Review Form 1.7

Journal Name:	**Asian Journal of Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology**
Manuscript Number:	**Ms_AJBGMB_98206**
Title of the Manuscript:	**Performance, haematology and serum biochemical status of two breeds of broiler chicken fed Ficus thonningii leaf powder and vitamin C supplemented diets**
Type of the Article	**Original Research Article**

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty'**, provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.
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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	**Author's comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Compulsory REVISION comments 1. **Is the manuscript important for scientific community?** (Please write few sentences on this manuscript) 2. **Is the title of the article suitable?** (If not please suggest an alternative title) 3. **Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?** 4. **Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?** 5. **Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?** 6. **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.** **(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)**	1. **The manuscript presents relevance for the animal breeding field, poultry industry in particular** 2. **The title is connected with the results** 3. **The abstract could be improved by adding the novelty of the data** 4. **The subsections of the manuscript should be improved:** **Introduction – not suitable, not accurate, not related to the rest of the manuscript** *With the huge potential of poultry production to provide food and livelihood securities [1], broiler production is expected to meet the critical shortage in animal protein needed by Africa [2]. However, a major threat to achieving the full potential of broiler production has been the growing concerns of the impacts of climate change on livestock production [3] and it has been projected that there is an expected increase in average temperature by 2°C–6°C by the year 2100 [4] which portends serious challenge to sustainable broiler production. [5] reported that high ambient temperature adversely affects the performance of broiler chickens and a way to mitigate this is the supplementation of antioxidants in the diet to ameliorate the effects of thermal stress on the birds. The negative impacts of heat stress on poultry have been reported [6], [7]. The responses of birds to high ambient temperature includes high body temperature; lower feed intake, feed efficiency, live weight and growth and performance [8]. The inclusion of these phytogenic substances of plant origin in poultry diets* **What is the link between poultry farms and climate change or environmental temperature variations? The farms have standardized criteria for welfare and hygiene, including temperature.** **This part is not accurate, the authors should modify it** *The inclusion of these phytogenic substances of plant origin in poultry diets has contributed to enhance the performance of animals, improving carcass traits and health status, ameliorating the negative impacts of oxidative stress and conferring positive effect on animal products [9], [10], [11].* these ? – the authors should be more specific ! phytogenic substances of plant origin – is a pleonasm given phytogenic definition *The common wild fig, Ficus thonningii (odan) is one of the many fruit-bearing trees that have traditionally been used for treating diseases in Africa and beyond* ? the authors should remove the word or be more specific *Ficus thonningii extracts also contain phytochemicals that mimic and/or enhance the action of regulatory peptides which increase the proliferation of parietal cells and exhibit tropic effects on the gut mucosa of rat [13]. In a previous study by [13], it was reported that F. thonningii leaf has 11.91% ash, 22.61% crude fibre, 8.51% crude fat, 7.63% crude protein, 70% DPPH, 8mg/g vitamin C, 81.55mg/g flavonoids, 51.42mg/g saponins, 59.50mg/g alkaloids, 12.51mg/g Ca and 6.63mg/g Fe. The inclusion of vitamin C in the diets of poultry birds has been reported to be a means of ameliorating the impact of heat stress due to its antioxidant properties, scavenging of free radicals [15], reduction of its biosynthesis during heat stress as well as poultry birds' ability to overcome infectious conditions [16].* These sentences have no connections, no logic, the authors should clearly describe the importance of the studied herbal species – traditional use, phytochemistry, economical value Dangarembizi R, Erlwanger KH, Moyo D, Chivandi E. Phytochemistry, pharmacology and ethnomedicinal uses of Ficus thonningii (Blume Moraceae): a review. Afr J Tradit Complement Altern Med. 2012 Dec 31;10(2):203-12. doi: 10.4314/ajtcam.v10i2.4 **Discussion** section requires modifications as well. Similar to the introduction section, the authors mix sentences with no connections and little scientifical value The novelty of the study is not presented. The authors do not clearly state the importance of their data, do not provide sufficient data for the use of the tested herbal species **Conclusion** *The antioxidants and phytochemical properties of FTLP resulted in increased feed intake and enhanced BWG as well as improving haematological and serum chemical profiles of*	

	the tested birds which is an indication that effect of heat and oxidative stress were mitigated. This conclusion is not supported by the presented results or statistical analysis, the authors should modify accordingly.	
Minor REVISION comments **1. Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?**	The English language requires corrections.	
Optional/General comments		

PART 2:

	Reviewer's comment	**Author's comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	*(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)*	

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