

PERCEPTION OF TRIBAL FARMERS ABOUT BACKYARD POULTRY FARMING

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ABSTRACT

The present study was implemented to find out the Perception of tribal farmers of Dahod district about backyard poultry farming. Dahod district was purposively selected for the study as it is one of the tribal district of Gujarat state and having the operational area under KVK, AAU, Dahod. As per results majority of the respondents found in middle age group, secondary education qualification, marginal land holders, high level of experience in back yard poultry farming, low flock size, engaged in Poultry + Farming + Animal husbandry, having annual income in between 50,001/- to 1,00,000/- Rs., medium level of extension contact and risk orientation. Slightly less than half of respondents possessed high level of perception regarding backyard poultry farming followed by medium.

Keywords: perception, tribal, backyard poultry

INTRODUCTION

Backyard Poultry production has emerged as an efficient tool in sustaining and enhancing rural livelihoods. The education level of youth in our country is presently on a steep rise, thus creating more employable candidates which in turn unfortunately create an unemployment crisis (Gaikwad *et al.*, 2020). Poultry rearing can act as a part solution to this very crisis, since educated youth can easily understand and adopt the scientific poultry farming practices.

Backyard Poultry farming not only reduces the livelihood insecurity but also elevates the food and nutrition security of rural households. Thus, backyard poultry production can be projected as a solution to twin issues of employment generation and nutritional security.

Indigenous birds reared as backyard poultry are preferred especially in rural areas, because of their taste and texture. Also, sale price for per kg live weight of these birds are 50-100% higher when compared to that of the industrially produced or commercially reared birds. Poultry rearing is one of the very few ventures where the farmers' produce carries a much higher price than that of the commercial produce. Even so, the true and complete potential of this system had not been fully tapped into yet.

Therefore, it was deemed necessary to find out the perceptions of farmers about backyard poultry farming in present scenario. For this cause, a study titled "**Perception of the tribal farmers about backyard poultry farming**" was undertaken.

OBJECTIVES

- (1) To study the profile of backyardtribal poultry farmers
- (2) To know the perception of the tribal farmers about backyard poultry farming

METHODOLOGY

Dahod district was purposively selected for the study as it is one of the tribal district of Gujarat state and having the operational area under Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Anand Agricultural University, Dahod. Twelve villages of the district were selected randomly and ten tribal backyard poultry farmers from each village were selected randomly for the study. Thus, in all 120 tribal backyard poultry farmers constituted the sample for this investigation. To measure the perception regarding poultry farming teacher's made scale was developed with the help of expert and extension educationists of Anand Agricultural University. The data of this study was collected by arranging personal interview schedule and analyzed in light of objectives.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1: Personal profile of the respondents

(n=120)

Sr. No.	Characteristics	Category	No. of respondents	Per cent
1	Age	Young age (Up to 30 year)	25	20.83
		Middle age (31 to 50 year)	68	56.67
		Old age (Above 50 year)	27	22.50
2	Education	Illiterate	21	17.50
		Primary education (Up to VII Std.)	52	43.34
		Secondary education (VIII to X Std.)	24	20.00
		Higher Secondary education (XI to XII Std.)	13	10.83
		College and above education	10	08.33
3	Land holding	Marginal farmers (Up to 1.00 ha)	87	72.50
		Small farmers (1.01 to 2.00 ha)	30	25.00
		Medium farmers (2.01 to 4.00 ha)	03	02.50
		Large farmers (Above 4.00 ha)	00	00.00
4	Experience in backyard poultry	Low (up to 5 year)	14	11.67
		Medium (Between 5 to 10 year)	19	15.83
		High (above 10 year)	87	72.50
5	Flock size	Low (up to 10 birds)	46	38.33
		Medium (Between 10 to 20 birds)	41	34.17
		High (above 20 birds)	33	27.50
6	Occupation	Poultry + Farming + Animal husbandry	96	80.00
		Poultry + Farming + Animal husbandry + Job	6	05.00
		Poultry + Farming + Animal husbandry + Business	12	10.00
		Poultry + Farming + Animal husbandry + Labor work	6	05.00
7	Annual income	Up to ₹ 50,000/-	44	36.67
		₹ 50,001/- to ₹ 1,00,000/-	70	58.34
		₹ 1,00,001 to ₹ 1,50,000/-	05	04.17
		above ₹ 1,50,000/-	01	00.83
8	Extension contact	Very low (Up to 3.60 score)	21	17.50
		Low (3.61 to 7.20 score)	51	42.50
		Medium (7.21 to 10.80 score)	43	35.83
		High (10.80 to 14.40 score)	05	04.17
		Very high (Above 14.40 score)	00	00.00
9	Mass media exposure	Very low (Up to 3.60 score)	21	17.50
		Low (3.61 to 7.20 score)	70	58.34
		Medium (7.21 to 10.80 score)	22	18.33
		High (10.80 to 14.40 score)	06	05.00
		Very high (Above 14.40 score)	01	00.83
10	Scientific orientation	Very low (Up to 25.20 score)	12	10.00
		Low (25.21 to 34.40 score)	34	28.33
		Medium (34.41 to 47.60 score)	55	45.84
		High (47.61 to 58.80 score)	18	15.00
		Very high (Above 58.80 score)	01	00.83
11	Risk orientation	Very low (Up to 18 score)	10	08.33
		Low (19 to 26 score)	27	22.50
		Medium (27 to 34 score)	62	51.67
		High (35 to 42 score)	19	15.83
		Very High (Above 42 score)	02	01.67

Personal profile of respondents were presented in Table 1 shows that more than half of them (56.67 per cent) were in middle age group, more than two fifth (43.34 per cent) of respondents were educated up to primary education, majority of respondents (72.50 per cent) were found marginal farmers and having high level (72.50 per cent) experience in backyard poultry. Economical characters like flock size, 38.33 per cent of respondents had low (up to 10 birds), majority (80.00 per cent) of respondents were engaged in Poultry + Farming + Animal husbandry, more than half of respondents (58.33 per cent) had annual income in between 50,001 to 1,00,000 Rs. In case of communicational factors majority (78.33 per cent) of the respondents had low to medium level of extension contact and mass media exposure. Regarding psychological characteristics slightly less than half (45.84 per cent) of respondents possessed medium level of scientific orientation, more than half (51.67 per cent) of respondents possessed medium level of risk orientation.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their perception regarding backyard poultry farming (n=120)

Sr. No.	Category	No. of respondents	Per cent
1	Very low (Up to 18 score)	00	00.00
2	Low (19 to 26 score)	00	00.00
3	Medium (27 to 34 score)	06	05.00
4	High (34 to 42 score)	58	48.33
5	Very high (Above 42 score)	56	46.67

The data presented in Table 2 shows that slightly less than half (48.33 per cent) of respondents possessed high level of perception regarding backyard poultry farming followed by very (46.77 per cent), medium (5.00 per cent). The data also reflect that none of the farmer had low or very low level of perception regarding backyard poultry farming.

Table 3: Statements wise distribution of respondents according to their perception regarding backyard poultry farming (n=120)

Sr. No.	Statements	Frequency				
		Score (Per cent)				
		Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	Backyard poultry farming is an evil for food security of the people.	05	06	13	50	46
		04.17	05.00	10.83	41.67	38.33
2	Backyard poultry farming is an important tool for livelihood of the farmer.	72	46	02	00	00
		60.00	38.33	01.67	00.00	00.00
3	I believe that backyard poultry farming fetch extra income for daily expenses.	72	47	1	00	00
		60.00	39.17	00.83	00.00	00.00
4	Backyard poultry farming is a boon for marginal and small farmer as space investment is less.	89	31	00	00	00
		74.17	25.83	00.00	00.00	00.00
5	I do not accept poultry as killing is somewhat sin.	00	01	12	59	48
		00.00	00.83	10.00	49.17	40.00
6	It is risky enterprise as poultry are susceptible to environment.	23	15	32	34	16
		19.17	12.50	26.67	28.33	13.33
7	I advocate my son to adopt backyard poultry farming.	74	42	03	01	00
		61.67	35.00	02.50	00.83	00.00
8	Government is not focusing more on backyard poultry farming is even though it has more potential for doubling the farmer's income.	39	32	21	26	02
		32.50	26.67	17.50	21.67	01.67
9	In tribal are it can be introduced as IFS model as benefit cost ration as higher.	63	24	31	02	00
		52.50	20.00	25.83	01.67	00.00
10	I agree that backyard poultry farming requires no labor.	85	31	02	00	02
		70.83	25.83	01.67	00.00	01.67

The data presented in Table 3 revealed that the statements with majority of the respondents were strongly agree with backyard poultry farming is a boon for marginal and small farmer as space investment is less, I agree that backyard poultry farming required no labor, I advocate my son to adopt backyard poultry farming, backyard poultry farming is an important tool for livelihood of the farmer and I believe that backyard poultry farming fetch extra income for daily expenses.

CONCLUSION

As per results majority of the respondents were found in middle age group, secondary education qualification, marginal land holders, high level of experience in back yard poultry farming, low flock size, engaged in Poultry + Farming + Animal husbandry, having annual income in between 50,001 to 1,00,000 Rs., medium level of extension contact and risk orientation. In context to perception slightly less than half of respondents possessed high level of perception regarding backyard poultry farming followed by medium

level. The data also reflect that none of the farmer had low or very low level of perception regarding backyard poultry farming.

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