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Empowerment of rural families through backyard poultry farming

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Abstract

Backyard poultry farming in Hingoli district is a secondary income generation activity for the rural families. The present study was conducted in Hingoli District of Marathwada Region in Maharashtra State during the year 2021-22. The district comprises of 5 blocks namely Hingoli, Kalamnuri, Sengaon, Aundha Nagnath and Vasmat and Kalamnuri. The Kalamnuri block was selected purposively where Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tondapur has conducted front line demonstration on backyard poultry. The six villages namely Warud, Jamghavhan, Baur, Zunzunwadi, Dongarkada and Waranga were selected randomly. The 5 respondents were selected randomly from each village thus 30 backyard poultry growers were selected. The data was collected using a well-structured interview schedule by covering all dimensions. The data was analyzed by using various statistical tools. The study revealed that 70.00% of respondents belonged to middle age group category, 53.33 per cent has female and 30.00% of respondents undertaken High School (XI to XIIth) and Middle School (V to Xth) level of education, 33.33 are VJNT caste, 93.34% doing cultivation as occupation and same 40.00% of respondents had medium annual income and mass media exposure respectively. The 50.00 percent received 1-2 training in backyard poultry farming and 76.66 & 53.33% of respondent's utilized income of backyard poultry for agriculture and poultry production. The 53.33 and 26.67% of respondents had medium to high level of empowerment in backyard poultry farming.

Keywords: Empowerment & backyard poultry farming

Introduction

Backyard poultry is a means of livelihood for a fairly large number of small and marginal farmers and requires less capital. It is a potential tool for up-liftment of the marginal and deprived section of the society. It provides cheap, readily available protein rich eggs and meat for family consumption at relatively low cost and sale of surplus for additional income. It also provides income and employment opportunities for rural people, women and unemployed youths in villages.

Backyard poultry farming in Hingoli district is a secondary income generation activity for the rural families. The farmers are rearing deshi poultry birds having low egg and meat production potential (60-70 eggs/year and adult bird weight 1.5 kg). They maintain these birds traditionally without any scientific approach, causes high mortality due to incidence of diseases like Ranikhet and Fowl pox. Due to these reasons farmers are not in position for doing backyard poultry farming with deshi poultry birds. Hingoli district is receiving average rainfall about 890 mm. Due to this, climatic conditions in district supporting free range system of rearing. Also backyards are full of natural feed resources like fallen grains, insects, earthworms, green grass, kitchen waste, left over and damaged grains and vegetables grown

in farm unfit for human consumption. Due to availability of these natural resources, backyard poultry farming with improved birds will become economically feasible for rural families in Hingoli District. A small poultry farmer is a person who is responsible for various activities involved in rearing of small poultry birds such as chicken and duck. The poultry growers should ensure proper care of poultry birds, their health and productivity, meat or egg production and marketing of produce.

Objective of study

- To study the profile of backyard poultry growers.
- To know the empowerment of poultry growers through backyard poultry farming

Methodology

The present study was conducted in Hingoli District of Marathwada Region of Maharashtra State during the year 2021-22. The district comprises of 5 blocks namely Hingoli, Kalamnuri, Sengaon, Aundha Nagnath and Vasmat from this block Kalamnuri block was selected purposively where Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tondapur has conducted front line demonstration on backyard poultry. The Six villages were selected randomly namely Warud, Jamghavhan, Baur,

Zunzunwadi, Dongarkada and Waranga. The 5 respondents were selected randomly from each village thus total 30 backyard poultry growers was selected. The data were collected using a well-structured schedule by covering all dimensions. The data was analyzed by using various statistical tools.

Plan, Implement and Support by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tondapur Dist. Hingoli

To overcome the problems in backyard poultry farming with desi birds Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tondapur Dist. Hingoli identified the improved poultry birds Grampriya suitable for backyard farming in rural areas developed by the Directorate on Poultry Research, Hyderabad. These are multi-colored dual purpose birds with attractive plumage, having better immunity against common poultry diseases (Ranikhet, Gumboro and Fowl pox) and better adaptability to free range rearing system. After identifying farmer need & problems KVK Tondapur has prepared programme planning schedule for conduction of Front Line Demonstration on backyard poultry breed on farmer's field, under that 20 vaccinated one day old chicks and feed (Pre

Starter/Starter) along with technical guidance was provided to poultry growers. The farmers were trained on feeding technique, hatchability of egg, vaccination, egg production, marketing of eggs and birds, brooding, candling of eggs, identification symptoms of Ranikhet and Marex diseases.

The poultry growers housed these birds in cages or house made from local material at low cost during night time. At the morning time these birds were made loose in the surrounding area for scavenging where they feed natural resources like fallen grains, insects, earthworms, green grass, kitchen waste, etc. During night time of housing, farmers giving Pre Starter/Starter feed and plenty of clean and fresh water was made available at farm site. Farmers are advised to deworm birds and vaccinated with Marex on day 1, Ranikhet on day 7 Gumboro on 14 Days. Technological backstopping is provided by at every step to poultry growers and maintained regular contact with providing location specific solutions. The field day, diagnostic visit, Kisan ghosti, field visits, mobile advisory also provided to poultry growers for improving skills, increase knowledge and change attitude toward rearing of backyard poultry for holistic development of village.

Table 1: Front Line Demonstration conducted by KVK for dissemination of technology

Year	Front Line Demonstration Conducted		Training given to farmers	
	No.	Farmers	No.	Farmers
2017-18	01	20	02	28
2018-19	01	20	03	45
2019-20	01	20	02	26
2021-22	01	20	02	24
Total	04	80	09	123

Results

Table 2: Profile of backyard poultry growers.

Sl. No.	Category	Frequency (No.)	Percentage (%)
1.	Age	Young (Upto 28)	16.67
		Middle (29-48)	70.00
		Old (49 and above)	13.33
2.	Sex	Male	46.67
		Female	53.33
3.	Education	Illiterate	6.66
		Can Read and Write	3.33
		Primary School (I to IV Std.)	13.33
		Middle School (V to X th)	30.00
		High School (XI to XII th)	30.00
		Graduate (Above XII th)	16.68
4.	Caste	OPEN	6.66
		OBC	26.66
		SC	13.33
		VJNT	33.35
		NT	20.00
5.	Occupation	Labour	6.66
		Cultivation	93.34
6.	Annual Income	Low (Upto 80580)	40.00
		Medium (80581-383686)	40.00
		High (383687 and above)	20.00
7.	Mass Media Exposure	Low (Upto 5)	30.00
		Medium (6 to 10)	40.00
		High (11 and Above)	30.00
8.	Training Received	Low (Upto 1)	43.34
		Medium (1-2)	50.00
		High (3 and above)	6.66

9.	Income utilization from backyard poultry	Education	05	16.66
		For household	08	26.66
		Recreation	01	3.33
		Medicine	08	26.66
		Agriculture	23	76.66
		Poultry production	16	53.33
		Livestock purchasing	07	23.33

The profile characteristics of backyard poultry growers from Table 1. indicated that 70.00 and 16.67% of respondents belonged to middle and young age group category respectively. While, more than half 53.33 per cent is female and 30.00% of respondents undertaken High School (XI to XIIth) and Middle School (V to Xth) level of education. It was observed that 33.33 and 26.66% of respondents belongs

to VJNT and OBC caste, 93.34% doing cultivation as occupation, 40.00% had medium to low annual income respectively. The 40.00% of respondents had medium mass media exposure, 50.00 percent of respondents received 1-2 training in backyard poultry farming and majority 76.66 & 53.33% of respondents utilized income of backyard poultry for agriculture and poultry production.

Table 2: Empowerment of poultry growers through backyard poultry farming

Sl. No.	Statement	Agree F/P	Undecided F/P	Disagree F/P
1.	Fulfillment of basic necessities	30 (100.0)	-	-
2.	Eliminate financial burden	19 (63.33)	06 (20.00)	05 (16.66)
3.	Develop productive assets for family	08 (26.66)	15 (50.00)	07 (23.33)
4.	Increasing the propensity to save	18 (60.00)	10 (33.33)	02 (6.66)
5.	Improve household expenses	12 (40.00)	11 (36.66)	07 (23.33)
6.	Improve the leadership quality	13 (43.33)	14 (46.66)	03 (10.00)
7.	Getting a self-employed job	28 (93.33)	02 (6.66)	-
8.	Gain more confidence to start a small business	20 (66.66)	08 (26.66)	02 (6.66)
9.	Increase family education status	10 (33.33)	11 (36.66)	09 (30.00)
10.	Increase family income	28 (93.33)	02 (6.66)	-
11.	Improve nutrition status of family	23 (76.66)	02 (6.66)	05 (16.66)
12.	Increase the involvement in social activities	12 (40.00)	12 (40.00)	06 (20.00)
13.	Increase the participation in village activities	12 (40.00)	12 (40.00)	06 (20.00)
14.	Increase the buying capacity of agricultural inputs	11 (36.66)	13 (43.33)	06 (20.00)
15.	Increase the capability to use community resources	10 (33.33)	14 (46.66)	06 (20.00)
16.	Increase the participation in government initiatives	11 (36.66)	14 (46.66)	05 (16.66)
17.	Develop a scientific perspective	25 (83.33)	05 (16.66)	-

It is indicated from Table 2. 100.00 of respondents agree due to backyard poultry farming basic necessities was fulfilled, 93.33% getting a self-employed job due to poultry and increase family income, 83.33% develop a scientific

perspective towards poultry farming, while 63.33 percent eliminate financial burden and 60.00% of respondents suggest increasing the propensity to save due to backyard poultry farming.

Table 3: Overall Empowerment of poultry growers through backyard poultry farming

Sl. No.	Empowerment	Frequency	Percentage (%)
1.	Low (Up to 36)	06	20.00
2.	Medium (37-45)	16	53.33
3.	High (47 and above)	08	26.67
	Total	30	100.00
Mean = 41.30		S.D.= 5.47	

It is revealed from Table 3. 53.33 percent of respondents found medium level of empowerment, while 26.67 and

20.00% had high to low level of empowerment.

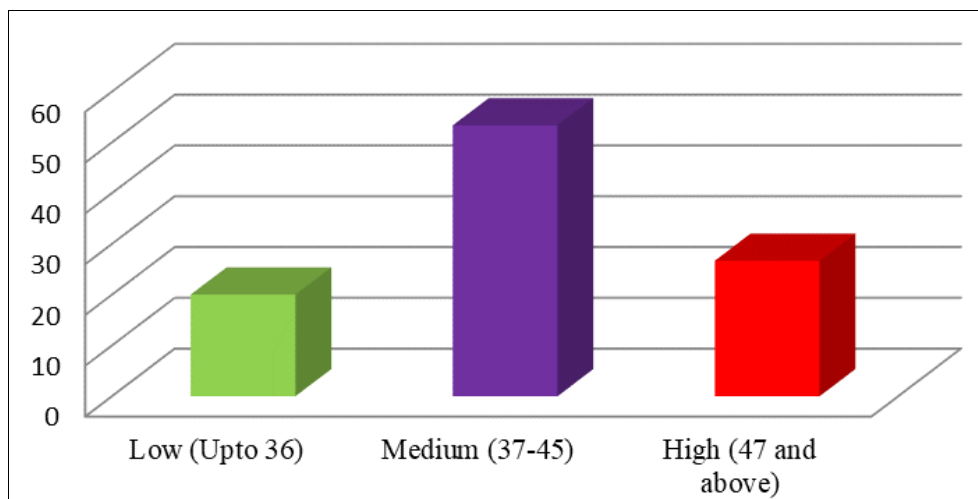


Fig 1: Overall Empowerment of poultry growers through backyard poultry farming

Conclusion

- The finding of study revealed that poultry growers has medium to high level of empowerment front line demonstration conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tondapur has significant impact towards socio-economic development and empowerment of poultry growers from Hingoli district. Government should subsidize on poultry feed and housing system of poultry growers to overcome problems of predators for improving livelihood status of poultry growers. To reduce cost of production of poultry farming women's self-help group should encouraged in village which enabled them to provide additional source of income in rural areas and improve their livelihood status.
- The technological empowerment seen in poultry growers as due to adoption of low cost technologies in feeding, egg storage, candling, hatching and diseases identification and precautions should be undertake at early stage of poultry.
- The backyard poultry farming in Hingoli district creating livelihood option for rural families brings economical and health empowerment, additional income options for rural people and serves as poverty alleviation.
- Hingoli district had maximum area under rainfed condition in such circumstances backyard poultry farming helped rural people by daily cash flow to family by selling eggs and chicken. Thus, backyard poultry farming technology disseminated by KVK, Tondapur with active participation farmers is economically viable, easy to operate, feasible, having potential to create employment opportunity and additional source of income for rural families.
- The GOI (Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship) sponsored (ASCI) training programme motivated poultry growers for adopting new technologies and acquire knowledge. In future such attempts should to be undertaken in other areas for ultimate progress and development of rural society.

Areas for future Research

- The present study is confined to the boundaries of only Hingoli district of Maharashtra State. Hence the finding

has to be tested to a greater depth in others part of state to judge its validity on large scale.

- The present study explored personal profile of poultry growers and there level of empowerment. This study would help policy makers, programme planners and extension workers in making policies and chalk out programme for poultry growers.

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