

INDIGENOUS CHICKEN REARING UNDER VILLAGE CONDITIONS

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Abstract

The contribution of indigenous chicken in the provision of animal protein to the ever increasing protein needs of the populace cannot be overemphasized. This study was therefore conducted to investigate the method of rearing of these birds presently, under village conditions with a view to identifying problems and means to solve these problems. 100 questionnaires were administered to farmers located in different villages in Ogun State, Nigeria. It was observed that the majority of farmers were middle aged, uneducated and adopted farming as their major occupation. Indigenous chicken when raised were too few in number, mainly reared extensively although supplemental feed was provided in most cases. Losses due to mortality were high, productive traits low and birds were used for sale or consumption. Major problem areas encountered were in the area of disease control a proper breeding programme and financial constraints. It was concluded that for improving production of these birds the system of management should be improved with a suitable flock health programme. Appropriate assistance should also be given in terms of a suitable breeding programs. Finance should also be made available for proper housing and supplementary feeding.