

A comparative study on economics of broiler production by trained and untrained farmers

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ABSTRACT

The study conducted at Haveri district of Karnataka revealed that feed cost was the major expenditure in broiler production, which accounted for nearly 60 per cent of the total cost. The total cost of production for the trained and untrained farmers was Rs. 46.57 and Rs. 54.25, respectively. The cost of feed, total variable cost and total cost was less in case of trained farmers. The total net returns was more than double in case of trained farmers compared to untrained farmers. B: C ratio was also more in case of trained farmers. Both the farmers have faced many constraints in broiler production.

INTRODUCTION

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Hanumanamatti is the first KVK, established in Karnataka during 1977, since then more than 50,000 Training Programmes were organised in agriculture and related aspects. Among them, scientific poultry farming is one of the important training programmes under animal science. The response of the farmers also appeared highly encouraging.

Scientific poultry farming demands skills just as any other industry. Formal training in scientific practices of poultry farming like selection of breed, vaccination, brooding, disinfection of poultry house, insurance coverage, management of birds, preparation of feed etc. are important steps which can help in the establishment and development of poultry as an industry. Also promotion of poultry farming in rural areas helps in reducing rural poverty and unemployment to a great extent. Poultry farming is very popular in Haveri district, the jurisdiction of KVK, Hanumanamatti. Hence, this study was undertaken to analyze the cost of broiler production of trained and untrained poultry farmers, to study the returns from broiler farming by trained and untrained farmers, to compare the economic analysis of broiler farming of trained and untrained farmers and

to elucidate constraints of broiler farming.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Haveri district of Karnataka, which is the jurisdiction area of the KVK. The sample for the study was 150 randomly selected poultry farmers comprising of 75 trained and 75 untrained poultry farmers.

The required data were collected by personal interview method with the help of pre-tested questionnaire. The information sought for included the quantum of investment for standard size (250 to 500 birds / batch) of broiler farms and cost and returns from such investments. For the present study, variable costs referred to expenditure on chick, feed, medicines, labours and miscellaneous expenditure.

Fixed cost included interest on capital and depreciation on fixed assets such as building and equipments. The collected data were analysed by using averages and percentages.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Cost of broiler production per 100 broilers for 8 weeks is presented in Table 1. It is evident from the table that feed cost was the major expenditure in broiler production in both trained and untrained farmers which accounted for nearly 60 per cent of the total cost. The

Key words :

Broiler
production,
Economics, Fixed
cost and variable
cost

Accepted :
June, 2010

Table 1: Cost of broiler production (in Rs.)		
Particulars	Cost per bird	
	Trained	Untrained
Fixed costs		
Rent for building and equipments	3.07	4.75
Variable cost		
Cost of chicks	13.28	14.31
Cost of feed	27.53	32.50
Electricity + water	1.26	1.36
Health coverage	1.00	0.99
Litter	0.39	0.28
Total VC	43.50	49.50
Total Cost	46.57	54.25

results are in concurrence with the observations of Bapareddy (1975) and Kishan Rao *et al.* (1979). The total cost of production / 100 broilers per 8 week for trained and untrained farmers was Rs. 46.57 and Rs.54.25, respectively. As expected the cost of feed, total variable cost and fixed cost and total cost was less in case of trained farmers compared to untrained farmers.

The returns from broiler farming are depicted in Table 2. The table reveals that although the total return was slightly more in case of untrained farmers, the total net return was more than double in case of trained farmers compared to untrained farmers because of high total cost in case of untrained farmers.

Table 2: Returns from broiler farming (in Rupees)		
Particulars	Cost per bird	
	Trained	Untrained
Sale of birds	57.53	58.26
Empty gunny bags	0.54	0.76
Sale of manure	0.45	0.44
Total returns	58.52	59.46
Total cost	46.57	54.25
Total net returns	11.95	5.21

Economic analysis of broiler farming is presented in Table 3. It is clear from the table that the B: C ratio was more in case of trained farmers compared to untrained farmers. Trained farmers have exercised more prudence in use of various inputs because of their knowledge gained through training. Hence, they could get higher B: C ratio

Table 3: Economic analysis		
Particulars	Cost per bird	
	Trained	Untrained
Cost of production of 1 kg of live weight (in Rs.)	31.05	36.17
Benefit cost ratio	1.25	1.09

Table 4: Constraints in broiler production			
Sr. No.	Particulars	Trained	Untrained
1.	Procurement of healthy day old chicks	80	80
2.	Availability of quality feed	80	80
3.	Marketing	75	80
4.	Exploitation by middle man	75	80
5.	Availability of financial assistance and its proper management	75	78
6.	Electricity supply	70	80
7.	Maintaining and storage facility	70	80
8.	Non-availability of quality medicine and clinic	50	60
9.	Veterinary assistance	40	60
10.	Proper housing, facilities	30	50
11.	High mortality in chicks	30	60
12.	Insurance coverage	10	70

Figures are in percentages

compared to untrained.

An attempt was also made to elucidate the constraints faced by the farmers in broiler production. The data are presented in Table 4. Among the various constraints encountered by the farmers, availability of healthy day old chicks, availability of quality feed, marketing, exploitation by middle man, electricity supply were the important ones. As regards the availability of healthy day old chicks and quality feed, the hatcheries and feed mixing units are situated quite far off and getting them in time was the major problem.

There is lot of fluctuation in demand for poultry meat. The demand will be very high only during winter season. The demand will be very meagre during summer season, during the month of Shravan and during the month of Swami Ayyappan fasting month. Added to that spread of deadly bird flu disease has threatened to collapse the broiler industry.

Exploitation by middle man is another major problem in the broiler farming. As there is no regulated market, the middle men exploit the situation and harass the farmers. Due to these problems many small scale broiler units are closing down and only bigger units are somehow surviving.

Conclusion:

The study has brought out that the cost of broiler production of trained farmers was less compared to untrained farmers. The B: C ratio of trained farmers was higher compared to untrained. Among the constraints,

availability of day old chicks and quality feed, marketing, exploitation by middle man were the major ones faced by both trained and untrained farmers. Integrated poultry system may be introduced to tackle these problems.

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