

Biochemical Effects of *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae* (Biological Product) and Hydrated Sodium Calcium Alimono-Silicate "HSCAS" (Chemical Compound) as Anti-Aflatoxin in Chicken Rations

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Abstract

In the current study, ninety, one day old broiler chicks were randomly assigned into six equal groups; one control and five treatment groups with fifteen chicks per group. A basal diet was given to broiler chicks of the control group (control group). Groups 2&3 were given the basal diet supplemented with hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate (HSCAS) at 0.25% level and *saccharomyces cerevisiae* (SC) at 0.5 % level respectively. Group 4 was given the basal diet contaminated with Aflatoxin at 250 ppb. Groups 5&6 were given the basal diet supplemented with hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate (HSCAS) at 0.25% level and *saccharomyces cerevisiae* (SC) at 0.5 % level respectively and contaminated with Aflatoxin at 250 ppb level. The diets were given for six weeks to all studied groups.

The obtained results revealed that Aflatoxin toxicity at 250 ppb dose increased malondialdehyde (MDA), creatinine, uric acid concentrations, alanine aminotransferase (ALT), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), γ -glutamyl aminotransferase (γ GT), Creatine kinase (CK) & Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) activities and decreased the reduced glutathione (GSH), total protein, albumin, globulin, calcium (Ca), phosphorus (P), magnesium (Mg), concentrations and superoxide dismutase (SOD) activity in broilers serum in comparison with control. As well as, dissemination of aflatoxin residue in broilers meat and liver was observed. Dietary addition of (HSCAS) at 0.25% level and (SC) at 0.5 % level mitigate the above mentioned changes and SC was more efficient than HSCAS.

Key words: *Aflatoxins, Hydrated Sodium Calcium Alumino-Silicate (HSCAS), Saccharomyces Cerevisiae (SC), Antioxidants, Metabolic Enzymes, Ca, P, Mg, Aflatoxin residue and Broilers Chickens.*

Introduction

Aflatoxins (AF) are potent toxic secondary metabolites produced mainly by *Aspergillus flavus*, *A. parasiticus* and rarely *A. nomius* (Milita *et al.*, 2010). Aflatoxin contamination of crops is a worldwide food safety concern. More than 25% of the world cereals are contaminated with mycotoxins leading to significant economic losses (Wu, 2007). Mycotoxins are mainly produced by the fungal genera of *Aspergillus*, *Fusarium* and *Penicillium* during its growing on crops in the field, at harvest or

during storage, as well as, during feed processing (Devegowda *et al.*, 1998). A continuous increase of AF contamination is possible considering the impacts of global climate change, which favors AF production (Streit *et al.*, 2013).

Occurrence of mycotoxin contamination in foods is more prevalent in the tropical and subtropical countries resulting in acute and chronic mycotoxicoses in humans and animals. Several approaches are available for mycotoxin decontamination but, most of them are not

widely available due to high cost or practical difficulties involved in detoxification process. Many of the developed countries have regulations for mycotoxins in food grains and its products (Shetty and Jespersen, 2006). However, the risk of mycotoxin exposures continues in the developing countries due to lack of food security, poverty and malnutrition (Williams *et al.*, 2004).

Aflatoxin B1 (AFB1) is the most prevalent and toxic metabolite produced by *Aspergillus* fungi, primarily *A. flavus* and *A. parasiticus* (Bhat *et al.*, 2010) which can contaminate corn, sorghum, oilseeds, and other food materials (Alberts *et al.*, 2006). Various domestic and experimental species are sensitive to the carcinogenic, mutagenic, hepatotoxic and immunosuppressive effects of AFB1, in which the liver is the main affected organ (Baptista *et al.*, 2004). International Agency for Research on Cancer (2002) classified AFB1 as belonging to Group 1, carcinogenic to humans. The major source of exposure to AF is via the ingestion of contaminated food (Leeson *et al.*, 1995).

Several strategies, including chemical, physical and biological control methods have been investigated to manage aflatoxins in foods (Diaz *et al.*, 2010 and Reddy *et al.*, 2010b). Among them, biological control appears to be the most promising approach for control of aflatoxins (Reddy *et al.*, 2010a).

Enteroadsorption methods use nutritionally inert dietary compounds that prevent toxin absorption by the animal gastrointestinal tract (Gratz *et al.*, 2005). Although several mineral adsorbents are available, their application is limited due to vitamin and mineral adsorption (Hussein and Brasel, 2001). An attractive alternative is the use of microorganisms to control or eliminate aflatoxins in food and feed, thus preserving their quality and safety (Alberts *et al.*, 2009).

Inorganic materials such as aluminosilicates, bentonites, charcoal and zeolite, or clays in general, were early used for their adsorptive properties and efficient binders to reduce the toxic effect of aflatoxins. However, their effi-

cacy against other mycotoxins such as ochratoxin, fusarium toxins and trichothecenes is very limited or near zero under field condition. Furthermore, it need to be incorporated at high levels and may have side effects on some dietary nutrients, thus reducing the nutritional value of animal diets. (Galvano *et al.*, 2001; Lemke *et al.*, 2001; Santin *et al.*, 2002 and Watts *et al.*, 2003).

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) stated that 'The use of sodium aluminosilicate and hydrated calcium sodium aluminosilicate as binders for mycotoxins is not considered to be generally recognized as safe' (FDA, 1999). Additionally, clays accumulate in the manure and may have detrimental effects on the soils and pastures after the manure has been spread onto the field (Mezes *et al.*, 2010).

Therefore, several studies have been carried out on other types of binders during the last decade. Live yeast (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*; Sc), initially used as a performance promoter in the early 1990s, was found to have beneficial effects in broilers exposed to mycotoxins (Newman, 1994).

Yeast is a promising candidate for AF decontamination (Fruhauf *et al.*, 2012). Yeast contains various immune-stimulatory compounds such as beta glucans and mannan oligosaccharides which serve as an excellent health promoter. Live yeast is widely used as probiotic and toxin binder in animal feed industry (Sreeparvathy and Anuraj, 2016). Smits *et al.* (1999) reported that 30 to 40 per cent of the yeast cell wall is composed of mannans and manno-proteins.

Esterified glucomannan (EG); a derivative of the SC yeast cell wall, is able to bind higher levels of several important mycotoxins as compared to the limited narrow range binding abilities of inorganic binders (Mahesh and Devegowda, 1996 and Volkl and Karlovsky, 1998). It has a large surface area of 22,000 m² per 1 kg and contains a large number of pores of different sizes to trap a wide range of mycotoxins (Cole, 1999).

Broilers are the major source of meat supply around the World. This massive growth and

spurt in poultry production has put a great pressure on proper feeding of poultry (**Manafi et al., 2014**).

Chickens are still quite susceptible to aflatoxicosis and suffer from reduced vitamin D synthesis in addition to the other effects. This leads to reduced growth, increased bruising and leg weakness with contamination as low as 14 µg/kg (**Devegowda and Murthy, 2005**).

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) set a regulatory level of 20 ppb of aflatoxin in poultry feedstuffs (**Aravind et al., 2003**). While regulations are less strict for some ingredients intended for animals (100-300 µg/kg for corn intended for poultry). (**CFIA, 2009**).

The aim of the present work is to evaluate both *Saccharomyces Cerevisiae* (Biological Product) and HSCAS (Chemical Compound) as anti-mycotoxine feed additives against harmful effects of aflatoxin B₁ in chicken ration on light of their biochemical effects on the liver function [aspartate aminotransferase (AST), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), γ-glutamyl aminotransferase (γGT) activities, total protein, albumine, globuline concentrations & A/G ratio], kidney function (uric acid and creatinine concentrations), muscles function [Creatine kinase (CK) & Lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) activities], some mineral concentrations [calcium (Ca), phosphorus (P) & magnesium (Mg)] in broilers serum, and determination of aflatoxin B₁ residue in broilers meat and liver.

Materials and Methods

Hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate (HSCA):

Hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate (HSCAS) was obtained from El Nasr for Pharmaceutical Chemicals Co. (ADWIK), Abu Zaabal, Egypt and thoroughly, mixed with diet mash at concentrations of 0.25 %, according to **Denli and Okan, (2006)**.

Saccharomyces cerevisiae(SC):

Instant dry yeast of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (Angel®) was obtained from Angel Yeast (Egypt) Co., Ltd, Medium industries area,

Eastern Nile, Beni Suef, Egypt, added to ration mash at concentrations of 0.5 %, according to **Eshak et al., (2010)**.

All other chemicals used were of highest analytical grade.

Aflatoxin B₁ (AFB₁) Production and quantification:

Aflatoxin was produced using a reference toxigenic strain of *Aspergillus parasiticus* obtained from mycology department, faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo university as the method of **Shotwell et al. (1966)**. The fermented cultures were harvested (6th day), autoclaved, oven dried, pulverized and AF was extracted (**Romer, 1975**) and quantified by the procedures of **Truckess et al., (1991)**, using Vicam™ Fluorometer.

The culture material was mixed with the experimental crushed pellets to contain total AF concentration of 250.0 µg/Kg of ration.

Animals, Diets and Experimental Design

Ninety, one-day-old, Ross, male broiler chicks fed on a starting diet (23% Protein) for 3 weeks, growing diet (21% Protein) for 2 weeks and finishing diet (19% Protein) for 1 week. The ingredients and the nutrient composition of the basal diet were formulated to meet the requirements of the National Research Council (**NRC, 1994**) for broilers. Ration samples were analyzed for the detection of aflatoxins according to the procedures described by **Truckess et al., (1991)**.

Broiler chicks were randomly assigned into six groups; one control and five treatment groups with fifteen chicks per group. Basal diet was given to broiler chicks in the **control group**. Groups 2&3 were given the basal diet supplemented with hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate (HSCAS) at 0.25% level (**HSCAS group**) and *saccharomyces cerevisiae* (SC) at 0.5 % level (**SC group**) respectively. Group 4 was given the basal diet contaminated with Aflatoxin (AF) at 250 ppb (**AF group**). Groups 5&6 were given the basal diet supplemented with hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicate (HSCAS) at 0.25% level and *Saccharomyces*

cerevisiae (SC) at 0.5 % level respectively and contaminated with Aflatoxin at 250 ppb level; (**AF+ HSCAS group**) and (**AF+SC group**). The diets were given for all groups for a period of six weeks.

Along the feeding period of 42 days, diets and water were provided *ad libitum*. Ten broilers were kept in pens (1m x 1.5m) in a ventilated broiler house containing wood shavings as litter material. All groups were kept under observation and were vaccinated against Newcastle disease virus (ND) at 8, 18 and 32 days of age and infectious bursal disease virus (IBD) at 14th and 24th days of age.

Samples:

Blood samples were collected from wing vein, two times at 3 weeks intervals. Serum was then separated by centrifugation of blood at 3000 rpm for 20 minutes and used for biochemical analysis.

At the end of experiment, liver and muscles samples were collected, washed with saline and kept at -20 °C until used for AF residues analysis.

Biochemical analysis:

Serum was used for determination of malondialdehyde concentration according to **Albro *et al.*, (1986)**, reduced glutathione content according to **Chanarin, (1989)**, superoxide dismutase activity after **Minami and Yoshikawa, (1979)**. Serum samples were subjected to determination of aspartate aminotransferase (AST), alanine aminotransferase (ALT) activities according to **Reitman and Frankel, (1957)** and γ -glutamyltransferase(γ GT) activity according to **Persijn, and Vander (1976)**, Total protein (TP) as described by **Cannon *et al.*, (1974)**, albumin assay after **Doumas *et al.*, (1971)**. Serum globulin level and albumin/globulin ratio (A/G ratio) were calculated mathematically according to **Coles (1986)**.

CK and LDH activities in serum were measured kinetically according to the method described by **Rosalki, (1967)** and **Buhl and Jackson, (1978)** respectively.

Serum creatinine concentration was measured by the method adopted by **Bowers and Wong, (1980)**. Determining serum uric acid concentration was assayed by the method of **Fossati *et al.*, (1980)**.

Serum calcium and magnesium concentrations were determined according to **Barnett (1965)**. Inorganic phosphorus concentration was determined according to **Daly and Ertingshausen (1972)**.

Aflatoxin residue in broilers meat and liver was extracted and quantified by the procedures of **Truckess *et al.*, (1991)**, using Vicam™ Fluorometer.

Statistical analysis:

Data obtained were presented as mean \pm standard error (SE). Significance of differences was evaluated using analysis of variance (ANOVA) and least significant difference (LSD) at $P \leq 0.05$ by the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences PC statistical program (**SPSS 14, 2006**).

Results

Antioxidant status parameters.

The recorded results in tables (1) revealed a significant and time dependent increase in serum MDA concentration in AF intoxicated group in comparison with control. While, in SC group a significant decrease was observed at the 3rd & 6th week without time effect. Concerning the effect of HSCAS and SC addition on AF toxicity, broilers of groups 5 & 6 showed a significant decrease in serum MDA concentration after 3 weeks to reach the maximal decrease at the 6th week in SC group which was similar to value of control.

Serum GSH concentration was significantly decreased in all AF intoxicated groups (2, 5 & 6) against control in a time dependent manner. The lowest concentration occurred in AF group (group 2) at the 6th week, followed by AF+ HSCAS group (group 5) then AF+ SC group (group 6). On the other hand in SC group (group 4) a significant elevation was observed at the 6th week.

Concerning serum superoxide dismutase

(SOD) activity, the data presented in table (2) showed a significant reduction in AF and AF+HSCAS groups (groups 2 & 5) at the 3rd & 6th week in comparison with control without time effect. Addition of SC alone increased SOD activity significantly than that of control in SC group at the 6th week and kept its level as that of control when added with AF toxin in AF+SC group.

Liver enzymes activities and serum proteins concentrations.

As shown in table (2) all liver enzymes (ALT, AST & γ GT) activities recorded a significant elevation in all AF groups (2, 5 & 6) in a time dependent manner in comparison with control values. Dietary supplementation of HSCAS at 0.5% level and SC at 0.5% level alone have no effect on liver enzymes (ALT, AST & γ GT). Regarding serum proteins concentrations, the data presented in table (3) exhibited a significant decrease in total protein and albumin concentrations in AF group at the 3rd & 6th weeks, in AF+HSCAS and AF+SC groups (groups 5 & 6) at the 6th week. Serum globulin concentration recorded a significant decrease in AF group only than control level at the 6th week. Non-significant changes of A/G ratio in all groups were occurred.

Muscular enzymes activities, and kidney function markers.

From the results recorded in table (4), it is an evidenced that serum LDH & CK activities in AF group were significantly increased at the 3rd week and reached the maximum at the 6th week in comparison with control values. However, the activities of both enzymes were still significantly higher than control from the 3rd week in AF+HSCAS group and at 6th week in AF+SC groups.

As shown in table (5), compared with control level Creatinine was significantly increased in AF group at the 3rd & 6th weeks, in AF+HSCAS and AF+SC groups (groups 5 & 6) at the 6th week. Uric acid concentration was significantly elevated in AF, AF+HSCAS and AF+SC groups (groups 2, 5 & 6) in comparison

with control values at the 3rd & 6th weeks.

Serum minerals profile.

It is obvious from the data presented in table (6) that the serum Ca concentration was significantly reduced in AF and AF+HSCAS groups at the 3rd week and reached the minimum with time, at the 6th week in comparison with control. However, a significant increase was observed in Sc group at 6th week. Phosphorus (P) and magnesium (Mg) concentrations were significantly reduced in AF, AF+HSCAS, AF+SC groups at the 3rd & 6th weeks and in HSCAS group at 6th week. On the other hand, Phosphorus was significantly increased than control in Sc group at 6th week. Phosphorus reduction was time dependent in AF, HSCAS and AF+HSCAS groups. However, magnesium changes didn't show any time effect.

Aflatoxin(AF) residues in liver and muscles tissues.

As shown in table (7), AF residues were detected in all AF groups (groups 2, 5 & 6) in both liver and muscles tissues with higher concentrations in liver than muscles. Addition of HSCAS and SC significantly reduced liver and muscles AF residues in comparison with AF group.

Table (1). Effect of dietary aflatoxin(AF), hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicat (**HSCAS**) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (**SC**) on **MDA**, **GSH** concentrations and **SOD** activity in broiler serum, at 3& 6 weeks (**Ws**). (Mean \pm SE).

Group \ Parameter	MDA (nmol/ml)		GSH (μ mol/ml)		SOD (U/ml)	
	3Ws	6Ws	3Ws	6Ws	3Ws	6Ws
1- Control	0.74 ^a \pm 0.051	0.86 ^a \pm 0.075	2.22 ^a \pm 0.073	2.12 ^a \pm 0.066	9.20 ^a \pm 0.58	8.80 ^a \pm 0.37
2- AF	1.80 ^b \pm 0.1	3.50 ^{b*} \pm 0.16	1.38 ^b \pm 0.037	0.96 ^{b*} \pm 0.081	5.22 ^b \pm 0.29	4.34 ^b \pm 0.32
3-HSCAS %	0.82 ^a \pm 0.037	0.90 ^a \pm 0.045	1.96 ^a \pm 0.081	1.92 ^a \pm 0.073	9.80 ^a \pm 0.37	9.60 ^a \pm 0.40
4- SC %	0.52 ^c \pm 0.02	0.58 ^c \pm 0.026	2.36 ^a \pm 0.075	2.58 ^{c*} \pm 0.11	10.20 ^a \pm 0.37	11.40 ^c \pm 0.25
5- AF+HSCAS	1.06 ^d \pm 0.024	1.02 ^d \pm 0.037	1.68 ^c \pm 0.12	1.42 ^{d*} \pm 0.086	7.60 ^c \pm 0.68	7.00 ^d \pm 0.71
6- AF+SC	0.80 ^a \pm 0.071	0.98 ^a \pm 0.11	1.82 ^c \pm 0.058	1.58 ^{d*} \pm 0.037	8.88 ^a \pm 0.23	8.34 ^a \pm 0.38

In **columns**, presence of different superscript small letters means significant variation between different groups, while presence of asterisk (*) means significant variation between the same groups at different times at ($P \leq 0.05$).

Table (2). Effect of dietary aflatoxin(AF), hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicat (**HSCAS**) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (**SC**) on liver enzymes activities in broiler serum, at 3& 6 weeks (**Ws**). (Mean \pm SE).

Group \ Parameter	ALT (U/L)		AST (U/L)		γ GT (U/L)	
	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws
1- Control	14.0 ^a \pm 0.55	15.4 ^a \pm 0.75	21.60 ^a \pm 0.98	23.00 ^a \pm 1.48	13.60 ^a \pm 0.81	14.80 ^a \pm 0.37
2- AF	31.0 ^b \pm 1.05	47.4 ^{b*} \pm 1.43	58.40 ^b \pm 2.16	75.40 ^{b*} \pm 2.92	20.0 ^b \pm 0.63	28.20 ^{b*} \pm 1.11
3-HSCAS %	15.8 ^a \pm 0.66	16.6 ^a \pm 1.03	22.80 ^a \pm 1.39	23.60 ^a \pm 1.53	13.80 ^a \pm 0.37	15.00 ^a \pm 0.71
4- SC %	12.6 ^a \pm 0.98	14.2 ^a \pm 0.66	19.20 ^a \pm 0.80	21.20 ^a \pm 0.58	12.40 ^a \pm 0.60	13.80 ^a \pm 0.80
5- AF+HSCAS	17.4 ^c \pm 0.88	19.6 ^c \pm 0.51	27.20 ^c \pm 0.86	32.80 ^{c*} \pm 1.39	17.60 ^c \pm 0.49	18.40 ^c \pm 0.40
6- AF+SC	16.6 ^c \pm 1.21	17.4 ^{ac} \pm 0.88	25.20 ^c \pm 1.39	28.40 ^d \pm 0.75	16.20 ^c \pm 1.03	17.00 ^c \pm 0.89

In **columns**, presence of different superscript small letters means significant variation between different groups, while presence of asterisk (*) means significant variation between the same groups at different times at ($P \leq 0.05$).

Table (3). Effect of dietary aflatoxin(AF), hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicat (**HSCAS**) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (**SC**) on serum proteins concentrations in broiler, at 3& 6 weeks (**Ws**). (Mean \pm SE).

Group \ Parameter	TP (g/dl)		Alb. (g/dl)		Glob. (g/dl)		A/G	
	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws
1- Control	7.60 ^a ± 0.08	7.68 ^a ± 0.1	3.92 ^a ± 0.04	3.80 ^a ± 0.05	3.68 ^a ± 0.06	3.68 ^a ± 0.27	1.065 ^a ± 0.01	1.033 ^a ± 0.09
2- AF	6.10 ^b ± 0.07	5.26 ^{b*} ± 0.05	2.94 ^b ± 0.13	2.34 ^{b*} ± 0.12	3.16 ^a ± 0.07	2.92 ^b ± 0.08	0.93 ^a ± 0.07	0.80 ^a ± 0.06
3-HSCAS %	7.52 ^a ± 0.1	7.46 ^a ± 0.22	3.82 ^a ± 0.07	3.64 ^{ad} ± 0.15	3.70 ^a ± 0.15	3.82 ^a ± 0.21	1.032 ^a ± 0.05	0.95 ^a ± 0.04
4- SC %	7.68 ^a ± 0.07	7.72 ^a ± 0.10	3.96 ^a ± 0.05	3.98 ^{ac} ± 0.04	3.72 ^a ± 0.06	3.74 ^a ± 0.11	1.065 ^a ± 0.02	1.064 ^a ± 0.04
5- AF+HSCAS	7.40 ^a ± 0.13	7.36 ^c ± 0.06	3.76 ^a ± 0.07	3.54 ^{d*} ± 0.07	3.64 ^a ± 0.09	3.82 ^a ± 0.12	1.033 ^a ± 0.02	0.93 ^a ± 0.05
6- AF+SC	7.42 ^a ± 0.09	7.38 ^c ± 0.20	3.80 ^a ± 0.10	3.66 ^{ad} ± 0.10	3.62 ^a ± 0.17	3.72 ^a ± 0.24	1.05 ^a ± 0.07	0.98 ^a ± 0.08

In **columns**, presence of different superscript small letters means significant variation between different groups, while presence of asterisk (*) means significant variation between the same groups at different times at ($P \leq 0.05$).

Table (4). Effect of dietary aflatoxin(AF), hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicat (**HSCAS**) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (**SC**) on muscles enzymes activities in broiler serum, at 3& 6 weeks (**Ws**). (Mean \pm SE).

Group \ Parameter	LDH (U/L)		CK (U/L)	
	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws
1- Control	142.0 \pm 6.3 ^a	145.0 \pm 4.5 ^a	33.8 \pm 1.85 ^a	34.0 \pm 1.87 ^a
2- AF	187.0 \pm 2.0 ^b	237.0 \pm 5.6 ^{b*}	63.0 \pm 2.15 ^b	91.5 \pm 3.92 ^{b*}
3-HSCAS %	141.0 \pm 11.0 ^a	144.0 \pm 7.3 ^a	31.0 \pm 1.87 ^{ac}	35.0 \pm 2.24 ^a
4- SC %	131.0 \pm 2.9 ^a	142.0 \pm 3.7 ^a	28.0 \pm 1.22 ^{ac}	31.0 \pm 1.18 ^a
5- AF+HSCAS	161.0 \pm 8.4 ^c	175.0 \pm 7.1 ^{c*}	42.0 \pm 2.55 ^d	45.0 \pm 3.54 ^c
6- AF+SC	157.0 \pm 7.1 ^{ac}	167.0 \pm 6.3 ^c	39.0 \pm 1.87 ^{ad}	42.0 \pm 2.55 ^c

In **columns**, presence of different superscript small letters means significant variation between different groups, while presence of asterisk (*) means significant variation between the same groups at different times at ($P \leq 0.05$).

Table (5) Effect of dietary aflatoxin(AF), hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicat (**HSCAS**) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (**SC**) on kidney function markers in broiler serum, at 3& 6 weeks (**Ws**). (Mean \pm SE).

Group \ Parameter	Creatinine (mg/dl)		Uric acid (mg/dl)	
	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws
1- Control	0.90 \pm 0.05 ^a	0.86 \pm 0.05 ^a	4.18 \pm 0.21 ^a	4.5 \pm 0.14 ^a
2- AF	1.50 \pm 0.07 ^b	1.72 \pm 0.06 ^{b*}	7.34 \pm 0.46 ^b	8.36 \pm 0.17 ^{b*}
3-HSCAS %	0.82 \pm 0.04 ^a	0.84 \pm 0.05 ^a	3.90 \pm 0.19 ^a	4.16 \pm 0.21 ^a
4- SC %	0.78 \pm 0.04 ^a	0.82 \pm 0.04 ^a	4.10 \pm 0.19 ^a	4.40 \pm 0.19 ^a
5- AF+HSCAS	1.06 \pm 0.05 ^{ac}	1.22 \pm 0.04 ^{c*}	5.82 \pm 0.14 ^d	6.62 \pm 0.25 ^{d*}
6- AF+SC	1.02 \pm 0.06 ^{ac}	1.08 \pm 0.04 ^c	5.34 \pm 0.21 ^d	5.50 \pm 0.14 ^e

In **columns**, presence of different superscript small letters means significant variation between different groups, while presence of asterisk (*) means significant variation between the same groups at different times at ($P \leq 0.05$).

Table (6). Effect of dietary aflatoxin(AF), hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicat (**HSCAS**) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (**SC**) on **Ca**, **P** and **Mg** concentrations in broiler serum, at 3& 6 weeks (**Ws**). (Mean \pm SE).

Group \ Parameter	Ca (mg/dl)		P (mg/dl)		Mg (mg/dl)	
	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws	3 Ws	6 Ws
1- Control	12.02 ^a \pm 0.21	11.54 ^{a*} \pm 0.33	7.96 ^a \pm 0.13	8.04 ^a \pm 0.26	3.38 ^a \pm 0.12	3.40 ^a \pm 0.13
2- AF	8.68 ^b \pm 0.25	8.18 ^{b*} \pm 0.32	6.40 ^b \pm 0.20	5.28 ^{b*} \pm 0.20	2.24 ^b \pm 0.06	1.70 ^b \pm 0.11
3-HSCAS %	11.80 ^a \pm 0.30	11.40 ^a \pm 0.32	7.92 ^a \pm 0.14	7.04 ^{cd*} \pm 0.17	3.28 ^a \pm 0.18	3.18 ^a \pm 0.12
4- SC %	12.18 ^a \pm 0.09	12.50 ^c \pm 0.35	8.24 ^a \pm 0.21	8.56 ^f \pm 0.20	3.58 ^a \pm 0.18	3.68 ^a \pm 0.15
5- AF+HSCAS	11.24 ^c \pm 0.38	10.54 ^{d*} \pm 0.34	7.16 ^c \pm 0.36	6.56 ^{cd*} \pm 0.22	2.96 ^b \pm 0.68	2.86 ^c \pm 0.04
6- AF+SC	11.96 ^a \pm 0.21	11.28 ^{a*} \pm 0.13	7.32 ^c \pm 0.31	7.48 ^{cde} \pm 0.14	3.16 ^b \pm 0.16	2.96 ^c \pm 0.11

In **columns**, presence of different superscript small letters means significant variation between different groups, while presence of asterisk (*) means significant variation between the same groups at different times at ($P \leq 0.05$).

Table (7). Effect of dietary, hydrated sodium calcium aluminosilicat (**HSCAS**) and saccharomyces cerevisiae (**SC**) on aflatoxin (AF) residues in liver and muscles tissues (ppb), at 6 weeks. (Mean \pm SE).

Tissue \ Group	Control	AF	HSCAS	SC	AF+ HSCAS	AF+ SC
Liver	ND	3.4 ^a ± 0.24	ND	ND	1.0 ^b ± 0.0	0.4 ^c ± 0.24
muscles	ND	2.6 ^a ± 0.51	ND	ND	0.6 ^b ± 0.24	0.2 ^b ± 0.2

In rows, presence of different superscript small letters means significant variation at ($P \leq 0.05$).

Discussion

Feeds contaminated with AFB1 can result in aflatoxicosis in poultry (**Rustemeyer et al., (2010)**). Feeding grains contaminated with AFB1, either natural or purified, can reduce growth performance and immunity, alter intestinal morphology and blood biochemistry parameters, and damage liver and kidney tissues in broilers (**Magnoli et al., (2011)**). Additionally, residues of aflatoxins and their metabolites may be present in meat and other products of animals fed rations contaminated with aflatoxins and potentially result in health problems in human (**Zhang et al., 2017**)

Nutrition, environment and toxins are involved in the occurrence of oxidative damage (**Shehata and Yosef, 2010**).

The significant increase in lipid peroxidation product; malondialdehyde (MDA) in serum of AF groups as shown in table (1) are corresponding with that reported by **Liu et al., (2016)** where, the contents of H₂O₂, and MDA in the liver and spleen of broilers fed low level of AFB1 (22.5–25.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$) were significantly increased. Also, **Özen et al. (2009)** stated that AFB1 increased the (MDA) level, and induced vacuolar degeneration, necrosis, and bile duct hyperplasia in chicken liver.

Zhang et al., (2017) found that feeding diets contaminated with 22.44 \pm 2.46 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ aflatoxins resulted in an increase in the MDA level in both serum and the liver of ducks. Additionally, **Essiz et al., (2006)** found that administration of aflatoxin at a dose of 2.5 ppm for a pe-

riod of 21 days caused lipid peroxidation in quails.

Many mycotoxins alter the oxidative status of cells by adduction or creation of reactive oxidative species. Aflatoxin B1 is metabolized by P450; CYP3A4 to create AFB1-8, 9- reactive epoxide (**Resanovia et al., 2009**). It had been reported that the toxic effect elicited by AFB1 could be closely related to the generation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) mainly, superoxide (O₂⁻), hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), and hydroxyl (OH[•]) (**Mehrzaad et al., 2011**). Elevated reactive oxygen species (ROS) levels damage cellular macromolecules like proteins, lipids, and DNA and induce a state of redox imbalance and oxidative stress (**Circu and Aw, 2010**). Lipid peroxidation could be cause direct or indirect by free radicals production of mycotoxins (**Walters, 2012**).

Groups that were administered aflatoxin and HACAS or SC in their diet revealed that MDA levels of these groups were close to that of the control group. Such results are consistent with the findings of **Armando et al. (2011)** and **Bovo et al., (2015)**. They observed that in vitro using of intact and viable cells of *S. cerevisiae*, removed AFB1 (500 ng/mL) by 45.5 to 65.5% depending on the yeast strain. Also, **Diaz et al. (2002)** found that esterified glucomannan addition of 1% removed AFB1 by 96.6%. However, **Devegowda and Raju, (2002)** reported that using of esterified glucomannan, at a rate of 0.1% removed AFB1 (300 ppb) by 80.7% and 82.5%, at pH 3.0 and 6.0,

respectively. The main mechanism of this decrease is related directly to the binding of aflatoxin to these adsorbent substances in the digestive tract; and therefore, a decrease in the level of aflatoxin that passes into the systemic blood circulation.

The proposed mechanism of AF chemisorptions by HSCAS is the formation of a complex by the β -carbonyl system of the AF with uncoordinated edge site of aluminum ions in HSCAS (Phillips *et al.*, 1995). AFB1 may react at surfaces and within the inter layers of HSCAS particles (Phillips *et al.*, 2008). The protective effects of HSCAS also appear to involve sequestration of AFs so that they become not available for gastrointestinal tract absorption by chicks. The mechanism is probably either chemisorptions (i.e. strong bond formation) between HSCAS and AFs (Phillips *et al.*, 1988) or an interaction between HSCAS and other food practices (Kubena *et al.*, 1990), thereby reducing the bioavailability of AF (Davidson *et al.*, 1987).

Yeast cell walls, in particular from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, have highly branched glucomannan polymers which contain a mix of positive and negative charges that may adsorb mycotoxins electrostatically (Walters, 2012).

Jouany *et al.* (2005) explained that the *S. cerevisiae* cell wall is composed mainly of polysaccharides (80-90%) and their mechanical strength is due to an inner layer formed by chains of β -D-glucans. These β -D-glucans are composed of a complex network of β -(1, 3)-D-glucans with high degree of polymerization, branched with β -(1,6)-D-glucans with a low degree of polymerization. β -D-glucans are the cell wall components responsible for complexation with the toxin, and the reticular organization of β -D-glucans and their distribution among β -(1, 3) and β -(1, 6)-D-glucans plays an important role in this efficacy. In addition, weak hydrogen bonds and vander Waals bonds are involved in the complex chemical formation between mycotoxins and β -D-glucans, leading to a chemical interaction of “adsorption” rather than “contact”.

Regarding AFB1, the toxin is bound to the glucans due to the interaction between the aromatic ring and the lactone and ketone groups of the polar form of AFB1, as well as by chemical bonds with glucose units of the single helix β -D-glucans (Jouany *et al.*, 2005). Also, Joannis-Cassan *et al.*, (2011); Pizzolitto *et al.*, (2012) and Corassin *et al.* (2013) reported the adsorption of AFB1 by *S. cerevisiae* yeast and yeast based products.

In the present study the mean values of broilers serum glutathione (GSH) concentrations, and superoxide dismutase (SOD) activity showed a significant reduction in all AF groups compared with control (table 1).

Such results are consistent with the findings of Zhang *et al.*, (2017). They reported a decreased activity of superoxide dismutase (SOD) in ducks fed diets contaminated with 22.44 ± 2.46 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ aflatoxins. The total antioxidant capacity, CAT enzyme activity and GSH level in the liver and spleen of broilers fed a diet contaminated with low level of AFB1 (22.5–25.0 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$) were significantly lower than control group (Liu *et al.*, 2016). Many studies observed that dietary AFB1 could decrease the activities of antioxidant enzymes and levels of non-enzymatic antioxidants in broilers (Yang *et al.*, 2012; Zuo *et al.*, 2013; Li *et al.*, 2014a&b; and Fan *et al.*, 2015).

In the present study, dietary inclusion of HSCAS and SC ameliorated the decreased activity of SOD enzyme and GSH level induced by AF to be close to their control levels (table 1). These findings suggest that HSCAS and SC may have protective effects on the damages caused by AFB1.

The mechanism for the protective effects of *S. cerevisiae* cells against AF toxicity seems to involve the sequestration of the toxin in the gastrointestinal tract and chemisorption to yeast cells with subsequent elimination of the toxin (Bovo *et al.*, 2015).

Chen *et al.*, (2014) found that Dietary HSCAS supplementation at 0.5% improved liver SOD activity for birds fed 1 mg of AFB1/kg for 21 days.

As shown in tables 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 dietary supplementation of HSCAS at 0.5% level and SC at 0.5% level alone have no effect on liver enzymes (ALT, AST & γ GT), serum total protein, albumin, globulin, muscular enzymes (LDH & CK), kidney function markers (creatinine & uric acid concentration) and the measured minerals (Ca, P, & Mg) except Ca concentration which was significantly higher than control in SC supplemented group at 6th week only. However, phosphorus concentration was significantly decreased in HSCAS group at 6th week.

In AF group serum total protein, albumin, globulin, Ca, P and Mg concentrations were significantly decreased with time than control levels. Along with, liver and muscular enzymes activities (ALT, AST, γ GT, LDH & CK), kidney function markers (creatinine & uric acid concentration) were significantly elevated with time than control (tables 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6). The aflatoxin effects on biochemical alterations in this study are in consistent with **Chen et al., (2014); Bovo et al., (2015); Chen et al., (2016); Liu et al., (2016); and Gómez-Espinosa et al., (2017).**

AFB1 is known to be the target of liver primarily by inducing oxidative damage and thus impairing its functions (**Rawal et al., 2010; Marin et al., 2013 and Chen et al., 2014a**). AFB1 is extremely toxic to birds being rapidly absorbed from gastrointestinal tract. Once absorbed, AFB1 is immediately bound to albumin and in a lesser extent to other proteins, and then transported to the tissues, especially the liver (**Santurio, 2000**). After being deposited in the liver, AFB1 is biotransformed by the hepatic microsomal cytochrome P450 (CYP) enzymes to toxic reactive metabolites with the ability to covalently bind to intracellular components, including DNA and RNA. The net result of these reactions is altering of protein synthesis and other liver functions (**Diaz et al., 2010 and Murcia et al., 2011**).

AFB1 is known to be an immunosuppressive in birds, and it has been reported that diets containing 300 μ g/kg of AFB1 significantly reduced the serum IgA, IgG and IgM of broilers

Chen et al., (2014). Broilers fed diets contaminated with a low level of AFB1 (22.5–25.0 μ g/kg) had significantly lower serum TP, IgA and IgG (**Liu et al., 2016**).

Elevated serum activities of AST, ALT, and γ GT enzymes and the reduced serum level of total protein (TP) and albumin have been recognized as sensitive serological indicators in the impairment of the hepatic tissues and biliary system in broilers due to aflatoxin (**Abdel-Wahhab and Aly, 2005; Pasha et al., 2007; Gowda et al., 2008; Denli et al., 2009; Matur et al. 2010; Zhao et al., 2010; and Kumar et al., 2015**).

Exposure to AFB1 also altered renal functions in broilers (**Shi et al., 2006; Tessari et al. (2006) and Chen et al., 2014a**). AF contaminated diet significantly increased serum creatinine in turkey poults (**Gómez-Espinosa et al., 2017**) and uric acid in Japanese quail fed AF contaminated diet (2.5 mg/kg) for 49 days (**Bagherzadeh Kasmani et al., 2012**). The elevated serum creatinine in AF group indicates the increased transformation of phosphocreatinine to creatinine in the muscle, which might be due to a lesser utilization of phosphocreatinine during muscular contraction and/or decreased excretion from the kidney, suggesting that aflatoxins cause adverse changes in both skeletal muscle and kidney (**Mathuria and Verma, 2008**).

Reduction of calcium, and phosphorus levels were observed in broilers fed AF-contaminated diet (**Stanley et al., 2004; Franciscato et al., 2006 and Chen et al., 2014**). Aflatoxicosis affects on excretion of phosphorous and Ca as a direct result of renal tubular damage, decreased Ca absorption from the gut, because of the altered circulating levels of parathyroid hormone (PTH), and possibly decreased renal sensitivity to PTH (**Glahn et al., 1991 and Kececi et al., 1998**). Therefore, the decreased Ca and P concentration in our study may be attributed to the direct or indirect effects of aflatoxin on Ca and phosphorous metabolisms, and the effects may be related to altered vitamin D and parathyroid hormone metabolism.

In the present study, dietary addition of

HSCAS adsorbent at 0.25% concentration with Aflatoxin (250ppb) partially improved the adverse effects of AF on the above-mentioned parameters. SC supplementation at 0.5% concentration with Aflatoxin (250ppb) restored serum total protein, albumin, globulin and Ca concentrations and ALT activity to their control levels, prevent the deleterious effects of Aflatoxin on LDH, CK activities and creatinine concentrations at 3rd week and partially improved AST, γ GT activities and uric acid concentration (**tables 2, 3, 4, 5& 6**).

Dietary HSCAS supplementation at 0.5% improved serum albumin levels, restored alkaline phosphatase (ALP) activity reversed the increase of CK levels for birds fed 1 mg of AFB1/kg, reversed the decreased serum P and decreased AST activity for birds fed 2 mg of AFB1/kg (**Chen *et al.*, 2014**).

The addition of beer fermentation residue containing *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* cells (BFR) to the AF-contaminated feed indicated that this compound ameliorated feed intake, body weight gain, serum biochemistry and completely prevented kidney lesions in broilers. BFR is rich in proteins, amino acids, and B vitamins and can contribute to the nutritional value of broiler diets (**Bovo *et al.*, 2015**).

The addition of yeast glucomannans at a rate of 0.5 to 1 g/kg decreased the severity of liver and kidney histological changes. The number of affected organs also decreased in the group receiving 1g/kg of glucomannans compared to the group that received only AF (**Karaman *et al.*, 2005**).

Residues of aflatoxins and their metabolites may be present in meat, dairy products and eggs and other products of animals fed rations contaminated with aflatoxins (**Hussain *et al.*, 2010**) and potentially result in health problems in human **Pandey and Chauhan, (2007)** and **Denli *et al.*, (2009)**. In many countries, the maximum tolerance level of AFB1 in human food products is 2 μ g/kg **Zhang *et al.*, (2017)**.

As shown in table (7), AF residues were detected in both liver and muscles tissues in AF group (groups 2, 5& 6) with higher concentrations in liver (3.4 ppb) than muscles (2.6 ppb).

Addition of HSCAS significantly reduced liver and muscles AF residues (1.0 and 0.6 ppb respectively) and addition of SC significantly reduced liver and muscles AF residues (0.4 and 0.2 ppb respectively).

Several studies indicate that, residue levels of AFB1 (0.05 and 0.13 μ g/kg) were found in the livers of broilers given diets contain 50 and 100 μ g of AFB1/kg for 42 days (**Bintvihok and Kositcharoenkul, 2006**). AFB1 residue was also observed in livers of laying hens fed 2.5 mg/kg AFB1 diet for four weeks (**Zaghini *et al.*, 2005**). Low levels (0.12 and 0.10 μ g/Kg) of AFB1 and AFM1 were retained in livers of ducks fed the aflatoxin-contaminated diet for 21 days. Residue levels may be different because of the type of bird and diet, the concentrations of AFB1, and the duration of exposure (**Zhang *et al.*, 2017**).

The protective effects of HSCAS and SC against aflatoxins may be due to their specific adsorption of aflatoxins in the intestinal tract, which leads to the reduction of aflatoxins absorbed by the intestinal tract and, consequently, a decrease in aflatoxin residues in the liver and muscles.

Conclusion

Dietary addition of (HSCAS) at 0.25% level and (SC) at 0.5 % level mitigate the adverse biochemical effects of aflatoxin toxicity at 250 ppb dose in broilers and SC was more efficient than HSCAS. Therefore, it may be concluded that due to the contributions of SC to antioxidant status and other metabolites activities, the addition of this biological product to chicken rations could be important to chicken and human health rather than chemical feed additives.

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