Soybean meal may stimulate immune response

A recent study by Dale et al. investigated the effect of soybean meal on the immune response of broilers. They conducted two experiments to determine the impact of soybean meal on the innate immune response, specifically the acute phase protein alpha-1 acid glycoprotein (AGP), which is related to the innate immune response.

In experiment 1, two treatments were compared: a diet containing 17% soybean meal and a diet containing 0% soybean meal, each with or without 5% guar meal. In experiment 2, diets contained 34% soybean meal, 34% corn, 17% soybean meal, 17% corn, and either with or without 2% guar gum.

Plasma AGP levels were significantly reduced by removing soybean meal in experiment 1, and significantly increased when guar gum was added. In experiment 2, diets contained 17% soybean meal, and plasma AGP was significantly lower in chicks fed 5% guar meal than those fed 0% guar meal. The results suggested that soybean meal may have beneficial effects on the immune response of broilers.

**More guar**

While guar gum is a rich source of beta-mannan, it also stimulates an innate immune response. Mannose-containing compounds such as those found in guar gum can trigger the innate immune response, which is important for the body's defense against pathogens.

**More Eimeria**

Eimeria is a parasitic protozoan that causes coccidiosis in birds. The study also investigated the effect of narasin, a coccidiostat, on the immune response of broilers. Narasin was added to the diet to reduce the incidence of coccidiosis in broilers.

**Conclusion**

Soybean meal was found to stimulate the innate immune response in broilers, which can be beneficial for overall health and productivity. Further research is needed to fully understand the mechanisms behind these effects and to optimize the use of soybean meal in broiler diets.