Morphological Traits, Productive Performance and Genotyping Fat Deposition PPAR Gene in Gama Ayam Crossbreeds of Female F₁ Kamper and Male BC₁ Kambro

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Received 12 August 2019; Received in revised form 01 November 2019; Accepted 05 December 2019; Available online 30 December 2019

ABSTRACT

On the recent classification of native Indonesian chicken there are 31 breeds of chicken. Highly circulated chicken breed in Indonesia is fast-growing broiler which include several strains such as Cobb 500, Hubbar, Hybro, Isa Hyline and Hisex. Fast-growing broiler chickens have a rapid growth, with excessive fat deposition on chicken carcass which implicates a health problem and unfavorable meat quality. Gama Ayam Research Team conducted a selective breeding which produces two new chicken breed Kamper and Kambro. A further selective breeding then crossbred female F₁ Kamper and male BC₁ (backcross I) Kambro. In this research morphological traits, productive performance and genotyping of PPAR gene related to fat deposition gene and blood lipid content in Gama Ayam were identified. Based on data analysis hybrid chickens morphological traits it concluded that Gama Ayam have a significant variation based on feather color. Productive performance was determined with feed-conversion ratio (FCR) value which was 3.17. Genotyping of PPAR gene resulted in four polymorphisms which formed 14 haplotypes groups. Based on blood lipid content analysis of cholesterol content, triglycerides content, HDL and LDL, Gama Ayam have significantly lower content of cholesterol (107.05 mg/dl), LDL (44.71 mg/dl) and triglycerides (22.41 mg/dl). PPAR gene polymorphisms is not correlated with blood lipid content in Gama Ayam. A significantly strong correlation between PPAR gene polymorphism on the body weight of Gama Ayam at 49-days-old. Triglyceride level, cholesterol level and LDL level in Gama Ayam were lower than broiler chicken. Further research with larger population size and sex classification of hybrid chicken must be conducted to validate the results.

Keywords: BC₁ Kambro; F₁ Kamper; fat deposition; Gama Ayam; selective breeding

INTRODUCTION

Over the past few decades, the main purpose of poultry production in many countries has been to improve animal growth. Ditjen PKH (2018) showed that Indonesia poultry livestock populations in 2018 consisted of 1.8 billion broiler-type/broiler chickens, 181.752 layer chickens and 310.960 native chickens. However, modern broiler strain often tend to have excessive abdominal fat deposits (Xu et al., 2003; Liang et al., 2015). Fat deposition needs to be controlled hence it has a negative impact on poultry production, as evidenced by increases in feed costs during maintenance, decreased final meat quality, and significant economic losses for the poultry processing industry (Peng et al., 2019; Wu et al., 2006; Lu et al., 2007).

Currently, excessive fat is one of the main problem faced by the poultry industry, because it’s not only causes reduced carcass and feed efficiency, but also customers refusal of meat (Colmenero, 2000; wumová & Teimouri, 2010; Wu et al., 2000). Efforts to reduce fat in chicken are one of the focuses in research on Broiler commodities (Ferrini et al., 2010). It is because consumers want healthier food products from chicken. High levels of fat in food products that come from animal are known to be a source of body obesity and coronary heart disease (Sartika, 2008; Gesta et al., 2007; Popkin, 2001). The intense genetic selection for rapid growth in broilers has resulted in an increase in voluntary feed intake and growth rate, accompanied by increased fat deposition in adipose tissue deposits throughout the body.
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(Wang et al., 2017). On this basis, producing chickens that contain low fat content is one of the goals sought by many poultry nutrition researchers. In the last decade, genetic mechanisms in chicken fat deposition have been widely studied to examine genotypes of genes involved in adipose regulation in chicken (Wang et al., 2008). One gene that expresses fat deposition in chickens is PPAR gene (peroxisome proliferator-activated gene receptor). This gene can mediate regulation of adipose differentiation and fat metabolism (Hattori et al., 2004; Wang et al., 2008).

Identification of native chicken germplasm resulted in 34 breeds of chicken consist of Ayunai, Balengek, Banten, Bangkok, Burgo, Bekisar, Cangehgar, Cemani, Ciparage, Gaok, Jepun, Kampung, Kasintu, Kedu (Hitam and Putih), Pelung, Lamba, Maleo, Melayu, Merawang, Nagrak, Nunukan, Nusa Penida, Olagan, Rintit or Walik, Sedayu, Sentul, Siem, Sumatera, Tolaki, Tukung, Wareng, Sabu, and Semau (Henuk & Bakti, 2016; Mahardhika & Daryono, 2019). Approximately 11 native chicken breeds are categorized as candidates of broiler-type and laying-type chicken (Henuk & Bakti, 2016; Mahardhika & Daryono, 2019). Gama Ayam Research Team has conducted several selective breeding program with well-constructed breeding structure which involved native chicken breed to produce meat-type and laying-type chicken breed. Gama Ayam Research Team in 2013-2014, successfully bred the F1 Kamper, a breed of chicken that inherited the characteristics of female Lohmann Brown-Classic and male Pelung. In 2018-2019 Kambro successfully bred, a breed of chicken that inherited the characteristics of female Broiler Cobb 500 and male Pelung Blirik Hitam. Based on body weight and phenotypic performance Kambro could reach approximately 1244 grams after 49-days of rearing with ad libitum diet of standard feed. Phenotypic performance of Kambro is significant to F1 Pelung based on the measurement of liner body weight parameter, vitality parameter, PPa-PBe parameter and phenotype parameter (Mahardhika & Daryono, 2019). A further selective breeding with female F1 Kamper and male BC1 Kambro was initiated to produce hybrid chicken with the combination of prominent phenotypic traits of Kamper and Kambro. Hybrid chicken later named Gama Ayam was characterized with both phenotypic performance and molecular genotyping.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The following materials were used in this study: female F1 Kamper and male BC1 Kambro, eight Gama Ayam chicken, supplemental vitamin, BR-1 comfeed (PT. Japfa Comfeed Indonesia), AD II (PT. Japfa Comfeed Indonesia), whole blood samples, 70% alcohol, syringe 1 mL, ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), pipette tips (blue, yellow, and white), chexel solution, proteinase K, 0.05 M DTT, TE buffer (IDT, Malaysia), PCR tube, microtube 1.5 mL, agarose (BIO-1000, IDT, Malaysia), 1 × TAE and 0.5 × florosafe DNA stain (BIO-5170, 1st BASE, Malaysia), ddH2O, 2 × MyTaq HS Red Mix (BIO-25047, 1st BASE, Malaysia), pair of primer forward primer (5′-TCT GGC TGT GTT TAC TGT GTA TGA AAA-3′) and reverse primer (5′-TGC ATG CAG TGT GTA TGA AAA-3′) and 100-bp Bench Top Ladder (BIO-5170, 1st BASE, Malaysia). Amplicons then was sent for sequencing analysis performed according to Sanger sequencing method (PT. Genetics Science Indonesia). Blood lipid content analysis including triglyceride content, cholesterol content, LDL and HDL was analysed. Data analysis used including visual observation of phenotypic performance, body weight measurement (ANOVA), FCR calculation and sequencing analysis. FCR calculation based of formula (Parker, 2002):

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\text{FCR} = \frac{\text{Total feed spent at a certain time (7 weeks)}}{\text{Final chicken weight at 7 weeks} \div \text{chicken weight beginning}}
\]
RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on visual observation of phenotypic traits in Table 1 Gama Ayam chicken showed a similarity in comb shape (100%). Significant variations can be visually observed from feather color with 5 phenotypic groups: black barred (37.5%), white barred (25%), black (12.5%), white (12.5%) and brown (12.5%). Visual observation of phenotypic traits of Gama Ayam chicken is shown in Figure 1 with representative image of the breeding structure.

Table 1. Hybrid chicken morphology characters

| Phenotypic Traits | Phenotypes        | Population (n=8) | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Comb Shape        | Single            | 8                | 100            |
|                   | Red               | 4                | 50             |
|                   | Reddish           | 4                | 50             |
|                   | Yellow            | 3                | 37.5           |
|                   | White             | 3                | 37.5           |
|                   | Blackish White    | 1                | 12.5           |
|                   | Whitish Black     | 1                | 12.5           |
| Comb Color        | Black             | 1                | 12.5           |
|                   | White             | 6                | 75             |
|                   | Yellow            | 1                | 12.5           |
| Beak Color        | Black Barred      | 3                | 37.5           |
|                   | White Barred      | 2                | 25             |
| Shank Color       | Black             | 1                | 12.5           |
|                   | White             | 1                | 12.5           |
| Feather Color     | Brown             | 1                | 12.5           |

Figure 1. Breeding structure of Gama Ayam chicken

In Figure 2, average body weight of Gama Ayam chicken, Pelung chicken, BC1 Kambro chicken, F1 Kamper chicken and Broiler Cobb 500 indicates a significantly different performances during 49-days of period of rearing. Gama Ayam average body weight is 407.5 grams can be caused by genetic factors and maintenance settings that are less effective so that it affects the body weight.
Gama Ayam showed a significantly higher body weight performance compared with Pelung and not differ with BC1 Kambro (Figure 2). In Figure 2, Gama Ayam reached 407.5 grams (gr) in 49-days of rearing and F1 Kamper reached 771.3 grams (gr) in 49-days of rearing. This result can be explained with prior breeding structure of parental generation. Mahardhika & Daryono (2019) found that Kambro body weight can reach 1244.14 ± 453.82 grams lower than Broiler Cobb 500 which can reach 1706.82 ± 262.54 grams at 8-weeks-old for the reason of only inherited 50% of Broiler Cobb 500 genetic components, whereas BT of F1 Pelung only reached 602, 88 ± 79.93 grams with the same period. Backcross (BC) of Kambro with Pelung resulted in BC1 Kambro generation. The genetic components of Pelung then amplified and can be correlated with depression of body weight performance. Gama Ayam was produced with the aim to lower the fat deposition on carcass. Based on the body weight results the indication of LDL, cholesterol and triglyceride content on blood sample are hypothesized to be significantly lower in Gama Ayam chickens.

In Figure 3, the weight of feed spent by Gama Ayam during 49-days of observation shows an increase at the first week to the fifth week. Feed consumption in the fifth week reached 290.875 grams. A decrease in feed consumption can be observed during the sixth week and seventh week. A total feed consumption reached 9412 grams with an average feed consumption of each Gama Ayam chicken during 49-days of rearing period reached 1176.5 grams.

FCR value of Gama Ayam was 3.17 which implied to 3.17 kg of feed can produce 1 kg of meat. Fadilah & Polana (2005) stated that FCR
value of Pelung chicken is 3.35 and according to Maharatih et al. (2017) the FCR value of broiler chicken is among 1.52-1.88. The FCR value of Gama Ayam is between the FCR values of Pelung and broiler chicken. The FCR value of Gama Ayam was lower than Pelung which indicates a slightly better performance compare with Pelung chicken. Further research must be conducted with larger population size and sex classification in order to validate this findings.

Sequencing results indicates several SNP points in PPAR gene. PPAR gene SNPs polymorphism points found in the 172 bp, 183 bp, 297 bp, and 454 bp nucleotide sequence. Several haplotypes were determined based on the points of the PPAR gene polymorphism related to blood lipid contents and body weight of Gama Ayam chicken. The types of mutations and haplotypes that were determined compared to blood lipid contents and body weight were presented in Table 2.

### Table 2. Points of PPAR gene polymorphism of Gama Ayam, broiler, and Pelung chicken

| Sample Name | PPAR gene polymorphisms | Haplotypes | Blood Lipid Contents | Weight on day 49th (gr) |
|-------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
|             | Exon 2                  |            |                      |                       |
|             | G172T                   | A183G      | C297T                | T454A                 |
| 16_I        | T                       | G          | T                    | A                    | 1i                      | 140.3         | 125.4     | 40.2     | 1073.3   |
| 17_I        | T                       | G          | T                    | A                    | 1i                      | 150.3         | 104.1     | 31.2     | 242.3    |
| 18_I        | K                       | R          | T                    | A                    | 2i                      | 95.4          | 53        | 30.6     | 136.2    |
| 19_I        | T                       | A          | Y                    | A                    | 3i                      | 121.8         | 110.5     | 2.6      | 904.4    |
| 20_I        | T                       | R          | Y                    | A                    | 4i                      | 86.6          | 49.6      | 29.1     | 81.6     |
| 1_I         | T                       | R          | Y                    | A                    | 1                      | 107.4         | 41.3      | 47.9     | 17.5     |
| 2_I         | T                       | G          | T                    | A                    | 2                      | 93.5          | 39.2      | 40.6     | 19.7     |
| 3_I         | T                       | R          | Y                    | A                    | 1                      | 112.6         | 39.2      | 52.6     | 11.2     |
| 4_I         | T                       | G          | T                    | A                    | 2                      | 91.4          | 36.6      | 41.3     | 15.4     |
| 5_I         | T                       | G          | T                    | A                    | 2                      | 113.2         | 47.2      | 58.4     | 36.3     |
| 6_I         | T                       | G          | T                    | A                    | 2                      | 128.5         | 61        | 48.7     | 33.6     |
| 7_I         | T                       | R          | T                    | A                    | 3                      | 104.7         | 45.4      | 45.8     | 20.7     |
| 8_I         | T                       | A          | C                    | A                    | 4                      | 107.1         | 47.8      | 45       | 24.9     |
| 9_I         | T                       | R          | Y                    | A                    | 1b                     | 137.5         | 77.5      | 27       | 82.5     |
| 10_I        | T                       | A          | C                    | A                    | 2b                     | 104.8         | 52.6      | 15.1     | 50.9     |
| 11_I        | T                       | A          | C                    | A                    | 2b                     | 184.3         | 118.1     | 44       | 145.9    |
| 12_I        | T                       | R          | Y                    | A                    | 1b                     | 86.2          | 47.8      | 6.5      | 96.4     |
| 13_I        | T                       | G          | T                    | T                    | 3b                     | 121.1         | 65.7      | 40.6     | 62.9     |
| 14_I        | T                       | A          | C                    | A                    | 2b                     | 109.2         | 60.6      | 33.1     | 58.4     |
| 15_I        | T                       | R          | Y                    | A                    | 1b                     | 126.8         | 65.8      | 39       | 67.5     |
| 21_I        | K                       | R          | T                    | A                    | 1p                     | 86           | 48.7      | 16.4     | 110.7    |
| 22_I        | T                       | A          | Y                    | A                    | 2p                     | 90.8          | 42.6      | 27.1     | 101.5    |
| 23_I        | T                       | R          | Y                    | A                    | 3p                     | 101.5         | 60.8      | 6        | 89.7     |

In Table 3 the sample tag 16_I to 20_I refer to parentals, 1_I to 8_I refer to Gama Ayam, 9_I to 15_I refer to broiler chicken and 21_I to 23_I refer to Pelung chicken. Based on the table, it can be seen that there are 4 substitution points (G172T, A183G, C297T, and A454T) in exon 2 of PPAR gene. Amongst the four points of mutation, there is one point of polymorphism that was obtained by Meng et al. (2005) and Sun et al., (2013) specified as C297T nucleotide substitution. Sun et al., (2013) stated that there are mutations in native Chinese chickens with uncorrelated changes of amino acids to growth or fat deposition in chickens, these mutations called silent mutation. Silent mutation is a mutation that changes DNA but does not change the composition of the protein or amino acid that is coded (Chamary & Hurst, 2009; Rosaih et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2012). Sun et al., (2013) also found several other polymorphism points including T5067908C and T5068303 which are related to LW (Live Weight), CW (Carcass Weight), EW (Eviscerated Weight), and ThW (Tight Muscle Weight) in chickens. One particular polymorphism point, C5068173T which is related to chicken carcass. Four points of polymorphism obtained formed four haplotypes in parentals, four haplotypes in Gama Ayam, three haplotypes in broiler chicken and three haplotypes in Pelung chicken.
Han et al. (2011) reported that the analysis of the polymorphism association in the chicken PPAR gene, specified as (g-1784_1768del16, c.-1241G>A and c.-75G>A) is not only significantly associated with AFW and AFP (P <0.05) but also significantly associated with LFW and LFP (P <0.05). PPAR gene mutations have also been reported to affect cardiovascular damage and death such as obesity, insulin resistance, and hypertension, this is because the PPAR gene regulates adipocyte differentiation and fat metabolism and is a molecular target of insulin sensitivity. Genetic variation in PPAR gene expression is also a potential contributor to the metabolic syndrome (Wu et al., 2006).

Zhou (2008) stated that abdominal fat accumulation in Chinese local chickens (yellow-haired broilers) decreases along with decreasing PPAR mRNA expression in abdominal adipose tissue. Royan et al., (2011) confirmed Zhou's (2008) findings by testing unsaturated fatty acids in the commercial strain of Ross 308 Broiler chicken strain, which was able to cause a significant reduction in abdominal fat percentage, due to a decrease in PPAR mRNA expression in abdominal adipose tissue.

Changes in amino acid composition due to polymorphism can be analyzed in relation to differences in chicken weight with Pearson correlation test. Haplotypes that have identical nucleotide bases with GeneBank references are considered to be normal phenotypes whereas haplotypes that have different nucleotide bases with GeneBank references are considered mutant phenotypes. The phenotype was tested for correlation at each point of polymorphism on blood lipid content and 49-days Gama Ayam body weight using Pearson correlation test. Pearson correlation test was only carried out on the polymorphism that occurred among hybrid chickens, specified as A183G substitution and C297T substitution. This analysis was performed to avoid data refraction of Pelung chicken, broiler chicken, BC1 Kambro, and F1 Kamp.

The results showed that PPAR gene polymorphism has no correlation with blood lipid content (cholesterol, LDL, HDL, and triglyceride). This can be caused by the possibility of PPAR gene polymorphism has significantly more effects on fat deposition in adipocyte region. In addition to the correlation test of blood lipid content, Pearson's correlation test was performed on the body weight of Gama Ayam at day 49th. The correlation test results of PPAR gene polymorphism on the body weight of 49-days-old Gama Ayam can be seen in Table 3.

| Polymorphism | Substitution A183G | Substitution C297T |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Genotype     | AA                 | AG                 | GG                 | CC     | CT     | TT        |
| Average Boyd Weight (gram) | 326                | 386.33             | 443.75             | 326    | 373    | 437.6     |
| Correlation Coefficient (r) | 0.744              | 0.750              |                    |        |        |          |
| Signification (P<0.05) | 0.034              | 0.032              |                    |        |        |          |
| Conclusion   | Significantly very strong positive correlation | Significantly very strong positive correlation |

Table 3. Results of PPAR gene polymorphism correlation test on the body weight of 49-days-old Gama Ayam

Based on Table 4, PPAR gene polymorphism in Gama Ayam has a significantly strong positive correlation with body weight 49-days-old Gama Ayam. The Adenine substitution mutations to Guanine in nucleotides 183 and 297 PPAR gene correlates with the increase of body weight of Gama Ayam. Takada & Kobayashi (2013) found a similar findings that polymorphism in PPAR gene is correlated with body weight of chickens and the increase of body mass index in chickens.

Mutations that occur in hybrid chickens affect changes in weight and chicken fat, this is consistent with the theory which states that the PPARγ gene is reported as a candidate gene that influences the growth and character of fat in chickens due to its large role in muscle fiber specialization and adipogenesis (Wu et al., 2006).
Based on blood lipid content analysis, the average cholesterol level, average LDL level, average HDL level, and the average triglyceride levels in Gama Ayam chicken, broiler chicken and Pelung chicken were presented in Figure 4.

**CONCLUSION**

Gama Ayam (407.5 grams/49-days-old) has significantly higher body weight compare to Pelung chicken and significantly lower body weight than broiler chicken. Gama Ayam has a FCR value of 3.17. Four points of PPAR gene polymorphism (G172T, A183G, C297T, and A454T) which produced 14 haplotypes of four haplotypes in hens, four haplotypes in Gama Ayam, three haplotypes in broiler chickens and three haplotypes in Pelung chicken. PPAR gene polymorphisms is not correlated with blood lipid content in Gama Ayam. A significantly strong correlation between PPAR gene polymorphism on the body weight of Gama Ayam at 49-days-old. Triglyceride level, cholesterol level and LDL level in Gama Ayam were lower than broiler chicken.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The authors acknowledged the asistance of Gama Ayam Research Team, Faculty of Biology, Universitas Gadjah Mada and Pusat Inovasi AgroTeknologi (PIAT) UGM.
throughout this research. This research was funded by Applied Research DIKTI 2019 (Penelitian Terapan: No.2830/UNI.DITLIT/DIT-LIT/LT/2019).

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