

PROFITABILITY OF COMMERCIAL LAYER FARMING IN SOME SELECTED AREAS OF SAVAR OF DHAKA DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken to find out the socio-economic characteristics, layer production practices, profitability and factors affecting profitability in the study area of Dhaka district. Sixty farmers were purposively selected from the area. Among the sixty selected farms 19 belong to small, 19 belong to medium and 22 belong to large. Cobb-Douglas production function model was also applied to estimate the contribution of key variables to the production processes of layer farms. The major findings of the study are that the rearing of layer is a profitable business. Highest percentage of layer growers along with their family members was in age group of less than 20 years. In case of all layer farms around 55.1 percent of the family members were in the male category and female category was 44.9 percent. In all farm group 81.60 percent of the layer grower's family members were literate in the study area. The highest annual income came from layer and their corresponding percentage was 96 of the total income respectively. About 25% of the layer growers' occupations were layer farming. Average cultivated land was 68.46 decimal. Average age of the growers of all farm categories was 38.18 years. Average education of the sample growers was 11.12 years of schooling. Only 41.7 percent of the layer growers took training. About 72 percent growers took training of varying duration from different institutions. About 76 percent layer growers took short term training (3 months). About 36.7 percent bird was attacked by Infectious Bursal Disease followed by 23.3 percent, 18.3 percent, 13.3 percent, 6.7 percent, and 1.7 percent attacked with Salmonella, Pox, New castle disease, Foul cholera, Coccidiosis respectively. Total costs per farm per year for small, medium, large and all layer farms were estimated at Tk. 1432561, Tk. 2527288, Tk. 3789167 and Tk. 2643313 respectively. Total cost for small, medium and large was Tk. 1432561, Tk. 2527288, Tk. 3789167 respectively. Gross returns of small, medium and large farms were Tk. 1789469, Tk. 3288454 and Tk. 5036820 respectively. Per hectare gross margin of small, medium and large farms were Tk. 575199 Tk. 1119207 and Tk. 1755216 respectively. Net return of small, medium and large farms was Tk.356907, Tk. 761166 and Tk. 1247652 respectively. Benefit cost ratio (BCR) of small, medium and large growers were 1.25, 1.30 and 1.31 respectively. The results of the production function showed that the selected four variables importantly influencing the profitability of layer production namely feed cost (Tk./ farm), total tools and equipment cost (Tk./ farm), total return from layer (Tk./ farm) and family labor cost (Tk./ farm), were significant at 1% level and training dummy was significant at 5% level of significance while the other variables: day old chick cost (Tk./ farm) and vaccine cost (Tk./ farm) were not significant. High price of feed was the dominant problem in the study area. Incase of marketing problems high price of day old chick was the main problem and outbreak of diseases was the first ranked natural problem.