

## Original Research

## Investigation of economic traits on the hybrid broiler (Ross 308) differing genotypically for insulin gene hormones using correlation and regression coefficients

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**ABSTRACT:**

The objective of the present study was to investigate the correlation and regression for some economic traits on hybrid broiler Ross 308 that differ on the genotype for insulin gene. Two hundred one- day-old chicks of Ross 308 were reared for five weeks in a closed system and divided based on the genetic structure of the insulin gene into two groups viz., hybrid and dominant structures. Initial Body weight (IBW), Initial Length of Body (ILB) and some physical characteristics were measured. The results showed a high correlation ( $P < 0.01$ ) between the Live Body Weight (LBW) and Carcass Weight (CWT). It was 0.97 for the dominant structure while 0.56 for the hybrid structure. Significantly, the correlation between body length  $A_5$  with the length of keel bone  $C_5$  and the circumference of the breast  $B_5$  in the dominant structure was 0.35, 0.34 respectively, and between the breast circumference  $B_5$  and thigh circumference  $D_5$  was 0.50 for dominant structure. As for the hybrid structure, the correlation value was of high significance ( $P > 0.01$ ) between  $C_5$  with  $D_5$  when the correlation value was 0.70. And significantly, the correlation values were 0.56, 0.61, 0.58, 0.50, and 0.48 between LBW and CWT and  $B_5$  with  $C_5$  and  $D_5$ , and between  $A_5$  with  $D_5$  and  $C_5$  respectively. The dominant genotype showed a significant regression coefficient  $P < 0.05$  for the relative weight of thighs  $Y_3$  by IW which was 0.004 and for wings  $Y_5$  by ILB which was 0.0009 at the same level of significance. The hybrid structure showed a significant regression coefficient for  $Y_3$  in IW, and for  $Y_2$  in ILB was 0.02 and 0.04 respectively. The regression coefficient for relative weight of the breast  $B_5$  for ILB was 0.003 higher significantly ( $P > 0.01$ ) for the hybrid structure. Meanwhile, in the dominant structure, LBW and CWT compared to the by ILB were recorded as 0.04 and 0.02 respectively. It can be concluded that the correlation and regression values for some economic traits can be used for early selection of chicks for breeding as a preferred genetic structure or as required by the market on the basis of genetic structure of the insulin gene.

**Keywords:**

Ross 308, Insulin gene hormone, Correlation and regression coefficients, Broiler economic traits.

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## INTRODUCTION

Poultry is a substantial contributor of food supply to all the world. It has been reared for decades and the main target for poultry breeders is to obtain the appropriate weight through the shortest possible breeding period, at low production cost with fine profit. Hence, the closed system is the most useful way to control all the conditions and the changes in broilers (Carrate *et al.*, 2009). Many commercial breeds of broilers have been devised to secure commercial herds with low cost of production, depending on their economic characteristics, in addition to the continuous variation that is affected by their genetic content, where quantitative characteristics are affected by a large number of genes (Le *et al.*, 2001). Prescott *et al.* (1985) demonstrated that hybrid broilers are better than their ancestors due to the effective selection programs which has the basic roll in the improvement of genetically modified genes (Leterrier *et al.*, 1998). However, continuous selection for some traits with combinations of desirable traits, accompanied by genetic changes in the commercial hybrid of many of these traits (Marks, 1995) led to the emergence of strains with good physical characteristics, rapid growth and higher feed conversion ratio, however, the continuation of the election to increase body weight is accompanied by negative effect on health, such as the appearance of swollen leg and increased body fat and others. In order to overcome these problems, the current trend has become dependent on the involvement of several areas including modern genetic selection techniques and genome studies. Ewart (1993) pointed out the need to study and involve molecular genetics, axis gene, marker genes and candied gene for inclusion in genetic selection and improvement programs (Beuzen *et al.*, 2000). The insulin gene is one of the candidate genes due to the wide association with many of the production parameters such as growth, evolution, physiological structure and lipid deposition, rather than it as an receptor in the plasma membranes of the adipose muscle and

lever (Nie *et al.*, 2005). In order to integrate some genes of the genetic structure of domestic birds with some of the basics of poultry breeding and improvement, the current research trend included correlation coefficients and regression between some primary body measurements and some other measurements at the end of the breeding period in a sample of Ross 308 broiler chickens isolated on the basis of their genetic structure of insulin gene hormone. They are dominant and hybrid for the purpose of adopting disclosure of these structures and take advantage of the early election programs according to the values of correlations and regression between the traits.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiment was carried out at the poultry field of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Baghdad, Abu Ghraib, in order to study the values of correlation coefficients and regression between some of the economic characteristics in two genotypes of the insulin gene hormone in broiler Ross 308. Therefore, 200 one day-old chicks were divided based on their genetic structure into two structures: dominant and hybrid numbered in wings in addition, the chicks were fed starter, grower and finisher diets. The Initial Body Weight (IBW) was measured with a sensitive scale while ILB was measured by using a measuring tape after laying the chicks on a lateral level surface with the start of the tape in front of the beak till the middle finger of the posterior limbs. At the age of five weeks long live body  $A_5$ , breast circumference  $B_5$ , keel length  $C_5$ , thigh circumference  $D_5$ , leg length  $E_5$  and live body weight LBW were measured ( $B_5$  measured by the ligament of the measuring tape around the top of the breast area) whereas ( $C_5$  from the sternum to the end of the keel bone). After slaughtering, carcass weight CWT, dressing percentage DRE, the relative weight for cuttings were recorded based on the percentage of the weight of the cuts divided by CWT for each of the breast muscle  $Y_1$ , back

**Table 1. Correlation coefficient values of primary body weight with weight ratios of cuttings in dominant and hybrid structures of insulin gene in the broiler Ross 308**

S. No	Traits	Dominant structure	Hybrid structure
1	Y <sub>1</sub>	-0.0025 <sup>NS</sup>	0.2794 <sup>NS</sup>
2	Y <sub>2</sub>	-0.0225 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.428 <sup>NS</sup>
3	Y <sub>3</sub>	-0.369*	0.0150 <sup>NS</sup>
4	Y <sub>4</sub>	-0.0078 <sup>NS</sup>	0.4479 <sup>NS</sup>
5	Y <sub>5</sub>	0.0681 <sup>NS</sup>	0.020 <sup>NS</sup>
6	Y <sub>6</sub>	-0.1153 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.1069 <sup>NS</sup>

\* Y<sub>1</sub>: Relative weight of the cuttings; Y<sub>2</sub>: Relative weight of the back + neck; Y<sub>3</sub>: Relative weight of thighs; Y<sub>4</sub>: Relative weight of the liver; Y<sub>5</sub>: Relative weight of wings, Y<sub>6</sub>: Relative weight of abdominal fat.

area + neck Y<sub>2</sub>, thighs Y<sub>3</sub>, Y<sub>4</sub> liver weight, Y<sub>5</sub> wings and abdominal fat Y<sub>6</sub> according to the method of Al-Fayadh *et al.* (2011).

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Table 1 showed the values of correlation coefficients between IW and the weight ratios of cuttings in the dominant and the hybrid structure of the insulin hormone gene in broiler. In the hybrid genotype, the correlation values were all insignificant, however, there were two traits associated with the IW and with each of Y<sub>2</sub> and Y<sub>6</sub> which were 0.42 and 0.10 respectively. The highest value of 0.44 for the IW correlation coefficient with the relative weight of the liver Y<sub>4</sub> and 0.1 for the thighs Y<sub>3</sub>. For the dominant structure and for the same

**Table 3. The correlation values between primary body weight, body length, live body weight, carcass weight, and dressing percentage in broiler Ross 308 for the hybrid genotype of the insulin hormone gene**

S. No	Factors	ILB	LBW	CWT	DRE
1	IW	-0.03 <sup>NS</sup>	0.04 <sup>NS</sup>	0.12 <sup>NS</sup>	0.02 <sup>NS</sup>
2	ILB	----	-0.16 <sup>NS</sup>	0.11 <sup>NS</sup>	0.33 <sup>NS</sup>
3	LBW	----	----	0.56*	-0.59**
4	CWT	----	----	----	0.32 <sup>NS</sup>
5	DRE	----	----	----	----

\* IW: Primary body weight; ILB: Primary body length; LBW: Live weight; CWT: Carcass weight; DRE: Dressing percentage.

**Table 2. The values of correlation coefficients between the length of the primary body ILB and the correlations of the cuttings of the dominant and the hybrid structures of insulin gene in the broiler Ross 308**

S. No	Traits	Dominant structure	Hybrid structure
1	Y <sub>1</sub>	-0.0052 <sup>NS</sup>	0.1882 <sup>NS</sup>
2	Y <sub>2</sub>	0.2661 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.1120 <sup>NS</sup>
3	Y <sub>3</sub>	-0.0991 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.0494 <sup>NS</sup>
4	Y <sub>4</sub>	0.15588 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.359 <sup>NS</sup>
5	Y <sub>5</sub>	0.16860 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.543*
6	Y <sub>6</sub>	-0.1654 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.0815 <sup>NS</sup>

\* Y<sub>1</sub>: Relative weight of the breast; Y<sub>2</sub>: Relative weight of the back + neck; Y<sub>3</sub>: Relative weight of the thighs; Y<sub>4</sub>: Relative weight of the liver; Y<sub>5</sub>: Relative weight of the wings; Y<sub>6</sub>: Relative weight of abdominal fat.

table, most of the values were also insignificant. Significantly, the value of IW was associated with Y<sub>3</sub>, which was 0.36. The correlation value was insignificant for the dominant structure of IW with Y<sub>5</sub> that reached 0.068. The insignificant correlation values might be due to the fact that the used broilers were a commercial hybrid chosen for it is a commercial trait, also it can be due to the effect of the initial body weight of the chick on the overall weight. Monika *et al.* (2011) indicated that the initial weight of the heavy hatchery has a direct effect on the final weight compared to the low weight of chicks for the same breeding period. Additionally, lower initial weights for the used chicks gave insignificant correlation values with Y<sub>1</sub> (Zangana *et al.*, 2011).

**Table 4. The correlation values between initial body weight, body length, live body weight, carcass weight, and dressing percentage in broiler Ross 308 for the dominant genotype of the insulin hormone gene**

S. No	Factors	ILB	LBW	CWT	DRE
1	IW	-0.09 <sup>NS</sup>	0.27 <sup>NS</sup>	0.24 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.09 <sup>NS</sup>
2	ILB	----	-0.37*	-0.41*	-0.21 <sup>NS</sup>
3	LBW	----	----	0.97**	-0.0002 <sup>NS</sup>
4	CWT	----	----	----	0.22 <sup>NS</sup>
5	DRE	----	----	----	----

\* IW: Initial body weight; ILB: Initial body length; LBW: Live weight; CWT: Carcass weight; DRE: Dressing percentage.

**Table 5. The correlations between the physical measurements at the age of five weeks for hybrid and dominant structures of broiler Ross 308**

Hybrid genetics					
Volumetric measurements	A5	B5	C5	D5	E5
A <sub>5</sub>	----	0.22 <sup>NS</sup>	0.48*	0.50*	-0.03 <sup>NS</sup>
B <sub>5</sub>	----	----	0.61**	0.58**	0.47 <sup>NS</sup>
C <sub>5</sub>	----	----	----	0.70**	0.23 <sup>NS</sup>
D <sub>5</sub>	----	----	----	----	0.19 <sup>NS</sup>
E <sub>5</sub>	----	----	----	----	----
The dominant genotype					
Volumetric measurements	A5	B5	C5	D5	E5
A <sub>5</sub>	----	0.34*	0.35*	-0.06 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.13 <sup>NS</sup>
B <sub>5</sub>	----	----	0.16 <sup>NS</sup>	0.50*	0.28 <sup>NS</sup>
C <sub>5</sub>	----	----	----	0.18 <sup>NS</sup>	0.15 <sup>NS</sup>
D <sub>5</sub>	----	----	----	----	0.24 <sup>NS</sup>
E <sub>5</sub>	----	----	----	----	----

\* A<sub>5</sub>: Live body length; B<sub>5</sub>: Breast circumference; C<sub>5</sub>: Length of shear bone; D<sub>5</sub>: Thigh circumference; E<sub>5</sub>: Leg length.

Table 2 illustrated the correlation coefficients between ILB and the weight ratios of the dominant and hybrid structures of broiler Ross 308. For the hybrid structure, the correlation values showed wide variation, although most of them were not significant, the only positive correlation value was insignificant with a relative weight of Y<sub>1</sub> for the breast muscle, which was 0.18 and a significant decrease (P<0.05) with Y<sub>5</sub> in hybrid structure and the recorded value was 0.543. The ILB correlation values with the relative weights of the other cuttings were low and not significant, although there were some differences between them in the same genetic structure. The dominant genetic structure showed that the correlation values were insignificant and the positive values were higher with Y<sub>2</sub> at 0.26 whereas the Y<sub>5</sub> was 0.168 in addition, the Y<sub>4</sub> was 0.155. This composition recorded insignificant and negative values at 0.16, 0.155, 0.005 for the ILB correlation with the Y<sub>6</sub>, Y<sub>4</sub> and Y<sub>1</sub> respectively. The obtained results were in agreement with the findings of Al-Hajo and Al-Fayadh (2007) who reported that the effect of the initial length of the chick with continued growth results showed an increase in the length of the body in general. The obtained insignificant

values, confirmed the increase in bone length as all measured traits were in the fifth week, which accompanied by an increase in the structural muscles located on it. However, the decline and the insignificance of values can be explained by lowering ILB affect, the value of it is correlated with the other values. Al-Anbari *et al.* (2013) noted that the chicks with long or medium body length was superior in CWT, Y<sub>1</sub> compared to the short-body chicks, adding that the body length of the chick after the hatching was considered the preferred method for predicting the efficiency of the chick's performance. Al-Hajo and Al-Fayadh, (2007) detected that a significant (P<0.01) correlation between CWT, DRE and Y<sub>1</sub> with B<sub>5</sub> and carcass length. In addition, a positive correlation between the abdominal fat and the intestines with LBW was noted (Al-Anbari and Mohamed, 2017). Overall, there is no convincing evidence of differences in the body weight, response to the obesity of the intestines, and the Rose strain has been genetically altered due to the selection to increase BLW and other traits (Marks, 1995).

Table 3 shows the correlation coefficients between IW and ILB with LBW, CWT and DRE for hybrid broiler Ross 308. The correlation coefficient was insignificant between IW and ILB where it was 0.03. The values of the correlation were positive and not significant with LBW, CWT, and DRE and the detected values were 0.04, 0.12, and 0.02 respectively. Insignificantly, the correlation values between the ILB with other characteristics were decreased and the lowest value was -0.16 with LBW. However, the correlation coefficient was positive with CWT and DRE as 0.11 and 0.33 respectively. Also, Table 3 declined that there was insignificant correlation value between CWT and DRE which was consistent with Al-Hajo and Al-Fayadh, (2007) who described the relation between CWT, DRE and LBW. Al-Anbari *et al.* (2013) showed a significant correlation between ILB with LBW at the age of 42 days, and it was consistent with the obtained results

**Table 6. The correlation values between initial body weight with the physical measurements at the age of five weeks for hybrid and dominant structure of broiler Ross 308**

S. No	Traits	Dominant structure	Hybrid structure
1	A <sub>5</sub>	- 0.394 <sup>NS</sup>	0.31412 <sup>NS</sup>
2	B <sub>5</sub>	0.1106 <sup>NS</sup>	0.1557 <sup>NS</sup>
3	C <sub>5</sub>	- 0.063 <sup>NS</sup>	- 0.0281 <sup>NS</sup>
4	D <sub>5</sub>	- 0.1416 <sup>NS</sup>	- 0.039 <sup>NS</sup>
5	E <sub>5</sub>	0.293 <sup>NS</sup>	- 0.1792 <sup>NS</sup>

\* A<sub>5</sub>: Live body length; B<sub>5</sub>: Breast circumference; C<sub>5</sub>: Length of shear bone; D<sub>5</sub>: Thigh circumference; E<sub>5</sub>: Leg length.

from this study at the age of 35 days while a significant correlation between ILB with IW at the age of seven days was detected. Although it has been isolated on the basis of the genetic structure of the insulin hormone gene, The correlation values of some traits may be attributed to the long or medium length after hatching, where it excels in the CWT, DRE, Y<sub>1</sub> and the breast width which reflected by the length of the shear bone.

The correlation coefficients between IW and ILB with LBW, CWT and DRE for dominant broiler Ross 308 were pointed in Table 4. Low insignificant correlation values between IW with ILB, LBW, CWT, and DRE were recorded as -0.09, 0.27, 0.24 and -0.09 respectively. It was also shown that the ILB was associated with other characteristics, although there was a significant difference, with values of - 0.37, -0.41 for LBW, CWT and 0.21 for DRE. A significant correlation (P<0.01) value was 0.97 for LBW with CWT while the correlation value was low and insignificant with DRE which was 0.0002. CWT was also associated with the DRE ratio of positive 0.22. The results of the present study were in line with Wolanski *et al.* (2006) who found that low and insignificant correlation between IW (or after hatching) with LBW at the age of 6-weeks, which was 0.12. Chambers and Fortin (1984) added that the continued growth and consequent increase in bone length led to increase the structural muscles located on it which results in an increase in the DRE and Y<sub>1</sub>. Moni-

**Table 7. The correlation values between initial body length with the physical measurements at the age of five weeks for hybrid and dominant structures of broiler Ross 308**

S. No	Traits	Dominant structure	Hybrid structure
1	A <sub>5</sub>	0.1591 <sup>NS</sup>	0.08822 <sup>NS</sup>
2	B <sub>5</sub>	0.1654 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.296 <sup>NS</sup>
3	C <sub>5</sub>	0.0726 <sup>NS</sup>	0.1048 <sup>NS</sup>
4	D <sub>5</sub>	0.0113 <sup>NS</sup>	0.0129 <sup>NS</sup>
5	E <sub>5</sub>	-0.1125 <sup>NS</sup>	-0.1720 <sup>NS</sup>

\* A<sub>5</sub>: Live body length; B<sub>5</sub>: Breast circumference; C<sub>5</sub>: Length of shear bone; D<sub>5</sub>: Thigh circumference; E<sub>5</sub>: Leg length.

ka *et al.* (2011) noted the effect of IW of chicks on the production performance during the breeding period, despite the chicks were raised under the same conditions, but different in their genetic susceptibility to express their genetic content. Molenaar *et al.* (2007) noted that there was a relationship between ILB and IW with the production performance of broiler. Additionally, Rance and his colleagues pointed that obtaining the genetic correlation between carcass characteristics and body components in broiler Ross indicated the possibility of holding a theatrical selection, despite some of the factors can be inherited or due to the interfered of genetic with environment, which can be led to insufficient election even with highest correlation value. Willemsen *et al.* (2008) noted that the correlation value between ILB with IW at one day old was not consistent between the Ross and Cobb strains in addition, the early hatches have ILB higher than those hatched later, hence, it is possible to select chicks with a dominant genetic structure of the insulin hormone gene, immediately after hatching, where the value of the correlation means for the selected chicks will reach a higher LBW and CWT at the age of five weeks.

Table 5 shows the correlation values between physical measurements at the age of five weeks of 308 Ross by gene composition of the insulin gene. In hybrid genetics, the correlation values between physical measurements varied in their significance, with the highest

**Table 8. The regression coefficient values of cutting weights for hybrid and dominant structure of Insulin hormone gene in broiler Ross 308**

S. No	Traits	Hybrid structure		Dominant structure	
		ILB	IW	ILB	IW
1	Y <sub>1</sub>	0.97 <sup>NS</sup>	0.98 <sup>NS</sup>	0.48 <sup>NS</sup>	0.29 <sup>NS</sup>
2	Y <sub>2</sub>	0.020*	0.90 <sup>NS</sup>	0.64 <sup>NS</sup>	0.09 <sup>NS</sup>
3	Y <sub>3</sub>	0.60 <sup>NS</sup>	0.04*	0.07 <sup>NS</sup>	0.004*
4	Y <sub>4</sub>	0.49 <sup>NS</sup>	0.01 <sup>NS</sup>	0.012 <sup>NS</sup>	0.31 <sup>NS</sup>
5	Y <sub>5</sub>	0.37 <sup>NS</sup>	0.7 <sup>NS</sup>	0.0009*	0.01 <sup>NS</sup>
6	Y <sub>6</sub>	0.03 <sup>NS</sup>	0.007 <sup>NS</sup>	0.29 <sup>NS</sup>	0.07 <sup>NS</sup>

\* Y<sub>1</sub>: relative weight of the breast; Y<sub>2</sub>: relative weight of the back + neck; Y<sub>3</sub>: relative weight of the thighs; Y<sub>4</sub>: relative weight of the liver; Y<sub>5</sub>: relative weight of the wings; Y<sub>6</sub>: relative weight of abdominal fat.

(P<0.01) value between C<sub>5</sub> and D<sub>5</sub> which was 0.70 while the high significant correlation for B<sub>5</sub> with D<sub>5</sub> and C<sub>5</sub> recording mean values of 0.58, 0.61 respectively was noted. Additionally, A<sub>5</sub> showed a significant correlation value (P<0.05) with D<sub>5</sub>, C<sub>5</sub> at means of 0.50, 0.48 respectively. The other characteristics had positive insignificant correlation values except for A<sub>5</sub> with E<sub>5</sub> where the correlation value was negative and not significant (0.03). The obtained results can be explained as the broiler of the present study was a commercial hybrid and were selected to increase body weight and breast width with short legs, which considered to be features of the commercial hybrid and this may explain the low correlation between A<sub>5</sub> and E<sub>5</sub>. For the dominant genotype, Table 5 illustrated the presence of different correlation values between all the traits with higher significant value between B<sub>5</sub> and D<sub>5</sub> which was 0.50. The A<sub>5</sub> was significantly (P<0.05) correlated with C<sub>5</sub> and B<sub>5</sub> with mean values of 0.35, 0.34 respectively. However, the A<sub>5</sub> was not significant and low or negative with the E<sub>5</sub> and D<sub>5</sub> with values of 0.13, 0.06, respectively. The significant correlation values of the two genotypes in agreement with Al-Anbari and Mohamed (2017) who noted that many body measures are a good indicator of a skeletal size such as length of shear bone, breast circumference, leg length, stubble, and leg circumference. In addition, the high correlation between B<sub>5</sub> and C<sub>5</sub>

showed the highest value of the hybrid genotype which was 0.61. Therefore, the individuals carrying this structure must come from fathers with a wide breast.

To study the correlation coefficient values between IW with physical measurements at the age of five weeks for the hybrid and dominant structure of broiler Ross 308, Table 6 detected that insignificant correlation values with IW was noted with negative correlation for most of them. In hybrid structure, the correlation values were positive with A<sub>5</sub> and B<sub>5</sub> with mean values as 0.31 for A<sub>5</sub> and 0.15 for B<sub>5</sub>. However, most of the correlation values for the dominant structure showed negative and insignificance with IW except B<sub>5</sub> and E<sub>5</sub> with a mean values at 0.11 and 0.293 respectively. Additionally, the lowest insignificant value was C<sub>5</sub> with mean value of 0.06 while the recorded values for D<sub>5</sub>, A<sub>5</sub> were 0.14, 0.39 respectively.

Table 7 indicates insignificant correlation values between ILB with physical measurements at the age of five weeks for the hybrid and dominant structure of broiler Ross 308. For hybrid structure, positive correlation values were recorded between ILB with C<sub>5</sub>, A<sub>5</sub> and D<sub>5</sub> with the mean values of 0.1, 0.08 and 0.01 respectively. Moreover, positive insignificant correlation values between ILB with A<sub>5</sub>, B<sub>5</sub> with the mean of 0.15,

**Table 9. The regression coefficient values of physical measurements at the age of five weeks for hybrid and dominant structure of insulin hormone gene in the broiler Ross 308**

S. No	Traits	Hybrid structure		Dominant structure	
		ILB	IW	ILB	IW
1	LBW	0.04*	0.001 <sup>NS</sup>	0.096 <sup>NS</sup>	0.05 <sup>NS</sup>
2	CWT	0.02*	0.0011 <sup>NS</sup>	0.36 <sup>NS</sup>	0.04 <sup>NS</sup>
3	Dress	0.26 <sup>NS</sup>	0.60 <sup>NS</sup>	0.59 <sup>NS</sup>	0.004 <sup>NS</sup>
4	A <sub>5</sub>	0.40 <sup>NS</sup>	0.03 <sup>NS</sup>	0.001 <sup>NS</sup>	0.23 <sup>NS</sup>
5	B <sub>5</sub>	0.38 <sup>NS</sup>	0.56 <sup>NS</sup>	0.003**	0.001 <sup>NS</sup>
6	C <sub>5</sub>	0.70 <sup>NS</sup>	0.73 <sup>NS</sup>	0.69 <sup>NS</sup>	0.917 <sup>NS</sup>
7	D <sub>5</sub>	0.95 <sup>NS</sup>	0.45 <sup>NS</sup>	0.96 <sup>NS</sup>	0.88 <sup>NS</sup>
8	E <sub>5</sub>	0.55 <sup>NS</sup>	0.11 <sup>NS</sup>	0.52 <sup>NS</sup>	0.50 <sup>NS</sup>

\* IW: Initial body weight; ILB: Initial length of body, LBW: Live weight; CWT: Carcass weight; DRE: Dressing percentage; A<sub>5</sub>: Live body length; B<sub>5</sub>: Breast circumference; C<sub>5</sub>: Length of shear bone; D<sub>5</sub>: Thigh circumference; E<sub>5</sub>: Leg length.

0.16 respectively. The obtained results from the present study was in agreement with Goliomytis *et al.* (2003) who indicated an insignificant correlation between the studied traits for different hybrid structures reared from 1-154 day of the age. Al-Anbari *et al.* (2013) noted the significant effect of ILB with IW at the age of seven days while it was insignificant at the end of the breeding period. Also, the effect of ILB on CWT, DRE, C<sub>5</sub>, B<sub>5</sub> was detected (Ibrahim, 2010). The insignificant correlation may attributed to the lower weight and lower body length of chicks compared to the chicks that showed significant values.

Table 8 shows the regression coefficient values for the cutting relative weights with IW and IBL. The significant value of the studied trait mean the number of units for this trait that change if the gradient changes with one unit, hence most of the studied traits and their regression with IW and ILW have detected insignificant regression coefficient values. For the dominant structure, a significant ( $P<0.05$ ) regression was revealed for Y<sub>3</sub> on IW and for Y<sub>5</sub> on ILB with means of 0.004 and 0.0009 respectively. Regarding hybrid structure, higher regression value for Y<sub>3</sub> on IW was 0.04 and for Y<sub>2</sub> on ILB was 0.020.

Insignificant and positive regression values for carcass traits and physical measurements on IW and ILB at the age of five weeks for dominant and hybrid structures of broiler Ross 308 were demonstrated (Table 9). Significantly, the highest regression value ( $P<0.05$ ) for B<sub>5</sub> on ILB was 0.003 which indicate the number of units that change B<sub>5</sub> if the ILB changed one unit in the hybrid structure. Meanwhile, the dominant structure showed an insignificant positive regression value except for LBW and CWT on ILB and the recorded values were 0.4, 0.02 respectively. The obtained results were in line with Al-Anbari *et al.* (2013) who noted that each extra 1 cm of ILB gives an increase in IW which gradually decreases with the age through a regression of weight on the length in addition, low regression value

for IW on LBW was also recorded. The insignificant values can be attributed to the reared commercial hybrid in the present study (broiler Ross 308) and the role of the selection that focused on specific traits in order to meet the consumer's desire to provide market requirements of chicken with a wide breast circumference or higher relative weight for wings, thighs, abdominal fat and so on. Moreover, the effect of initial chick's weight (IW) on LBW and Y<sub>1</sub>, the effect of ILB on physical measurements, effects of sex where the males have a higher conversion ratio with a higher breast circumference than females, are possible reasons for the insignificant values. Additionally, the significant values obtained in the present study can be imputed to the effect of genetics of the insulin hormone gene, which can be reliable for early selection of some desired traits.

## CONCLUSION

Modern genetic analysis using DNA marker or gene polymorphisms can be used in earlier selection programs for broiler depending on its relationship between body scales or measurement like correlation and regression which could be a useful tool to avoid high costs resulting in short period of rearing. The high correlation values obtained in the present study gives the possibility of benefiting from these traits not only in selections but also in predicting future weights or traits.

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