

# Effect of dietary addition of iron sulfate in broilers diet on water-soluble phosphorus excreted, minerals digestibility and bone mineralization

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## Introduction

- ❖ Runoff and soil erosion can carry excess phosphorus (P), especially Water-Soluble Phosphorus (WSP), applied to land causing eutrophication (Moore et al., 1999).
- ❖ Phosphates are commonly removed from municipal and industrial wastewater by precipitation with multivalent metals, such as Fe<sup>3+</sup> and Al<sup>3+</sup> (Metcalf et al., 2003).

## Background

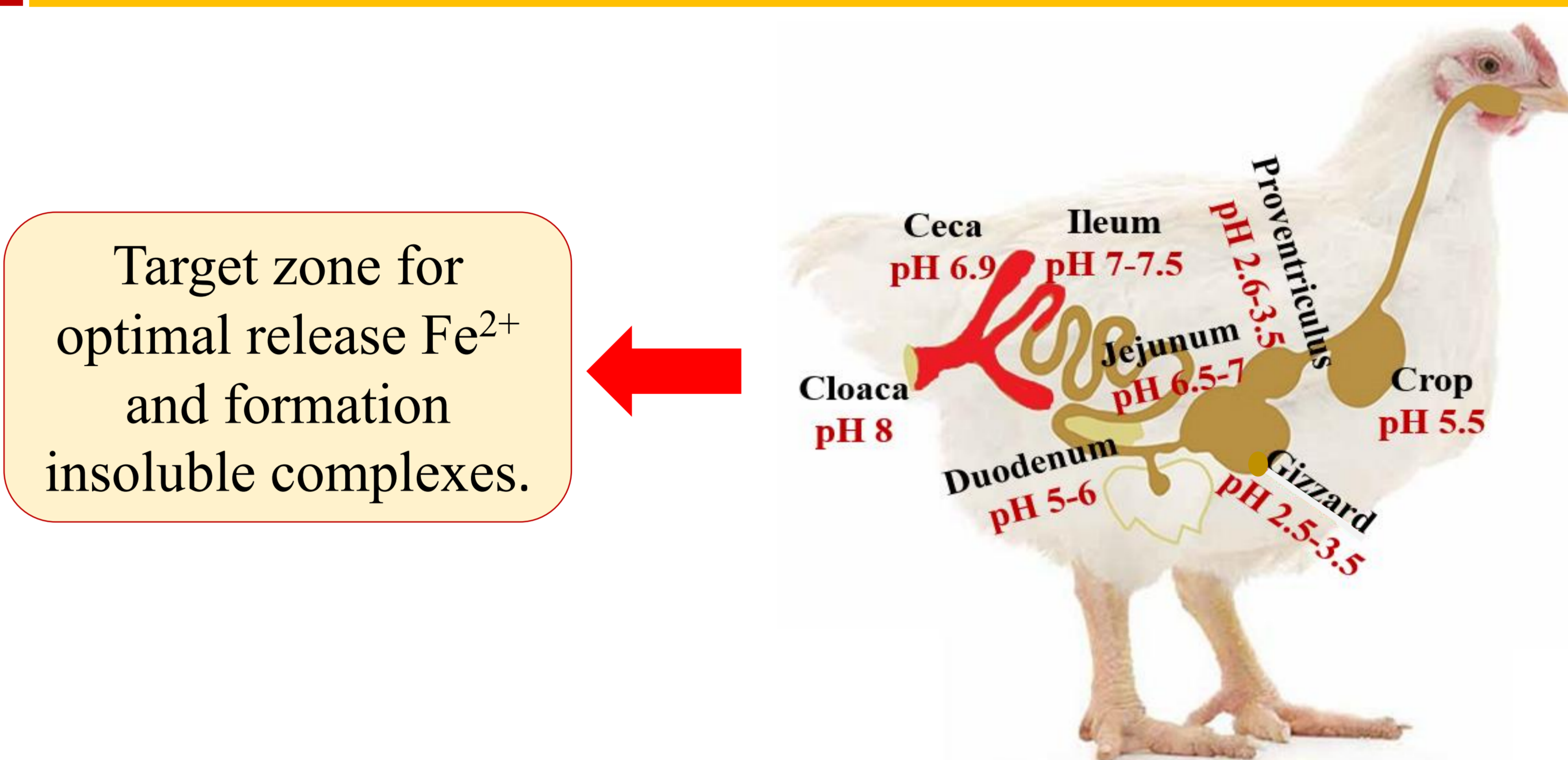
In a previous trial, it has been shown that the addition of Fe sulfate encapsulated in fat matrix to broiler diet can reduced up to 24% the excretion of WSP in excreta without modifying P retention and growth performance (Floradin and al., 2017).

## Objective

The aim of this trial was to evaluate the effect of iron encapsulated or not using a spray-chilling method in terms of growth performance, apparent ileal (AID) digestibility of calcium (Ca), Fe, P and phytic P (PP), kidneys and liver Fe content, and bone mineral content (BMC) of tibia (DXA, Discovery W; Hologic Inc., Waltham, MA, USA) and WSP excretion in litter.

## Materials and methods

- ❖ Three-phases feeding program (0-10, 10-21, 21-34 days) and 5 diets:
  - A positive control (PC) (analyzed Fe =300 ppm)
  - PC + 2 levels of Fe sulfate (33 , and 60 ppm Fe) encapsulated (FeE1 and FeE2 )
  - PC + 2 levels of Fe sulfate (33 and 60 ppm Fe) non-encapsulated (FeNE1 and FeNE2).
- ❖ 2700 males Cobb 500, 45 birds per pen, litter was collected at d 35.
- ❖ Data were analyzed as a randomized complete block design by PROC MIXED of SAS using contrast (PC+ vs. Fe, FeE vs. FeNE, FeE1 vs. FeE2 and FeNE1 vs. FeNE2).



## Results and discussion

A really important point to consider is dietary Fe in PC was really higher than expected with 300 ppm

- ❖ Overall ADG was reduced by iron addition (PC vs other, P = 0.05) except in birds receiving FeE1 (FeE1 vs FeE2, P < 0.05).
- ❖ A significant increase in AID of P (P <0.001), PP (P = 0.01; Fig 1), Ca (P <0.001) and Fe (P <0.001) was observed with the addition of Fe (PC vs other).
- ❖ High Fe diets increase Fe concentration in the liver (FeE1 vs FeE2, P =0.003), but kidneys content were not affected (PC vs other, P=0,59).
- ❖ BMC was reduced with Fe addition (C+ vs other, P = 0.02) except in FeE1 (FeE1 vs FeE2, P =0.009).
- ❖ Iron did not significantly affect total P litter, but increase WSP in the litter (P <0.001).

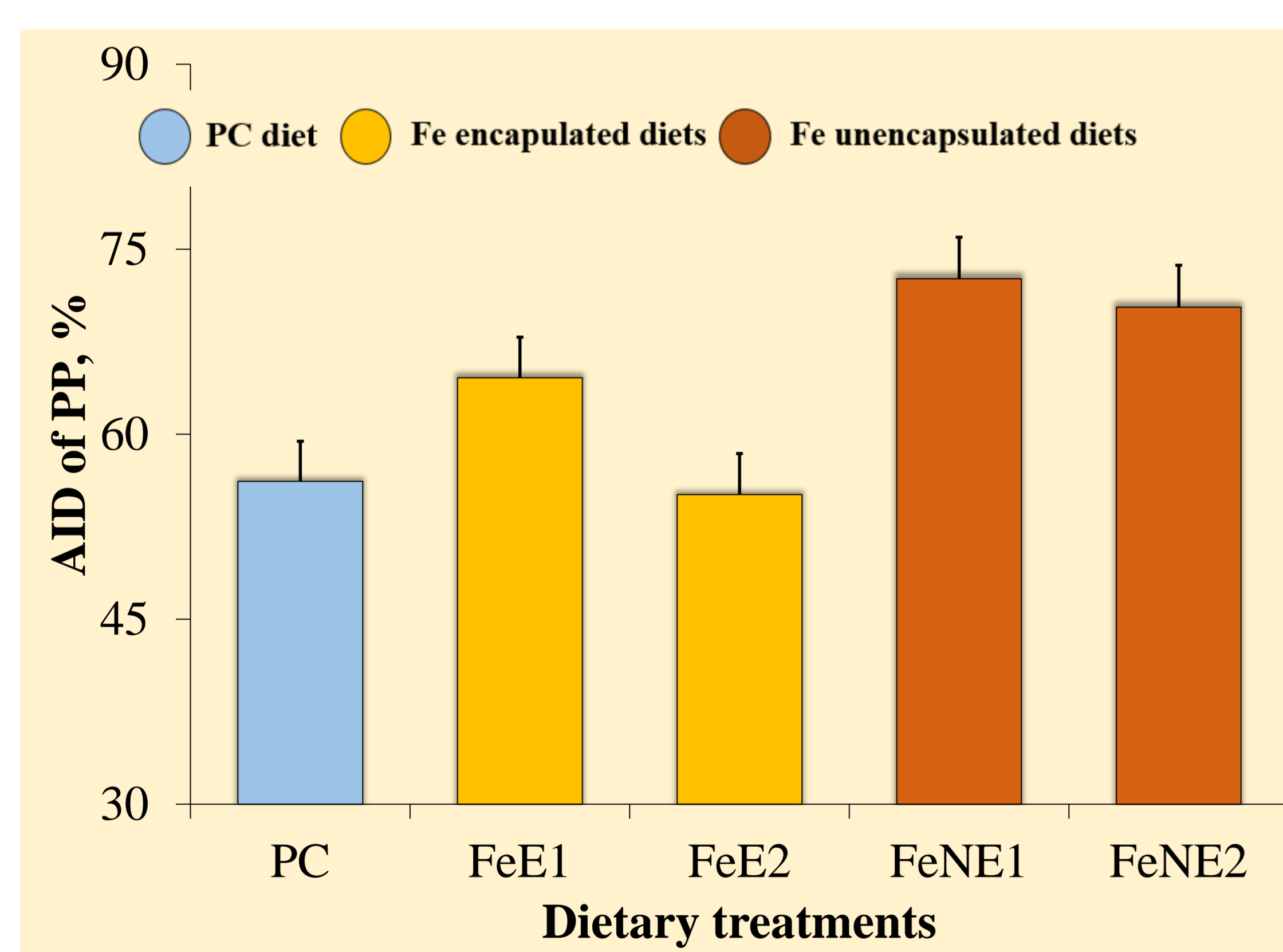


Fig1. The effect of Fe on PP AID

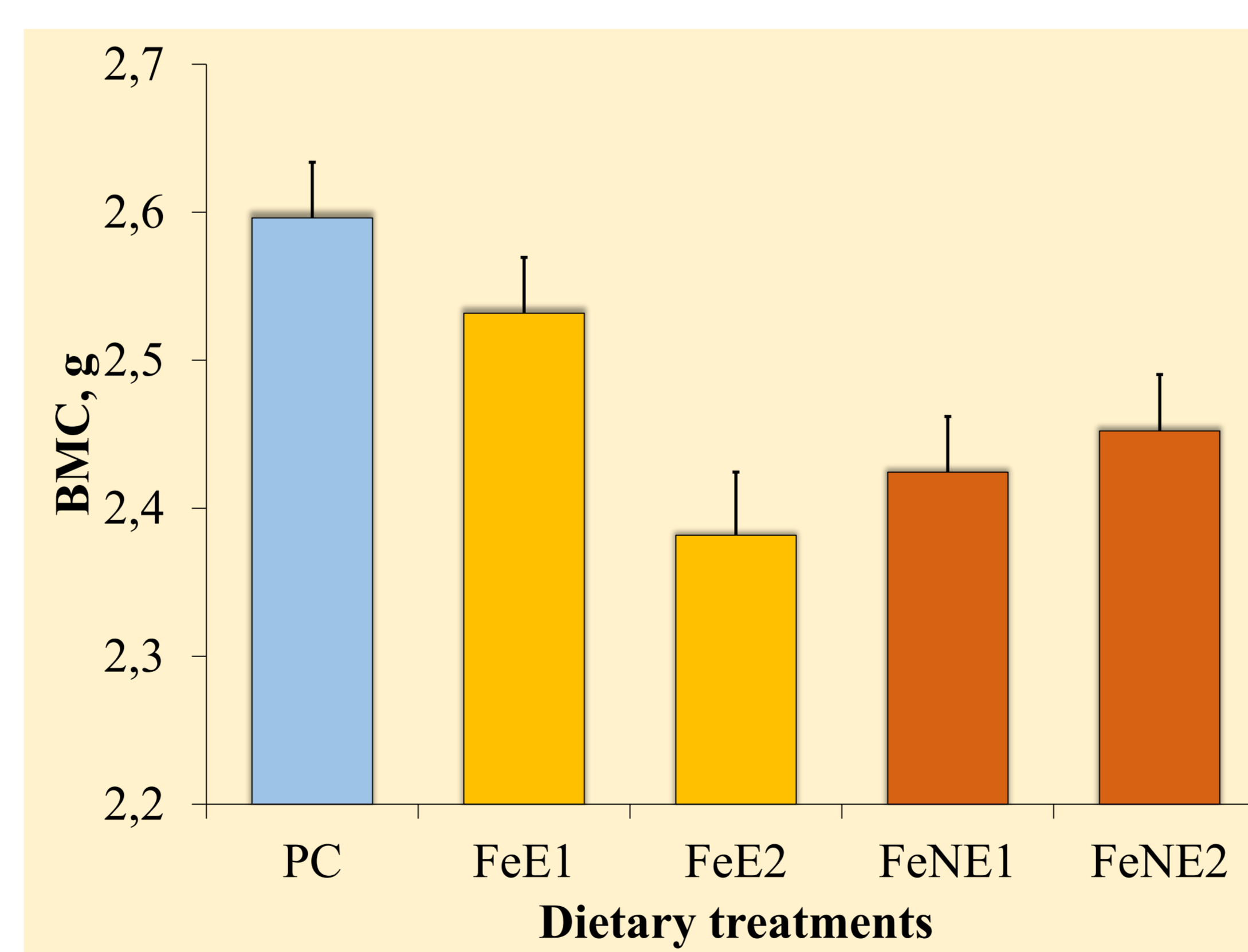


Fig2. The effect of Fe on BMC

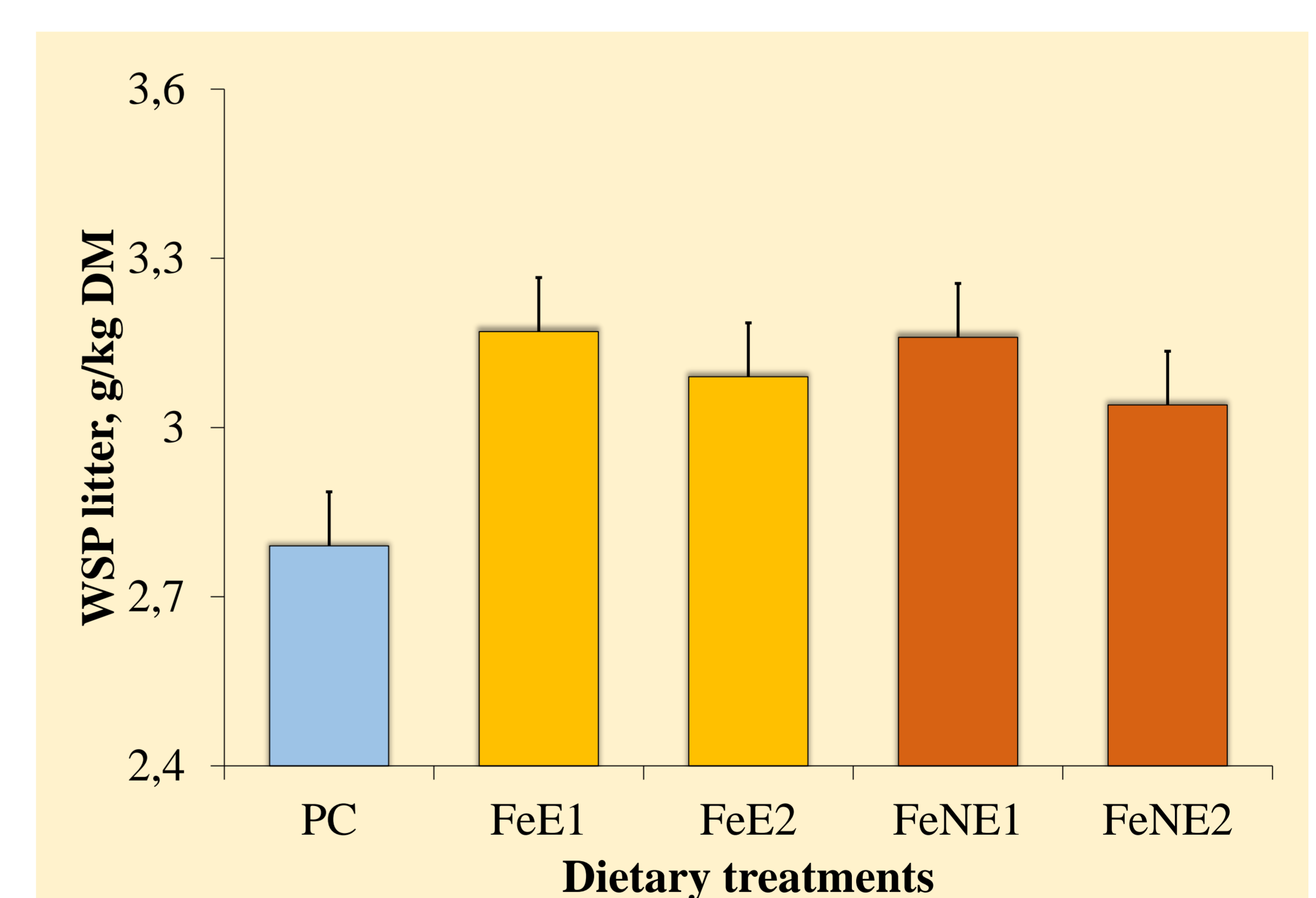


Fig3. The effect of P on WSP litter concentration

Fe complexes P inducing a P deficiency that leads to higher hydrolysis of PP (Applegate et al., 2003)

Adverse effect of high Fe concentration on bone mineralization and remodeling (Tsay et al., 2010; Jia et al., 2012), perhaps inducing an increase in urinary excretion of P.

## Conclusion and perspectives

- ❖ Fe addition encapsulated or not reduces growth performance and does not insolubilize the P in the litter.
- ❖ Fe diets are effective to improve the digestibility of total P and Ca by an increase of hydrolysis of phytic P.
- ❖ The increase of P digestibility with Fe addition needs further investigation.

## References

- ❖ Applegate et al. 2003 Poult. Sci. 82:1024–1029; Floradin P. (2017). PSA; Jia et al. 2012 J. Orthop. Res. 30:1843–1852 Metcalf, E. E., and Eddy, H. P. (2003). Wastewater engineer treatment disposal, reuse. New York; Moore et al., 1999. Poult. Sci. 78: 692-698; Tsay et al. 2010 Blood, 116:2582–2589.