



RESEARCH PAPER

Introducing kalinga brown : Assessing performance and economic benefits for landless scheduled caste farmers of rural Karnataka

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Abstract : The Scheduled Caste (SC) community lags behind in development because of their poor resources and ignorance about latest technologies suitable for their adoption. This study aimed at introducing less investment oriented and cost-effective Kalinga Brown chick breed and establishing poultry enterprises among them through DAPSC programme of ICAR-National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (NIVEDI), Bengaluru, Karnataka. The present study was design to assess the growth rate, egg production, egg weight of improved poultry breeds Kalinga Brown in comparison to indigenous chicken among SC landless farmers of Suthahalli village in Bengaluru Rural Districts of Karnataka. The study was conducted under direct observation among farmer's backyard poultry system for a period of 56 weeks. Under DAPSC scheme based on baseline survey 100 beneficiary farmers were chosen. For each beneficiary 20 number of six weeks old chicks of Kalinga Brown (reared by Central Poultry Development Organization and Training Institute (CPDO&TI), Hessaraghatta, Bangalore Karnataka) was distributed and indigenous breed chicks (six weeks old) selected for comparison. Both were grown under semi intensive backyard system. The performance was compared at 36 and 56 weeks. The study found that the mean body weight of Kalinga Brown at 52 weeks found to be 1.81 ± 0.05 kg and indigenous chicken found to be 1.21 ± 0.05 kg. The mean age at first egg produced by Kalinga Brown was significantly ($p < 0.05$) lower than indigenous breed approximately saving of about 15 days in realizing early egg production. The mean egg weight of Kalinga Brown at 52 weeks was 56 ± 0.7 g, while indigenous chicken was 43 ± 0.8 g. The perceptible mortality rate was reported in the Kalinga Brown 3.00 ± 0.56 at 52 weeks. The highest net income achieved at 52 weeks of age by Kalinga brown was Rs.3872/- while indigenous chicken was Rs.2205/- and the B:C ratio estimated was 1.72 for Kalinga Brown and 1.43 for local breed.

Key Words : Kalinga Brown, Indigenous chicken, Body weight gain, Egg production, Egg weight, Mortality pattern, Nutritional security

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