloroacetic acid (8 ml, 5%) and butylated hydroxytoluene in hexane (5 ml, 0.8%), and the mixture was centrifuged. A 2.5-ml aliquot from the bottom layer was mixed with 1.5 ml of 0.8% aqueous 2-thiobarbituric acid to be further incubated at 70°C for 30 min. Following incubation, the mixture

was submitted to conventional spectrophotometry (Shimadzu, Model UV-1601, Tokyo, Japan) in the range of 530 nm. Third-order derivative spectra was produced by digital differentiation of the normal spectra using a derivative wavelength difference setting of 21 nm. The concentration of MDA (ng/g wet tissue) in analysed extracts was calculated on the basis of the height of the third-order derivative peak at 521.5 nm by referring to slope and intercept data of the computed least-squares fit of standard calibration curve prepared using 1,1,3,3-tetraethoxypropane

#### Microbial Analysis of Meat

One half of the breast meat of a total of 128 chickens slaughtered was packaged in a vacuum polyamide ethylene-vinylacetate/polyethylene bag. Vacuum packaged breasts were stored at +4°C for 14 days in refrigerator. The microbiological analyses of the breast meat samples for 0<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> days were determined according to the methods of Baumgart et al. (1993). For this analysis, breast meat samples (25 g) were homogenized with 225 ml of physiological saline water (0.85 % NaCl) in a homogenizer for 1 min. Total aerobic bacteria was enumerated on Plate Count Agar at 30°C for 24 h. Coliform bacteria and Lactic acid bacteria, respectively, were enumerated on Plate Violet red bile agar and de Man Rogosa Sharpe Agar (MRS), respectively, at 37°C for 48 h.

#### Meat Quality Parameters

A total of 128 chickens slaughtered were used to determine the quality parameters (pH, water holding capacity, drip loss, cooking loss) of breast meat. The carcasses were vacuum packed and stored in a deep freezer at -80°C until required for analysis. The frozen carcasses were thawed in a refrigerated condition (+4°C) and breast fillets were dissected.

#### pH

The upper one-third from the right side of the breast meat was used for pH measurement. The pH values were determined for 15 min post slaughter (initial pH, pH<sub>i</sub>) and after chilling for 24 h at +4°C in self-sealed plastic bags, using a portable pH meter (Testo 205) equipped with a stainless electrode (pH57-SS) (Lu et al., 2007).

#### Water Holding Capacity

The water holding capacity (WHC) of breast meat was estimated (Castellini et al., 2002) by centrifuging 1 g of the meat, placed on tissue paper inside a tube for 4 min at 1500 × g. The water remaining after centrifugation was quantified by drying the samples at 70°C overnight. WHC was calculated as: (weight after centrifugation-weight after drying)/initial weight × 100.

#### Drip loss

The drip loss of each breast meat was measured using the suspension method (Bond and Warner 2007; Chiang et al., 2008). Each meat sample was trimmed to an approximately equal size (12 cm × 10 cm), weighed, placed in a polyethylene bag and hung at +4°C for 24 h. The meat sample was removed from the bag, blotted dry,

and reweighed to determine drip loss. Drip loss was calculated as: (initial weight-final weight)/initial weight × 100.

#### Cooking loss

The breast meats were weighed before and after cooking to determine percentage of cooking loss. The meat samples (20-25 g) were put in a plastic bag and then cooked for 40 min. in a water bath with constant temperature of 70°C. After the meat samples were cooled to room temperature (25°C), removed from the bag and blotted dry. All samples from a given replicate were cooked and chilled as one batch. The cooked breast fillet was reweighed to determine the cook loss (Mitchothai et al., 2006). Cooking loss was calculated as: (initial weight-final weight)/initial weight × 100.

#### Statistical Analysis

Linear Model using the SPSS (17.0)<sup>®</sup> statistic package (SPSS, 2007) was applied to data obtained from the experiment. Significant differences between treatment means were separated using Duncan's multiple range test (Duncan, 1955). Results were presented at least square means and standard error of means. All statements of significance were based on P<0.05.

## Results and Discussion

#### The Oleuropein Content of OLE and The Proanthocyanidin Content of GSE and PPE

The oleuropein content of OLE and the proanthocyanidin content of GSE and PPE and the total phenol contents of OLE, GSE and PPE were given in Table 1.

#### Malondialdehyde Value

The malondialdehyde value of breast meat in broilers fed diet supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts was given in Table 2.

Table 1 The oleuropein content of OLE and the proanthocyanidin content of GSE and PPE

Extracts	PR	OL
Grape Seed Extract (GSE)	6.673±86	-
Olive Leaf Extract (OLE)	-	196.81±2.83
Pomegranate Peel Extract (PPE)	8.420±2.13	-

PR: Proanthocyanidin (mg/kg), OL: Oleuropein (mg/g)

As shown in Table 2, there are no any significant differences among dietary treatments in terms of the malondialdehyde value of breast meat at 0<sup>th</sup> day. The malondialdehyde value of breast meat at 9<sup>th</sup> day of storage in refrigerator at +4°C was significantly decreased by dietary treatments compared to the CONT diet (P<0.001). This finding concurs with the results of Saleh et al. (2015, 2017) who reported that dietary pomegranate peel extract significantly delayed the lipid oxidation of broiler meat. Likewise, this result was supported by the finding of Frahat et al. (2016) who pointed out that dietary grape seed extract supplementation led to a significant reduction in the malondialdehyde level in broiler meat.

Table 2 The malondialdehyde value of breast meat in broilers fed diet supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts

Dietary Treatments	0 <sup>th</sup> d	9 <sup>th</sup> d
CONT	0.173	1.918 <sup>a</sup>
P	0.170	1.893 <sup>b</sup>
OLE100	0.163	1.633 <sup>d</sup>
OLE200	0.160	1.550 <sup>e</sup>
GSE100	0.167	1.797 <sup>c</sup>
GSE200	0.163	1.667 <sup>d</sup>
PPE100	0.160	1.527 <sup>e</sup>
PPE200	0.153	1.350 <sup>f</sup>
Pooled SEM	0.0028	0.0402
P-value	0.771	0.000

<sup>a-f</sup> Column means within the different superscripts do differ (\*\*P<0.001), SEM: Standard Error of Means, CONT: a basal diet which contained no feed additive; P: the diet supplemented with probiotic to the CONT diet; OLE100: the diet supplemented with olive leaf extract at the level of 100 mg/kg oleuropein; OLE200: the diet supplemented with olive leaf extract at the level of 200 mg/kg oleuropein; GSE100: the diet supplemented with grape seed extract at the level of 100 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; GSE200: the diet supplemented with grape seed extract at the level of 200 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; PPE100: the diet supplemented with pomegranate peel

Table 3 The microbial content of breast meat in broilers fed diet supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts

Dietary Treatments	Total aerobic bacteria			Coliform bacteria			Lactic acid bacteria		
	0 <sup>th</sup> d	7 <sup>th</sup> d	14 <sup>th</sup> d	0 <sup>th</sup> d	7 <sup>th</sup> d	14 <sup>th</sup> d	0 <sup>th</sup> d	7 <sup>th</sup> d	14 <sup>th</sup> d
CONT	2.893 <sup>a</sup>	3.783 <sup>a</sup>	4.590 <sup>a</sup>	0	2.053 <sup>a</sup>	2.287 <sup>a</sup>	1.233 <sup>a</sup>	1.667 <sup>a</sup>	3.080 <sup>a</sup>
P	2.732 <sup>c</sup>	3.507 <sup>c</sup>	4.193 <sup>c</sup>	0	1.393 <sup>f</sup>	1.523 <sup>f</sup>	1.123 <sup>c</sup>	1.413 <sup>c</sup>	2.927 <sup>b</sup>
OLE100	2.827 <sup>ab</sup>	3.743 <sup>a</sup>	4.373 <sup>b</sup>	0	1.760 <sup>c</sup>	1.823 <sup>c</sup>	1.213 <sup>ab</sup>	1.557 <sup>b</sup>	3.010 <sup>ab</sup>
OLE200	2.713 <sup>c</sup>	3.460 <sup>d</sup>	4.223 <sup>c</sup>	0	1.660 <sup>d</sup>	1.773 <sup>d</sup>	1.190 <sup>b</sup>	1.533 <sup>b</sup>	2.960 <sup>c</sup>
GSE100	2.837 <sup>ab</sup>	3.737 <sup>a</sup>	4.443 <sup>b</sup>	0	1.817 <sup>b</sup>	1.920 <sup>b</sup>	1.230 <sup>a</sup>	1.680 <sup>a</sup>	3.053 <sup>a</sup>
GSE200	2.807 <sup>ab</sup>	3.690 <sup>ab</sup>	4.387 <sup>b</sup>	0	1.720 <sup>c</sup>	1.837 <sup>c</sup>	1.227 <sup>a</sup>	1.667 <sup>a</sup>	3.000 <sup>ab</sup>
PPE100	2.613 <sup>d</sup>	3.430 <sup>d</sup>	4.167 <sup>c</sup>	0	1.533 <sup>e</sup>	1.627 <sup>e</sup>	1.200 <sup>b</sup>	1.417 <sup>c</sup>	2.927 <sup>b</sup>
PPE200	2.373 <sup>e</sup>	3.197 <sup>e</sup>	4.077 <sup>d</sup>	0	1.397 <sup>f</sup>	1.517 <sup>f</sup>	1.110 <sup>d</sup>	1.363 <sup>d</sup>	2.887 <sup>c</sup>
Pooled SEM	0.033	0.041	0.035	0	0.044	0.050	0.010	0.026	0.014
P-value	0.000	0.000	0.000	0	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

<sup>a-f</sup> Column means within the different superscripts do differ (\*\*\*P<0.001); SEM: Standard Error of Means

In addition, Govaris et al. (2010) found that the dietary olive leaves were more effective in preventing of lipid oxidation of turkey breast compared to when the turkeys received no supplementation. This situation may be highly attributed to polyphenolic compounds with the antioxidant activity in OLE, GSE and PPE (Mahmmod, 2014; Farahat et al., 2016; Saleh et al., 2017). The antioxidant activities of these polyphenols may be attributed to their hydrogen donor ability to block free radical chain reactions in the oxidation process and thereby convert them into stable end product (Qin et al., 2013). Their antioxidant activities are mainly due to their radical scavenging activity, metal binding and reducing power (Naveena et al., 2008 a,b; Selani et al., 2011; Mahmmod, 2014).

#### Microbial Content of Breast Meat

The microbial content of breast meat in broilers fed diet supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts was given in Table 3.

Feeding P, OLE200, PPE100 and PPE200 diets significantly decreased total aerobic bacteria content of breast meat at 0<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> days compared to the other diets (P<0.001). Furthermore, total aerobic bacteria content of breast meat at 14<sup>th</sup> day was significantly reduced by all dietary treatments compared to the CONT diet (P<0.001).

The finding related to the microbial content of breast of broiler is in agreement with the results of Mahajan et al. (2000a) pointed out that dietary supplementation of probiotic significantly decreased total aerobic bacteria counts of breast meat of broilers. Bhaskar Reddy et al. (2013) found that the addition of grape seed extract significantly reduced the total aerobic psychrophilic bacteria count in restructured mutton slices during refrigerated storage.

The coliform bacteria content of breast meat at 0<sup>th</sup> day was not found significantly. On the other hand, all dietary treatments significantly reduced the coliform bacteria content of breast meat at 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> days (P<0.001).

The P, OLE200, PPE100 and PPE200 diets significantly reduced lactic acid bacteria content of breast meat at 0<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> days compared to the CONT diet (P<0.001). This finding concurs with the results of Aksu et al. (2005) reported that feeding the probiotic at the level of 0.2% significantly reduced total aerobic psychrophilic bacteria count and lactic acid bacteria count of breast meat compared to those of broilers fed the CONT diet.

This situation might be derived from the prevention of the growth of pathogenic microorganisms of probiotic bacteria by its multiplying in the mucus of the intestinal tract of broilers.

Table 4 The pH values of breast meat in broilers fed diet supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts

Dietary Treatments	pH values	
	15 <sup>th</sup> min	24 <sup>th</sup> h
CONT	6.37	6.23 <sup>a</sup>
P	6.21	6.15 <sup>b</sup>
OLE100	6.26	6.12 <sup>b</sup>
OLE200	6.23	6.05 <sup>c</sup>
GSE100	6.29	6.17 <sup>b</sup>
GSE200	6.24	6.09 <sup>c</sup>
PPE100	6.19	5.93 <sup>d</sup>
PPE200	6.14	5.92 <sup>d</sup>
Pooled SEM	0.023	0.021
P-value	0.188	0.000

<sup>a-d</sup> Column means within the different superscripts do differ (\*\*P<0.001), SEM: Standard Error of Means, CONT: a basal diet which contained no feed additive; P: the diet supplemented with probiotic to the CONT diet; OLE100: the diet supplemented with olive leaf extract at the level of 100 mg/kg oleuropein; OLE200: the diet supplemented with olive leaf extract at the level of 200 mg/kg oleuropein; GSE100: the diet supplemented with grape seed extract at the level of 100 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; GSE200: the diet supplemented with grape seed extract at the level of 200 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; PPE100: the diet supplemented with pomegranate peel extract at the level of 100 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; PPE200: the diet supplemented with pomegranate peel extract at the level of 200 mg/kg proanthocyanidin

Table 5 The water holding capacity, drip loss and cooking loss of breast meat in broilers fed diets supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts

Dietary Treatments	Water holding capacity	Drip loss (3 <sup>th</sup> d)	Drip loss (7 <sup>th</sup> d)	Cooking loss
CONT	24.56 <sup>b</sup>	1.90 <sup>b</sup>	2.28 <sup>a</sup>	20.46 <sup>b</sup>
P	24.82 <sup>ab</sup>	1.83 <sup>c</sup>	2.07 <sup>b</sup>	18.66 <sup>d</sup>
OLE100	24.81 <sup>ab</sup>	1.92 <sup>b</sup>	2.31 <sup>a</sup>	19.13 <sup>c</sup>
OLE200	24.86 <sup>ab</sup>	1.74 <sup>d</sup>	2.01 <sup>b</sup>	18.57 <sup>d</sup>
GSE100	24.49 <sup>b</sup>	1.97 <sup>b</sup>	2.33 <sup>a</sup>	19.66 <sup>c</sup>
GSE200	23.79 <sup>c</sup>	2.18 <sup>a</sup>	2.35 <sup>a</sup>	21.24 <sup>a</sup>
PPE100	24.95 <sup>a</sup>	1.51 <sup>e</sup>	1.81 <sup>c</sup>	18.46 <sup>d</sup>
PPE200	25.06 <sup>a</sup>	1.31 <sup>f</sup>	1.71 <sup>d</sup>	17.88 <sup>e</sup>
Pooled SEM	0.130	0.058	0.072	0.350
P-value	0.008	0.003	0.006	0.003

<sup>a-f</sup> Column means within the different superscripts do differ (\*\*P<0.01), SEM: Standard Error of Means, CONT: a basal diet which contained no feed additive; P: the diet supplemented with probiotic to the CONT diet; OLE100: the diet supplemented with olive leaf extract at the level of 100 mg/kg oleuropein; OLE200: the diet supplemented with olive leaf extract at the level of 200 mg/kg oleuropein; GSE100: the diet supplemented with grape seed extract at the level of 100 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; GSE200: the diet supplemented with grape seed extract at the level of 200 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; PPE100: the diet supplemented with pomegranate peel extract at the level of 100 mg/kg proanthocyanidin; PPE200: the diet supplemented with pomegranate peel extract at the level of 200 mg/kg proanthocyanidin

#### Meat Quality Parameters

**pH values:** The pH values of breast meat in broilers fed diets supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts are given in Table 4.

As shown in Table 4, dietary treatments did not influence pH of breast meat of broilers at the first 15 min. On the other hand, pH value of breast meat of broilers at 24 th h post-mortem was significantly decreased by feeding diets supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts (P<0.001).

The reduction in pH attributes to depletion of muscle glycogen stores due to their conversion to lactic acid at post-mortem period (Kim et al., 2016).

This result is in agreement with the finding of Al-Qazzez et al. (2014) who reported that the pomegranate peel extract significantly reduced pH value of minced frozen chicken meat. Kaur et al. (2015) also pointed out that the pH value of chicken nuggets prepared with grape seed extract supplementation was significantly lower than the control diet. In addition, there is a study associated with the reducing effect of olive leaves supplementation

at 5 and 10 g/kg level to broiler diets on the pH values of the thighs and drumsticks compared to the control diet (Marangoni et al., 2017). Abdulla et al. (2017) reported that broiler chickens fed the diet supplemented with probiotic had the lowest pH value compared to the control diet. The low pH value in breast meat of broilers fed the diets supplemented with OLE, GSE and PPE may be derived from the preventing effect of antimicrobial bioactive compounds found in these extracts on the proliferation and the growth of bacteria that metabolize nitrogen compounds (Zhang et al., 2016). In contrast, Brannan (2009) and Selani et al. (2011) found no differences between the group supplemented with grape seed extracts and the control group in terms of pH value of chicken meat. Likewise, Kim et al. (2016) pointed out that there are no differences between pH values of the breast meat of chickens fed the control diet and diet supplemented with probiotic.

**Water holding capacity, drip loss and cooking loss:** The water holding capacity, drip loss at 3<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> days and cooking loss of breast meat in broilers fed diets supplemented with probiotic and pomegranate peel-, grape seed- and olive leaf-extracts are shown in Table 5.

As indicated in Table 5, the PPE100 and PPE200 diets significantly increased the water holding capacity of breast meat at 42 d compared to those of broilers fed the CONT, GSE100 and GSE200 diets ( $P < 0.01$ ). The water holding capacity of breast meat of broilers fed the P diet was statistically similar to that of broilers fed the CONT diet. This finding concurs with the result of Pelicano et al. (2003) who reported that there were no differences in water holding capacity of breast meat of broilers fed the control diet and diet supplemented with probiotic. Moreover, Marangoni et al. (2017) reported that the water holding capacity of chicken thigh and drumsticks meat was significantly increased by the olive leaves supplementation compared to the control diet.

On the contrary, Al-Qazzez et al. (2014) found that the pomegranate peel extract significantly decreased water holding capacity of minced frozen chicken meat. The PPE100 and PPE200 diets may have been improved the meat quality due to the higher water holding capacity such as greater juiciness, more palatability and desirable sensory (Huallanco 2004; Marangoni et al., 2017). As a result of this, the phenol may be absorbed on the protein surface and interact with protein in reversible and irreversible ways that caused to variation in charge distribution. The alteration of charge distribution due to a polyphenol-protein complex may have lead to the increase of water holding capacity by the supplementation of pomegranate peel extract (Hayes et al., 2010).

As shown in Table 5, all dietary treatments except GSE200 diet significantly decreased the drip loss of broiler breast meat at 3<sup>th</sup> ( $P < 0.01$ ) day of the storage compared to the CONT. The P, OLE200, PPE100 and PPE200 diets significantly decreased the drip loss of breast meat at 7<sup>th</sup> day compared to those of broilers fed the CONT, OLE100, GSE100 and GSE200 diets ( $P < 0.01$ ). This result concurs with the finding of Al-Qazzez et al. (2014) who reported that the pomegranate peel extract supplementation at 0.5, 1.0 and 1.5% levels significantly reduced the drip loss of minced frozen chicken meat. The low drip loss observed in chickens fed diet supplemented with probiotic supported the results of Abdulla et al. (2017) who showed reduction in drip loss in breast meat of broilers fed probiotic. Probiotic and phenolic compounds in OLE200, PPE100 and PPE200 diets stabilized cell integrity and increased the ability of meat to retain sarcoplasmic compounds (Mitsumoto et al., 2005). As a result of this, loss of water soluble nutrients due to drip loss was significantly decreased (Mahmmod 2014; Abdulla et al., 2017).

Table 5 indicated that all dietary treatments except GSE200 diet significantly reduced the cooking loss of chicken breast meat at 42 d compared to the CONT diet ( $P < 0.01$ ). This finding is in agreement with the result of Mahmmod (2014) who reported that the olive leaf extract at 2 and 4 % significantly reduced cooking loss of lamb meat stored at +4°C for seven days. Likewise, Al-Qazzez et al. (2014) reported that the pomegranate peel extract supplementation significantly decreased the cooking loss of minced frozen chicken meat. It may be derived from the increase of the water binding capacity of pomegranate peel extract that enhanced the ability of meat to retain water and reduced the cooking loss during cooking (Mahmmod, 2014). Likewise, the study finding of

Abdulla et al. (2017) indicated that the dietary supplementation of sole probiotic led to the lowest cooking loss in breast meat of broiler chickens. On the contrary, Kurt (2015) pointed out that the grape seed powder at 0.5, 1 and 2% concentrations did not significantly influenced the cooking loss of beef patties compared to the control group. Kim et al. (2016) also showed that the dietary probiotic supplementation had no any significant effect on cooking loss in broiler breast meat.

## Conclusion

It was concluded that probiotic, olive leaf- and pomegranate peel- extracts have potential to be used as natural antimicrobial feed additives in terms of their lipid oxidation, microbial content and quality parameters of broiler meat.

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