

**STUDY ON BROILER PRODUCTION IN VAVUNIYA
DISTRICT**



BY

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ABSTRACT

Broiler production is a well-known livestock enterprise in Vavuniya district. The enterprise has earned recognition in the socio-economy of the farmers because it provides readily harvestable animal protein (meat) and revenue.

A study was conducted to determine the existing broiler production patterns and production performance of broilers in the Vavuniya district during the period of March to August 2007. The survey covered 150 farmers of 15 villages, which located in three veterinary ranges in the Vavuniya district. Stratified Random Sampling method was used in this survey and data were analysed using descriptive statistics.

Aspects of socio economic features of farmers, husbandry, productivity parameters, diseases, marketing, cost of production and constrains in broiler farms in Vavuniya district were studied. Most of the farmers (85%) used family labor for rearing the birds. Most of the farmers in the district used their own money, as source of investment for the broiler production.

The average flock size of the surveyed area was 70 birds per batch. Two types of broiler production system were adopted in the surveyed area, namely all-in-all-out system and multiple rearing system.

The average marketing age was 38.6 ± 2.4 days at a live weight of 1.83 ± 0.11 kg. The average feed conversion ratio was estimated to be 2.16 ± 0.16 (kg feed/kg live weight) and the average mortality was 4.31 ± 1.41 percentage. Around 51% of interviewed households used chicken manure as fertilizer and majority of them (80%) used paddy husk as litter materials

The survey also concerns that constrain the realization of the full potential of this sector. Increasing cost of production has become a barrier in the development of the broiler industry. Increasing trend of chicks and pre-mixed feed reduces the profit margin and discourage farmers from adopting broiler business. Restricted marketing facilities, lack of supportiveness activities and poultry extension services were also observed in this survey.

Cost benefit analysis was done to study the profitability of broiler industry. The highest percentage of cost has been spent for pre-mixed feed. It was estimated to be 69% of the total cost. The average cost of production per one-kilogram live weight bird is about Rs. 171.92±10.56, the average profit per one-kilogram live weight bird is about Rs. 19.51±1.95.

Keywords: Broiler production, Cost benefit analysis, Vavuniya

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