

## Impact of Coccidia on Mortality and Weight Growth in Japanese Quail *Coturnix japonica* (Aves, Phasianidae) in Algeria

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**Abstract :** Coccidiosis is a very common intestinal parasitic disease caused by a worldwide distributed protozoan of the genus *Eimeria*. This disease is very common in young birds beyond the second week of life, especially in land-based breeding. The study was carried out in a hunting center of Zeralda located in the north-east of Algiers. The objective of our work is to study the evolution of coccidiosis in quails from 1 to 35 days old by collecting their droppings daily. These are analyzed in the laboratory using the flotation method and the Mac Master one to count coccidia. Weight changes are taken into account as well as mortality in parallel with certain zootechnical parameters such as density. The species of coccidia recovered is *Eimeria coturnicis*. The results showed that there is an average evolution of mortality of individuals with a rate of 13.33% due to the presence of coccidia with a significant regression ( $p=0.031$ ). The weight of the quails increases with the age of the animal with a rapid growth rate from the 3rd week onwards. Indeed, the statistical analysis reveals that the evolution of the number did not affect the evolution of the weight ( $p=0.70$ ) and the GMQ ( $R=0.52$ ).

**Keywords :** coccidiosis, *Coturnix japonica*, daily average gain, weight

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