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Constraints in Contract and Non-Contract Broiler Farming Systems in Eastern Plain Zone of Uttar Pradesh

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Abstract

The present study was conducted with the objective to identify the constraints faced by poultry farmers under contract and non-contract broiler farming systems in four randomly selected blocks of Azamgarh and Varanasi districts of Uttar Pradesh. The results revealed that major constraints faced by contract broiler farmers were delay in providing chicks (46.67%), low growing charges by the Integrators (35%), delay in lifting produce (28.33%) and delay in providing veterinary services (21.67%). Whereas non-contract broiler farmers were affected by marketing related problems. The major constraints faced by them were price fluctuations (96.67%), lack of cooperative marketing societies (93.33%), no supporting price policy (85%) and unsatisfactory price of produce (83.33%).

Key Words: Constraints, growing charges, veterinary services, timelines, contract broiler farmers.

Introduction

Poultry industry contributes about Rs. 600 billion, accounting for about 0.77 per cent of the national GDP and about 10 per cent of the livestock GDP and provides employment to over five million people in the country. Uttar Pradesh, in spite of its large human population, contributed just around 2.56 per cent of the country's poultry population (19th Livestock Census, 2012). As egg production of the state was 181.223 crores per year, while the consumption is 473 cores per year. This huge gap in demand and supply of about 292 crores per year was met by the private sector through procuring nearly one crore eggs daily from other states. Similarly, the requirement of chicken meat was met through purchasing an approximately 10 crore day old broiler chicks from other states annually, therefore it is much needed to priorities poultry development in the animal husbandry sector. As per the recommendations of the Indian Nutritional Academy, Hyderabad, there should have been consumption of 182 eggs per head per annum as standard. At National level 55 eggs per person are consumed annually, while the state average is only 22 eggs per person annually. Similarly, the standard suggested for meat consumption is 11 kg, while the national availability is 2.8 kg and for U.P, it was 0.987 kg per head per annum (SDAH, Uttar Pradesh, 2013).

Contract broiler farming is well developed in southern states, but in northern states like U.P. it is less developed and sporadic. Both the contract and non-contract broiler farming systems have their merits and demerits. The identification of demerits (constraints) of both the systems may help in

achieving the desired level of broiler production. So, the present study was conducted to identify the constraints faced by contract and non-contract broiler farmers in broiler production.

Materials and Methods

For the present study, on the basis of poultry population two districts Azamgarh and Varanasi were selected, purposely, out of 12 districts of the eastern plain zone of Uttar Pradesh, Two blocks from each selected district, Mahrajganj and Bilariyaganj from Azamgarh and Kashi Vidyapeeth and Pindra from Varanasi district were selected, randomly. Thus, four blocks were selected from both the districts. Contract and non-contract broiler farmers in each block were listed separately. Fifteen contract and fifteen non-contract broiler farmers, having at least 2000 birds and two years of experience in broiler farming were selected, randomly, from the respective list. This makes total sample size of 120 broiler farmers (60 contract and 60 non-contract). Problems faced by contract broiler farmers were categorized into categories as problems in receiving inputs, problems in marketing of outputs and problems in services and payment. Whereas problems faced by non-contract broiler farmers were grouped as problems in purchasing of input and problems in marketing of output. The data was collected with the help of a pre-tested structured interview schedule and results were presented in terms of frequency and percentage.

Results and Discussion

Constraints faced by contract broiler farmers

The problems faced by contract broiler farmers are listed in Table 1. The delay in providing chicks was the major problem as reported by 46.67 per cent of the farmers followed by low growing charges given to the farmer by the Integrators (35%) and delay in lifting produce (28.33%). An equal percentage of contract broiler farmers (21.67% each) faced problem in delay in providing veterinary services and low price of produce. Other low intensity problems in contract broiler farming system were higher prices of feed (11.67%), delay in payment of dues and lack of training (10% each) and delay in supply of inputs (8.33%). None of the contract broiler farmer complained about sub-standard feed, rejection of product on quality ground and problem in transportation. Kalamkar (2012) reported the similar findings.

Table 1: Constraints faced by contract broiler farmers

Constraints	Frequency	Percentage
Problems in receiving of inputs		
Delay in supply of inputs	05	08.33
Higher feed prices	07	11.67
Substandard feed	00	00.00
Transport	00	00.00
Problems in marketing of output		
Delay in lifting the produce	17	28.33
Delay in payment of dues	06	10.00
Low price of produce	13	21.67
Rejection on quality ground	00	00.00
Problems in services and payment		
Low growing charges	21	35.00
Lack of training	06	10.00
Delay in providing chicks	28	46.67
Delay in providing veterinary services	13	21.67

Constraints faced by non-contract broiler farmers

The problems faced by the non-contract broiler farmers are listed in Table 2. It is evident from the table that an overwhelming majority of non-contract broiler farmers (96.67%) perceived fluctuation in selling price and lack of cooperative marketing societies (93.33%) were major constraints. About 85 per cent of non-contract broiler farmers felt that there was no supporting price policy for poultry, as in case of agricultural crops, followed by unsatisfactory price of output (83.33%). Other low intensity problems of non-contract broiler farmers were lack of processing units in the study area (48.33%) followed by substandard feed (40%), higher price of feed (30%), delay in payment of produce (25%) and problems in getting inputs in time (5%). Kalamkar (2012) reported the similar findings.

Table 2: Constraints faced by non-contract broiler farmers

Constraints	Frequency	Percentage
Problems purchasing of input		
Timeliness	03	05.00
Higher feed prices	18	30.00
Substandard feed	24	40.00
Problems in marketing of output		
Unsatisfactory price received	50	83.33
Price fluctuations	58	96.67
Delay in payment of produce	15	25.00
Lack of cooperative-marketing societies	56	93.33
No supporting price policy	51	85.00
Lack of processing units	29	48.33

Conclusion

The study has identified the constraints faced by contract and non-contract broiler farmers in broiler production. Despite of contract for supply of inputs and sale of output, contract broiler farmers have to face problems like delay in supply of inputs, high feed prices, delay in lifting the produce, delay in payment of dues etc. Whereas constraints faced by non-contract broiler farmers were higher prices of inputs, unsatisfactory price of produce, price fluctuations, delay in payment etc. it is obvious from the findings of the study that both contract and non-contract broiler farming systems are not free from hurdles some problems are being faced commonly by both type of broiler farmers. Hence it may be concluded that contract broiler farming system usually considered better than non-contract in terms of marketing, is also not perfect, however, it reduces risk and provides guaranteed income.

Conflict of Interest: All authors declare no conflict of interest.

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