

Effect of Mitigation of Heat Stress by Early Heat Acclimation and Glutamine Injection on Some Physiological, Productive and Reproductive Traits of Sinia Chickens

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Abstract

This work aimed to investigate the resistance of female Sinia chickens against hot climate by using both early heat shock exposures (HSE) and glutamine injections (GI). four hundred and fifty one-day old of female Sinia chicks were randomly divided into five groups with three equal replicates to enhance the effect of (GI) and (HSE) on some productive and physiological performance in laying hens during reproductive period under heat stress conditions. The 1st group of chicks was reared under natural conditions and served as a control. The 2nd group of chicks was managed thermally like the control group during growth period, while through reproductive period the female were exposed to heat challenge ($38 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12 pm till 4pm for one day) at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age. The 3rd group (HSE1) was injected with glutamine GI (0.75 mg/kg weight intra peritoneal injection (at age of two days) then, exposed to early heat shock ($41 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12pm till 4pm for 3 consecutive days) at age of 3 days, the 4th group (HSE2) was twice injected with GI at 0.75 mg/kg weight (intra peritoneal injection) at 2 and 34 days of age, then exposed to heat shock ($41 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12pm till 4pm for 3 consecutive days) at age of 3 days and 35 days. The 5th group (HSE3) was injected three times with GI at 0.75 mg/kg weight (intra peritoneal injection) at 2,3 and 111 days of age, and then, exposed to three times of heat shock ($41 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12 pm till 4 pm for 3 consecutive days) at ages of 3, 35 and 112 days. During reproductive period, HSE1, HSE2, and HSE3 groups were reared under natural conditions and they were exposed to heat challenge at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age (similar to that applied for the second group). Results revealed that there was a significant decrease in the values of respiratory rate and rectal temperature for the groups treated with injection and temperature, as well as the T5 (HSE3) group females had a significant increase in both heat shock protein 70, final body weight, total protein, albumin, globulin and hormonal level Progesterone and estrogen, and final body weight. The 5 (HSE3) group showed that females showed a significant increase in egg number.

Keywords: Early Heat Shock Exposures; Glutamine; Female And Heat Shock Protein70

Introduction

The climate of Egypt is characterized by a very long hot period of year that extends from May up to October. Chronic heat stress causes disturbance of homeostatic ability of birds [1]. So poultry production suffers from huge economic losses every year resulting from extended period of heat stress [2]. Hyperthermia is associated with biochemical and physiological events disturbing avian homeostasis through excessive formation of reactive oxygen species that cause. Lipid peroxidation in cell membranes and oxidative injury of biological

molecules including proteins and DNA [3]. Drawbacks of heat stress on broilers and laying hens ranges from reduced growth and egg production up to reduction of egg quality and poultry safety due to challenge of productivity and immune response of birds [4]. Moreover Ebeid *et al.* [5] reported that heat stress reduced egg weight and egg shell thickness. They attributed that to reduced calcium level in blood of laying hens under hot conditions as well as increased panting that elevates carbon-dioxide subsequent alkalosis that hampers blood bicarbonate availability for egg shell mineralization. The target of poultry industry in any tropical country is to resist the damaging effects of heat stress by several methods including early heat exposure especially at growth period. It is well established that early short-term sub lethal (acute heat stress) induces heat shock response causing rapid synthesis of heat shock protein (HSE) and dramatic change in gene expression [6]. The heat shock proteins (HSP) are a set of proteins synthesized in response to physical, chemical or biological stresses including heat exposure [7]. Heat shock protein70 (HSP70) is the most conserved and important protein in the family of heat shock proteins, as it plays an important role in protection and repair of injured cells and tissues exposed to heat stress [8]. Dietary additions are the most economically means to resist heat stresses, one of these additives is glutamine that is essential amino-acid used as a potent enhancer of HSP70 synthesis both *in vivo* and *in vitro* [9]. Moreover glutamine improves absorption in digestive system and hence enhancing performance [10]. Diet supplemented with L-glutamine increased significantly levels of follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) and Luteinizing hormone (LH) as well as enhanced egg mass, egg production, egg weight, egg shell thickness, hatchability and one-day chick weight [11]. So, this work was done to investigate enhancement of heat shock protein 70 (HSP70) gene expression by using only heat shock exposures in some groups that were compared with other groups exposed to both heat shocks during growth period and glutamine injection of female Sinia chicken. Also, their effects on productive and physiological performance in laying hens at reproductive period were evaluated.

Materials and Methods

Experimental design and bird's management

This experiment was carried out at EL- Serw Poultry Research Station, Animal Production Research Institute, Agricultural Research Center, Ministry of Agriculture, Egypt. The experiment lasted for 8 month from December up to August. A total number of 450 one day old of female Sinia chicks were taken, weighted and randomly divided into equal five experimental groups (90 chicks each), each of three equal replicates. The 1st group was reared under natural conditions without either early heat exposure or glutamine injection and served as a control. The 2nd group of birds was reared under natural conditions during growth period, while through reproductive period (hot summer months Jun to Augusts) the chicks were exposed to heat challenge ($38 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12 pm till 4pm for one day at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age. The 3rd group (HSE1) was GI (0.75 mg/kg weight intra peritoneal injection) at age of two days and exposed to early heat shock ($41 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12:00 till 16:00 for 3 consecutive days) at age of 3 days, the 4th group (HSE2) was two GI (0.75 mg/kg weight intra peritoneal injection) at 2 and 34 days of age, then exposed to heat shock ($41 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12:00 till 16:00 for 3 consecutive days) at age of 3 days and 35 days. The 5th group (HSE3) was three GI (0.75 mg/kg weight intra peritoneal injection) at 2,3 and 111 days of age, and exposed to three times of heat shock ($41 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12:00 till 16:00 for 3 consecutive days) at age of 3, 35and 112 days). During reproductive period, HSE1, HSE2, and HSE3 groups were reared under natural conditions and they were exposed to heat challenge at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age (similar to that applied for the second group. $38 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ for four hours from 12 pm till 4pm for one day). The chicks of each group were housed in floor pens in semi-open system. Birds were exposed to natural day-light and artificial light to increase the day light length until reaching 14 hours at 18 weeks of age. Then, the day light length period was increased 30 minutes every week until fixed at 17 hours daily to the end of experiment. Birds were provided with clean fresh water and fed ad-libitum according to recommended standard diets for each age as show in table 1. according to NRC, (1994) [12]. Birds were kept under the same hygienic conditions to protect birds against diseases. At 22 wks of age, females were weighted and adjusted number of birds 30 females for each treatments were continued in the same house for all treatments then fed on the same layer diet to evaluate the subsequent effect of treatments during rearing period on sexual maturity and productive performance till 34 wks of age. In door climate conditions were shown in (Table 2) ambient temperature AT $^\circ\text{C}$ and relative humidity RH% were recorded during the experimental period using electronic digital thermo-hygrometer. The relationship between relative humidity and ambient temperature was determined as temperature-humidity index (THI) according to Maria., *et al.* [13]. $\text{THI} = \text{db}^\circ\text{C} - \{(0.31 - 0.31 \times \text{RH}) \times (\text{db}^\circ\text{C} - 14.4)\}$.

Ingredients %	Starter 0-8 wks	Grower 9-18 wks	Pre-Layer 19-20 wks	Layer 21-40 wks
Yellow Corn	64.00	71.25	69.00	68.00
Soybean meal (44 %)	32.10	18.50	22.45	22.45
Wheat bran	0.00	6.00	1.7	0.0
Di-calcium phosphate	1.80	1.35	1.5	1.5
Limestone	1.40	2.00	4.7	7.4
Vit. and Min. pre-mix ¹	0.30	0.30	0.3	0.3
NaCl	0.30	0.30	0.3	0.3
DL. Methionine	0.10	0.30	0.05	0.05
Total	100	100	100	100
Calculated Analysis ²				
Crude protein %	19.11	14.57	15.47	15.14
ME (Kcal / kg)	2863	2750	2836	2781
Crude fat%	2.91	3.00	3.4	3.2
Crude fiber %	3.82	3.65	3.03	2.92
Calcium (%)	1.06	1.14	2.18	3.2
Av. phosphorus (%)	0.47	0.40	0.405	0.398
Lysine %	1.10	0.82	0.80	0.82
Methionine %	0.43	0.33	0.336	0.33
Methio + Cyst %	0.75	0.58	0.600	0.587

Table 1: Ingredients composition and chemical analysis of the basal diets.

Each 3 kg of the Vit and Min. premix manufactured by Agri-Vit Company, Egypt contains: Vitamin A 10 MIU, Vit. D 2 MIU, Vit E 10 g, Vit. K 2 g, Thiamin 1 g, Riboflavin 5 g, Pyridoxine 1.5 g, Niacin 30 g, Vit. B12 10 mg, Pantothenic acid 10 g, Folic acid 1.5 g, Biotin 50 mg, Choline chloride 250 g, Manganese 60 g, Zinc 50 g, Iron 30 g, Copper 10 g, Iodine 1g, Selenium 0. 10 g, Cobalt 0.10 g. and carrier CaCO₃ to 3000 g. According to Feed Composition Tables for animal and poultry feedstuffs used in Egypt (2001).

Items	AT (°C)		RH (%)		THI	
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
December	10.6 ± 0.62	23.6 ± 0.66	33.6 ± 1.49	59.2 ± 1.27	11.0 ± 0.51	21.7 ± 0.50
January	6.2 ± 0.67	18.4 ± 0.71	35.0 ± 1.60	60.3 ± 1.37	7.2 ± 0.55	17.6 ± 0.53
February	7.1 ± 0.91	18.7 ± 0.97	32.0 ± 2.19	55.8 ± 1.87	8.1 ± 0.76	17.7 ± 0.73
March	10.5 ± 0.58	19.6 ± 0.62	35.5 ± 1.40	52.5 ± 1.20	11.1 ± 0.48	18.5 ± 0.47
April	12.1 ± 1.40	24.3 ± 1.48	30.3 ± 3.34	45.6 ± 2.86	12.5 ± 1.16	22.2 ± 1.12
May	17.1 ± 0.58	29.5 ± 0.62	25.4 ± 1.40	47.5 ± 1.20	16.7 ± 0.48	26.0 ± 0.47
June	22.6 ± 0.22	32.8 ± 0.72	26.4 ± 1.16	39.4 ± 0.99	21.0 ± 0.40	28.5 ± 0.38
July	22.2 ± 0.91	34.7 ± 0.97	25.1 ± 2.19	41.1 ± 1.08	20.8 ± 0.76	29.9 ± 0.73
August	23.9 ± 0.91	36.2 ± 0.97	31.1 ± 2.19	47.1 ± 1.87	22.3 ± 0.76	31.6 ± 0.73

Table 2: Indoor Ambient Temperature (AT), Relative Humidity (RH) and Temperature –Humidity Index (THI) During Experimental Period.

Where: $db^{\circ}C$ = dry bulb temperature in centigrade, the values of THI were classified as absence of heat stress (< 27.8), moderate heat stress ($27.8 - 28.8$), severe heat stress ($28.9 - 29.9$) and very severe heat stress (> 30.0). Rectal temperature (RT) and Respiratory rate (RR) were measured at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age after exposure to heat challenge.

Data collection and estimated parameters

Productive performance traits

Live body weight (LBW) and feed consumption (FC) were recorded for each replicate per each treatment and expressed grams per chick throughout the overall experimental period (22 - 34wks of age). feed conversion ratio (FCR) were calculated during the same period. Age of the sexual maturity was recorded at the 1st egg laid. Subsequent laying traits such as egg number, egg weight, egg mass, feed consumption were recorded during studied laying period (22 - 34 wks of age).

Egg quality parameters

At 34 weeks of age (after exposure to heat challenge), a total number of 45 eggs (9 from each treatment) were randomly taken to determine some egg quality parameters. Laying rate, feed conversion ratio and body weight change were calculated. Rectal temperature and respiration rate were measured at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age after exposure to heat challenge. It was randomly measured in 15 birds in each group for each age by inserting clinical thermometer (2 - 3 cm) into the cloaca for one minute. Respiration rate (breaths/minute) was recorded at random for 15 birds in each group for each age by counting the body wall movements per one minute.

Blood constituents

At the age of 34 weeks after exposure to heat challenge, blood samples were withdrawn from the wing vein into heparinized test tubes and centrifuged at 3000 rpm to get plasma, blood Hormones levels (progesterone and estrogen) were determined by ELISA method using commercial kits. Also, blood total protein, albumin, glucose and cholesterol) were determined by using commercial kits, globulin was calculated by subtract albumin from total proteins values, A/G ratio was calculated by dividing albumin /globulin values. Levels of heat shock protein 70 were estimated in liver tissues also at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age immediately after heat challenge by ELISA method using kits of USCN Life Science Inc. Wuhan, China. Specificity of this assay has high sensitivity and excellent specificity for detection of gallinaceous HSP70.

Statistical Analysis

Data obtained were statistically analyzed using the General Liner Model of SPSS, (2008) [14]. The following model was used: $Y_{ij} = \mu + T_i + e_{ij}$ where: Y_{ij} = an observation, μ = overall mean, T_i = effect of treatment ($i = 1, 2, 3$ and 4) and e_{ij} = experimental random error. Significant differences between means were tested by Duncan's Multiple Range Test Duncan (1955) [15] at 5% level of significance.

Results and Discussion

Productive performance

Table 3 shows the age of sexual maturity, weight of the first egg, rectal temperature and respiration rate. The age of Sexual maturity (based on first egg laid) and weight of the first egg were significantly affected due to early heat exposure and glutamine injection under hot condition (Table 3). Pullets at T2, T3 and T4 reached the sexual maturity earlier with heavier weight of first egg than other treatments (133.3, 135.6 and 138.6 days respectively) while, pullets at T5 reached at sexual maturity later with lighter weight of first egg than control group. These results were confirmed by the obtained by Nagwa, *et al.* [16] who mentioned that age at sexual maturity of laying hens showed unobserved increase by multiple heat acclimation cycles during growth period. Table (3) demonstrated that rectal temperature

(RT) and respiration rate (RR) were significantly affected by treatments. The negative effect of hot summer conditions could be clearly observed in the control and 2nd group. However the 2nd group (T2) exposed to additional heat challenge showed significantly ($p < 0.05$) higher RT and RR than of control and the other experimental groups. However, the highest values of RT and RR (42.51 and 107.68) were recorded for the 2nd while the lowest values were recorded for the 4th. These results were consistent with that obtained by Rizk., *et al.* [17] who showed that RT and RR were significantly higher for Sinia hens reared under heat stress than those reared in thermo neutral conditions at 24 and 34 weeks of age. T3 and T4 groups showed insignificant decrease of RT from that of control groups. As the time elapsed between the 1st exposure (at 3 days of age) and the 2nd exposure (at 35 days of age) seemed was too short to enhance thermo tolerance of birds that exposed to heat stress during reproduction period [16,18]. The T5 HSE3 group had significant ($p < 0.05$) reduction in RT by - 0.88, - 4.31 C and RR by 11.32% and 20.82% in comparison with both control group and the 2nd group. The multiple early heat exposure and glutamine injections might stimulate production of HSP70 which having vital role in cellular homeostasis during development of thermo-tolerance [19]. The present results could be confirmed by that obtained by Ezzat., *et al.* [20] who mentioned that laying hens acclimatization receiving multiple early heat programs had significant reduction of RR and RT as compared with control group. This could be due to the effect of heat acclimation on thyroid hormones that reduce the metabolic heat production. The results of table 4 showed that there were a significant differences among treatments in all studied parameters except of yolk index, and Haugh units. However, the highest values for egg shell thickness was recorded for egg of T5 (HSE3) group compared to other treatments, meanwhile, the highest values of shell and yolk relative weights as well as yolk color were recorded for eggs of T5, T3 and T4 respectively. Final live body weight (FBW), total feed intake and feed conversion of Sinai hens at 34-wks of age during the period of (22 to 34 wks of age) were significantly ($P \leq 0.05$) differ among treatment groups (Table 5). The 2nd group followed by control group exposed the worst results regarding FI, FC and FBW. FBW was affected significantly among tasted groups, the highest value recorded for 5th group (HSE3) which was 1570.07 comparing with the control group value which was 1395.52. These results are consistent well known facts that stress conditions affect FI, absorption of food constituents and hence FC. Also this could be seen in the values of FBW of 2nd group which is the lowest due to reduced FI and FC [21]. HSE1 and HSE2 exposed insignificant increase in FBW from each other and their values of FBW control group. However HSE3 expressed the highest FBW ($p < 0.05$) compared to all other groups. It is proved that early heat acclimation improves growth performance of chickens due to advancement of both FI and FC. Even if not significant [22]. Hence repeated early thermal cycles could produce better growth performance as shown in FBW of HSE3 group whose results are consistent e that obtained by [16,23].

Treatments					Pooled SEM	Sig.
T1	T2	T3	T4	T5		
Age of sexual maturity (days) (SM)						
144 ^a	133.3 ^c	135.6 ^{bc}	138.6 ^b	145.3 ^a	1.36	**
The weight of the first egg (g)						
31.53 ^b	32.36 ^b	31.83 ^b	34.23 ^a	31.03 ^b	0.34	
Rectal temperature (c°)						
41.11 ^{bc}	42.51 ^a	41.41 ^b	41.36 ^b	40.75 ^c	0.16	**
Respiration rate/ min						
99.21 ^b	107.68 ^a	96.84 ^c	94.64 ^d	89.12 ^e	1.60	**

Table 3: Growth performance and sexual maturity age of Sinai pullets as affected by glutamine injection and early heat exposure under hot condition.(1-20 wks)
a,b,c,...: means in the same row bearing different superscripts are significantly different ($p \leq 0.05$).
 NS= non-significant.

Treatments					Pooled SEM	Sig.
T1	T2	T3	T4	T5		
Egg index					0.003	**
0.776 ^{bc}	0.764 ^c	0.765 ^c	0.800 ^a	0.792 ^{ab}		
Yolk index					0.56	N.S
48.03	44.86	44.92	45.91	47.17		
Yolk weight %					0.41	**
27.61 ^b	29.95 ^{ab}	31.46 ^a	29.03 ^{ab}	28.61 ^b		
Albumen weight %					0.38	**
60.14 ^a	58.11 ^{ab}	56.72 ^b	58.72 ^{ab}	57.20 ^b		
Shell weight %					0.23	**
12.26 ^b	11.91 ^b	11.81 ^b	12.23 ^b	14.17 ^a		
Haugh unit					0.82	N.S
96.55	96.78	99.22	99.89	96.89		
Shell thickness					0.003	**
0.29 ^{bc}	0.28 ^c	0.30 ^{ab}	0.31 ^{abc}	0.32 ^a		
Yolk colour					0.11	**
6.44 ^{bc}	6.00 ^c	6.22 ^c	7.11 ^a	6.89 ^{ab}		

Table (4): Egg quality traits of Sinai hens as affected by glutamine injection and early heat exposure under hot condition at 34wks of age.

a,b,c,...: means in the same row bearing different superscripts are significantly different (p ≤ 0.05). NS= non-significant.

Treatments					Pooled SEM	Sig.
T1	T2	T3	T4	T5		
Initial body weight at 22 wks of age, g					7.43	N.S
1156.67	1139.67	1185.33	1164.0	1156.6		
Final body weight at 36 wks , g					21.81	**
1395.52 ^d	1358.31 ^e	1486.07 ^c	1540.1 ^b	1570.07 ^a		
Total feed intake/hen (22-34)weeks					50.7	N.S
8324.68	8252.16	8414.56	8535.52	8575.28		
Feed conversion					0.084	**
3.9 ^{ab}	4.00 ^a	3.54 ^{bc}	3.46 ^c	3.28 ^c		
Egg weight g					0.39	**
41.62 ^c	41.14 ^c	42.59 ^{bc}	43.5 ^{ab}	44.6 ^a		
Egg number/hen					0.92	**
51.20 ^b	50.11 ^b	55.86 ^b	56.6 ^a	58.51 ^a		
Egg mass					57.59	**
2131.43 ^c	2061.48 ^c	2381.26 ^b	2461.85 ^{ab}	2608.78 ^a		

Table 5: Performance of Sinia laying hens as affected by glutamine injection and early heat exposure under hot conditions (22-34) weeks of age .. \

a,b,c,...: means in the same row bearing different superscripts are significantly different (p ≤ 0.05). NS= non-significant.

Moreover glutamine injection caused more HSP70 synthesis which increased activity of digestive enzymes [24] of chicken under heat stress. Also glutamine improves FC through increasing height of villi of intestine subsequent increase of nutrient absorption [25], hence triple injection of glutamine in HSE3 produced the highest FBW. Also, Jazideh., *et al.* [26] noticed the improvement in the intestinal morphology and body weight gain of broilers supplemented with 0.5 glutamine in diet under heat stress comparing with control diet and there was increasing in the villus. Results of table 5 represented the egg number, egg weight and egg mass of the tested groups. The data showed that 5th group (HSE3) had the significantly ($p < 0.05$) largest egg weight (44, 60 gm) and highest numbers 58.54 of egg production. So its egg mass (2608.78 gm/hen) was the highest among all other groups. These results could be explained by the gradual increase of body weight at sexual maturity reaching its maximum value in 5th group (HSE3). These results were consistent with that obtained by Nagwa., *et al.* [16] who reported that laying hens receiving multiple early heat acclimation cycles had highest number of egg, largest egg weight and egg mass. Also the increase of egg weight, egg number and egg mass of HSE3 group might be attributed to triple injection of glutamine. This was confirmed by Vahid Gholipour., *et al.* [11] who conducted that diet supplemented by L- glutamine significantly increased egg weight, egg production and egg mass.

Blood constituents

Table 6 revealed that there were significant differences in all blood parameter and it could be noticed that the highest superiority values of studied parameters (heat shock protein, total protein, albumin, globulin, glucose, calcium, progesterone and estrogen) were exhibited by hens of T5 (HSE3). On the other hand, the same previous treatment (T5 HSE3) had recorded the least plasma cholesterol and phosphorus concentrations, The lower level of HSP70 in the 2nd group may be due to additional heat challenge at 24, 30 and 34 weeks of age without early thermal acclimation during the growth period. This could be confirmed by significant (< 0.05) increase of HSP70 concentration in T3 (HSE1) group from that of control and 2nd groups. As HSE1 had dual mechanisms enhance HSP70 synthesis which early heat shock exposure together with glutamine injection. It is well established that early thermal acclimation increased synthesis of heat shock protein HSP70 [6,16,18,24,27] had reported that GI stimulates synthesis of HSP70. There was no significant difference in the level HSP70 between of T3(HSE1) group and T4(HSE2) group that which received double of both early heat stress and GI. However T5 (HSE3) showed significant increase level of HSP70 ($p < 0.05$) from that of both HSE1 and HSE2 groups. These results are in agreement with that obtained by Ezzat., *et al.* [20] who found that triple exposure to early heat shock during growth period caused significant increase of HSP70 level in laying hens. Hence the present results showed that three times of GI and triple exposure of early heat shock had synergistic effect on the level of HSP70 in T5(HSE3) group.

Treatments						
T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	Pooled SEM	Sig.
Heat shock protein 70						
7.31 ^c	6.21 ^d	8.14 ^{bc}	8.34 ^{ab}	9.11 ^a	0.28	**
Total protein (g/dl)						
4.90 ^d	4.48 ^e	5.51 ^c	6.30 ^b	7.09 ^a	0.25	**
Albumin (g/dl)						
2.74 ^d	2.45 ^e	2.95 ^c	3.41 ^b	3.78 ^a	0.12	**
Globulin (g/dl)						
2.16 ^c	2.03 ^d	2.56 ^{bc}	2.89 ^{ab}	3.31 ^a	0.13	**
A/G ratio						
1.27	1.22	1.17	1.18	1.41	0.039	N.S
Glucose(mg/dl)						
187.14 ^d	186.12 ^e	189.85 ^c	192.28 ^b	195.4 ^a	0.90	**

Cholesterol (mg/dl)						
176.78 ^b	185.99 ^a	167.1 ^c	157.00 ^d	139.22 ^e	4.30	**
Phosphorus(mg/dl)						
8.02 ^b	9.30 ^a	7.92 ^b	7.58 ^c	6.92 ^d	0.20	**
Calcium (mg/dl)						
8.55 ^c	7.32 ^d	9.19 ^b	9.14 ^b	10.22 ^a	0.25	**
Progesterone(ng/ml)						
0.288 ^c	0.21 ^d	0.33 ^b	0.37 ^b	0.43 ^a	0.02	**
Estrogen(ng/nl)						
265.5 ^d	295.8 ^c	342.8 ^b	344.1 ^b	400.0 ^a	12.34	**
T3((ng\ml)						
3.82 ^a	3.27 ^b	2.62 ^c	1.98 ^d	1.53 ^e	0.22	**

Table 6: Blood constituents of *Sinia hens* as affected by glutamine injection and early heat exposure under hot condition. a,b,c,...: means in the same row bearing different superscripts are significantly different ($p \leq 0.05$).
NS= non-significant.

The 3rd,4th and 5th groups (HSE1, HSE2 and HSE3) expressed significant increases ($p < 0.05$) of total protein, albumin and globulin comparing with control group (Table 6). The highest values were for 5th (HSE3) group which recorded 7.095, 3.78 and 3.315 and respectively, whereas the control group recorded 4.906, 2.749 and 2.157 respectively. But they showed significant ($p < 0.05$) reduction of cholesterol level from the 2nd group. However A/G ratio level had insignificant change in between tested groups. These results are in agreement with those obtained by Selim (2011) [28] who observed a significant decrease in plasma total protein, albumin in the heat stressed chickens (38°C for 6 hours and 70 ± 5% Rh). Gursu., *et al.* [29] discovered an increase in the concentration of cholesterol in heat-stressed broilers. Moeini., *et al.* [30] noticed that positive effect on serum lipid by decrease both cholesterol, and LDL) and increase HDL,) concentrations in broiler chickens exposed to heat stress. Moreover the best improvement of total protein, albumin, G/A ratio in HSE3 group might be explained by reduction of corticosterone level by multiple early heat exposures. Also the observed increase of these parameters in 5th group could be attributed to multiple glutamine injection which is an abundant amino acid involved the nucleic acid synthesis in the body [31,32]. Plasma Phosphorus level was decreased significantly in the 5th (HSE3) group as compared to control and experimental other groups (Table 6), On the contrary, calcium levels were increased ($p < 0.05$) in the 5th group compared with other experimental groups. These results may be due to the reverse relationship between calcium and phosphorus in which increase blood calcium level resulted in an increase of parathyroid hormone secretion which inhibits the renal tubules reabsorption of phosphorus [33,34]. These results are in agreement with those of Rahimi [35] and Nagwa., *et al.* [16] who reported that calcium level in broilers was increased significantly in treatments exposed to heat shock compared to control group. Table (6) showed that the 2nd group had significantly ($p < 0.05$) lower level of progesterone hormones than other experimental treatments. As the heat stress applied on females can upset the typical status of reproductive hormones at both the hypothalamus and the ovarian levels. Also these results are confirmed by the obtained by Amen and Doraji [36] who reported that heat stress decreased LH and FSH hormones. Hens of T3 (HSE1), T4 (HSE2) and T5 (HSE3) groups showed significant increase in sex-hormones over than of control and the 2nd groups. These results are very realistic as it is well established that early heat acclimation at the growth period of bird can adapt the thermoregulatory system of immature hypothalamus where LH and FSH are released to increase secretion of progesterone and estrogen. However T5 (HSE3) showed significantly higher level of progesterone and estrogen compared to that of T3 (HSE1) and (HSE2) groups. Triiodothyronine (T3) decreased significantly ($P < 0.05$) compared with control group, where, the lowest value was expressed by HSE3 group. Moraes., *et al.* [37] reported that birds are able to reduce plasma (T3) concentration especially during thermal challenge. Also, Yalcin., *et al.* [38] mentioned that the concentration of (T3) was reduced in

heat acclimatization treated birds. Our results are in agreement with Youssef, *et al.* [6] who reported that glutamine injection alleviate the negative effects of heat stress, as (T3) hormone is responsible for thermogenesis in chickens [39]. Some researches indicated that the multiple early heat shock during growth period produces heat acclimation of hypothalamus of the bird e more subsequent more release of LH and FSH that stimulate production of reproductive hormones at the ovarian. Also it is well established that the enhancement of reproductive hormone synthesis in the hens is dependent on the dose of the glutamine that is added to the diet [11,40,41]. Hence in this study triple glutamine injections produces the highest levels of progesterone and estrogen hormones.

Conclusion

The previous results of this experiment indicated that the 5th group (HSE3) that received three times early heat shock and triple glutamine injection, showed significantly ($P < 0.05$) increase level of HSP70 compared to other groups. Also the level of T3, progesterone hormone, estrogen hormone, egg number, egg weight, egg mass group. while significant ($P < 0.05$) reduction of RT and RR. Moreover all the physiological parameters were significantly improved in HSE3 group.

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Conflict of Interest

No any financial interest or any conflict of interest exists.

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