

PERCEIVED CONSTRAINTS OF POULTRY FARMERS IN IGABI LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KADUNA-STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT

The study examined the perceived constraints of poultry farmers in Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna State. Primary data was collected from one hundred and twenty (120) poultry farmers through the use of structured questionnaire. Descriptive statistics and Likert scale were used to analyse the data. Descriptive statistics and likert scale were used to analyze the data. The result showed that the most of the respondents (52.5%) were young. Most (66.7%) of the respondents had tertiary education. Most (71.1%) of the farmers were married. Few(6.67%) had access to Bank loan. More respondent (48.3%) belong to various religious groups but only few(10.8%) belongs to cooperative groups. Lack of capital and high cost of feed were important factors that significantly constrained Poultry farmers in the study area. The findings from the study recommend that the farmers should form a cluster of formidable cooperative so as to raise a reasonable capital for better production when necessary. Also, loan facilities should be made available to farmers with little interest rate, Funds, input subsidies and credit facilities should be made available and easily accessible to maximize their potential in order to enhance their contribution to food security

Key words : Level, rural farmers, constraints and poultry

INTRODUCTION

One of the needs common to everyone on earth, both rich and poor is food. Agriculture provides food, and as a result plays a vital role in world economy. Agriculture plays an important role in Nigeria economy and provides, employment and income among many others to the rural populations; however improvement in Agriculture especially in livestock industry is fundamental to achieving food security, attaining protein sufficiency, poverty alleviation overall sustainable development and nation building. Agriculture can help reduce poverty, raise income and improve food security for 80 percent of the world's poor, who live in rural areas and work mainly in farming. World Bank, (2018). Livestock production is an important part of Agriculture and an integral component of the national, state and local economies. Livestock farming is important in providing support to the Livelihoods of poor farmers, traders, laborers and even applicants. In Nigeria, poultry is one of the major enterprises in Livestock industry. Poultry is an affordable livestock for resource of poor households. The enterprises provide regular output using small input and production can be undertaken by women in the household (Olanrewaju *et al.*, 2007).Poultry farming is a popular activity among rural women in many countries. In fact, women have been reported to be the predominant owners of rural poultry (Okitoil *et al.*, 2007). However, the poultry farming has so many constraints, include high cost of feed which is estimated to be about 67% (Akure, *et al.* 2020). In view of this, this research study to examine the constraints being faced by poultry farmers in igabi local government area and the prospect of alleviating their problems.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Primary data was used for the study. This was obtained by administering structured questionnaire to poultry farmers in the studyarea by trained enumerators. A total of 120 farmers were used for the study. Descriptive statistics (such as mean, frequency distribution and percentage) and Likert scale were employed to achieve the objectives of the study. The constraint

encountered by the poultry farmers was measured by a given set of perception questions to the respondents. Their responses were recorded using the five point Likert Scale of strongly agree (SA) agree (A), undecided (U), disagree (D) and strongly disagree (SD). These were scored 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, respectively.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-economic Characteristics of Respondents.

Table 1 shows that most of the respondents were aged between 21-30 years. This age group makes up about 53% of the total sampled respondents, 33.3% of them were aged between 31-40 years old, 13.3% of the respondents are between the range of 41-50 years while few 8.0.% of the respondents are between 10-20 years old. These attributes show that the sampled respondent are youths which makes them active in poultry production. Taru *et.al.* (2008), opined that eligibility of one's performance in certain activities or role including agricultural activities is determined by the age and too young or too old people are generally inactive or of low productivity on the farm. Furthermore, most of the respondents were educated with 66.7% having attained tertiary education. On marital status, the distribution shows that 71.00% of the respondents were married adults and 20.0% are single and 8.00% divorced. About 73 % of the sampled respondents were on poultry farming full time. The implication of this is that their sole source of income was poultry farming. 10% were civil servants and traders respectively while others were 6.7%. The mean household size for the area was 5, majority (65.0%) of the respondents have household size of about 1-5 persons per family, however 30.00% had between 6-10 household members and about 8% had between 11-15 persons per family. The year of experience of the respondents in poultry farming varies. The largest percentage (68.3%) of the respondents had been in poultry farming for a long period of more than 10 years, implying that the poultry farming has been able to support their livelihood for a long time and they have been through the poultry farming for long so it may be difficult to leave the farming for another new field or trade entirely.

Table 1. Socio-economic variables of respondents

Variables	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
10-20	1	8.0
21-30	63	52.5
31-40	40	33.3
41-50	16	13.3
Gender		
MALE	30	25.0
FEMALE	90	75.0
Level of education		
Primary education	10	8.3
Secondary education	30	25.0
Tertiary education	80	66.7
Marital status		
Single	24	20.0
Married	86	71.7
Divorced	10	8.3
Source of Capital		
Personal savings	65	54.1
Friend	22	18.3
Family	25	20.8
Bank loan	8	6.67
Occupation distribution		
Trader	12	10.0
Poultry farmer	88	73.3

Civil servants	12	10.0
Others	8	6.7
Household size		
1-5	78	65.0
6-10	32	26.7
11-15	10	8.4
Membership		
Religious bodies	58	48.3
Community	49	40.8
Co-operative	13	10.8
Years of experience		
1-5	8	6.7
6-10	30	25.0
11-15	82	68.3

Source: Field Survey 2022

Perceived constraints to poultry Farming

Table 2 shows the prioritization of the constraints to poultry farming activities.

The most serious constraints to poultry production in the area of study was access to capital with a means score of (4.23), high cost of feed ranked second most serious with a mean score of (3.62) was considered. Incidence of disease and inadequate medication ranked third most serious constrain with a mean score of (3.77) each. Fluctuations of prices and mortality ranked the fifth and sixth most serious constrains to poultry production among the women in the study area with a mean score of 3.76 and 3.68 respectively. Bad roads and irregular extension services ranked the seventh and the eight most serious constrains to poultry production among the women in the study area with a mean score of 3.76 and 3.68 respectively. Farmers in the study area don't see land acquisition and labour as constraints because they had adequate labour and enough land for the poultry production. This could be that the respondents had inheritance of land from their ancestors and the house hold size could also be an advantage. However this findings negate those of Fabiyi, *et al.* (2007) in their study of the Role of Women in Agricultural Development and their Constraints: A Case Study of Biliri Local Government Area of Gombe State through the use of simple random sampling technique in selection six villages from the LGA and 60 women farmers by using Interview scheduled to obtain information from the women on their socio-economic characteristics, farm activities, farm production and their constraints. The women farmers' constraints include mainly lack of land for farming, credit facilities, costly and late input delivery.

Table 2: Constraints to Poultry Farming Activities

ACTIVITIES	VS	S	UD	LS	NP	N (99)	MS	Rank	Remark
Land acquisition	6	7	1	20	86	187	1.56	10 th	N. Serious
Access to capital	66	38	4	5	7	511	4.23	1 st	V. Serious
Adequate medication	34	56	8	12	10	452	3.77	3 rd	V. Serious
Irregular ext. service	4	16	18	58	24	278	2.32	8 th	N. Serious
Fluctuation of price	5	10	1	79	25	451	3.76	5 th	V. Serious
Incidence of disease	19	76	5	18	2	452	3.77	3 rd	V. Serious
Labour	5	15	9	45	26	228	1.90	9 th	N. Serious
Bad road	10	15	18	42	35	283	2.36	7 th	N. Serious
Cost of feed	45	52	3	15	5	477	3.97	2 nd	V. Serious
Mortality	42	38	10	20	10	442	3.68	6 th	V. Serious

Source: Field survey, 2022

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The results showed the most serious constraints were insufficient fund to carry out the poultry farming, and the high cost of feed for the birds. It is therefore recommended that loan facilities should be made

available to farmers with little interest rate, Funds, input subsidies and credit facilities should be made available and easily accessible to maximize their potential in order to enhance their contribution to food security. The farmers should also be encouraged to participate in cooperative society in order to leverage the opportunity of access to farm resources.

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