Study of Socio-Personal Characteristics of Backyard Poultry Farmers of Bihar

ABSTRACT

Backyard poultry has been recognized as an effective tool for poverty alleviation especially in the rural areas. Since time immemorial backyard poultry farming has played an important role to meet the domestic as well as socio-cultural needs of the rural people. The present study was conducted in three purposively selected districts. Two blocks were selected out of which 50 respondents were randomly selected. Total 300 respondents were selected for the research study. Various socio-personal (Age, Family Type, Educational qualification) were the important factors which have contributed to the rearing of the backyard poultry by the poultry farmers. It was found that majority (52.33%) of the respondents were from middle age group followed by (33.00) young age group. So far family type is concerned it was found that majority (61.67%) of the respondents were from joint family. Further about (37.33%) of the respondents were educated up to high school level followed by (21.67%) up to primary school level, (19.67%) up to middle school level. These study help us to explore the rearing and societal adoption pattern of the backyard poultry farming which will help us to find the area and how we could put more emphasis for the successful practicing of backyard poultry farming.

Keywords: Backyard Poultry farmers, Socio-personal.

Introduction

Poultry production in India has increased many folds in recent year. India ranks 3rd in egg production and 7thin poultry meat production (BAHS, 2019). Poultry industry is contributing about Rs. 9000 cr. To the national GDP and providing employment to more than 5 million people either directly or indirectly.

Backyard poultry farming is low input venture and is characterised by rearing indigenous night shelter, scavenging system with little supplementary feeding, natural hatching of chicks, poor productivity of birds, local marketing and less health care practice.

Comment [S1]: Correct such as "characterized"

Backyard poultry contributing (30.00%) to the national egg production is the most neglected one. It is well known that the majority (91.00%) of the population are landless and marginal farmers, carrying out their lives from poultry and other small ruminants. In Bihar per capita availability of egg is 11 egg/person/annum and of poultry meat is 2.08 kg/person/year.

Thus Backyard poultry farming can help state to bridge the gap between demand and supply of egg and poultry meat as well.

The socio-personal characteristics of the farmers can play a pivotal role in poverty alleviation as well as their positive behavioural changes by enhancing their daily earnings.

Comment [S2]: Correct such as "behavioral"

The present investigation was carried out with the objective to study the socio-personal characteristics of the poultry farmers of Bihar.

Materials and Method

The present study was conducted in three selected district viz; Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga and Nalanda. Two blocks were selected out of which 50 respondents were randomly selected from each block, thus totalling a sample size of 300 respondents. An interview schedule was prepared to collect information from the respondents. To check its validity the interview schedule was pre-tested on 10 respondents randomly selected. The schedule was finalised after making necessary amendments in the light of pre testing experience. The data thus collected were coded for the precise conclusion.

Result and Discussion

1. Age

Age of respondents is most important variables which determines the level of entrepreneurship. It helps to understanding of their views about adoption of any activities. Older age indicates level of maturity of individuals in that sense.

Table 1. Farmers categorisation according to their age (N=300)

Sl. No.	Age (years)	Muzaffarpur (n = 100)	Darbhanga (n = 100)	Nalanda (n= 100)	Total (N =300)
1.	Young (18-35)	35 (35)	29 (29)	35 (35)	99 (33.00)
2.	Middle(36-55)	44 (44)	60 (60)	53 (53)	157 (52.33)
3.	Old (> 55)	21 (21)	11 (11)	12 (12)	44 (14.67)

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

Fig 1: Farmers categorisation according to their age

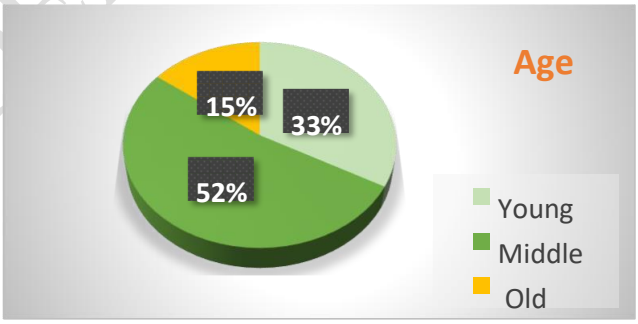

Table 1 reveals that the majority of the respondents (52.33%) falls into the middle age category followed by 33.00 per cent in young age category and 14.67 percent belonging to old age category. This might be due to the reason that middle age group people are in stage of

earning, have livelihood responsibility and are in immediate need of money, so they recognize BYPF as an instant cash profitable business and are directionally motivated for such improved practices, young respondents considers BYPF as attractive new venture and a future source of income and can decide it for doing in near future whereas old age group people are less interested may be due to their unwillingness, less energetic and less knowledge about the new venture. These findings are in agreement with Nanjesh (2010), Razzaq et al (2011), Deka P. et al (2013) and Bibhu (2015), as they also found that the majority of the backyard poultry farmers belonged to middle age category.

2. Family Type

The type of the family in which a person lives and gets socialized has immense importance in deciding his values, beliefs, and behaviours pattern which are likely to affects his or her attitudes towards a particular entrepreneurship. The family type plays its own role in giving the response of an individual and therefore it is thought important to understand the family type of the respondents.

Table 2. Distribution of farmers according to their family type (N=300)

Sl. No.	Family type	Muzaffarpur (n=100)	Darbhanga (n=100)	Nalanda (n=100)	Total (N=300)
1.	Nuclear	39 (39)	42 (42)	34 (34)	115 (38.33)
2.	Joint	61 (61)	58 (58)	66 (66)	185 (61.67)

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

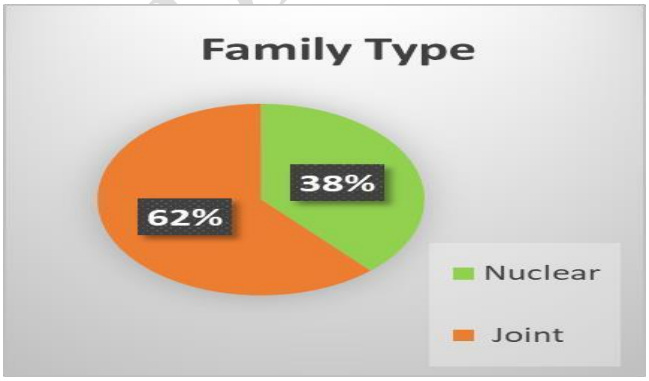

Fig 2: Distribution of farmers according to their family type

The findings depicts that majority of the respondents about (61.67%) had joint family type and only 38.33 percent had nuclear family type. In joint family the women and children of household get sufficient time to take up BYPF as other household works were shared by other members of the family, as less time and labour demanding work.These findings shows that the trend of joint family increasing for practising backyard poultry farming. Similar trends have been observed by Deka P. et al (2013), Pratap et al (2017) and Raj Kumar et al (2017) during their studies in BYPF in different part of India.

3. Educational qualification

Education is one of the most important characteristics that have direct effect on the individual's attitudes, their way of looking and understanding on any particular social phenomena. Different traits of entrepreneurship have significant positive relationship with the individual's education status. So, the response of any individual towards BYPF is likely to be determined by his educational status and therefore it become imperative to know the educational background of the respondents.

Table 3. Educational qualification of the respondent farmers. (N=300)

Sl. No.	Educational level	Muzaffarpur (n=100)	Darbhanga (n=100)	Nalanda (n=100)	Total (N=300)
1.	Illiterate	04 (04)	02 (02)	02 (02)	08 (2.67)
2.	Can read only	15 (15)	01 (01)	02 (02)	18 (6.00)
3.	Can read & write	19 (19)	03 (03)	04 (04)	26 (8.66)
4.	Primary school	31 (31)	17 (17)	15 (15)	63 (21.67)
5.	Middle school	07 (07)	27 (27)	25 (25)	59 (19.67)
6	High school	18 (18)	46 (46)	48 (48)	112 (37.33)
7.	Graduation	06 (06)	04 (04)	04 (04)	14 (4.67)

(Figures in parenthesis indicates percentage)

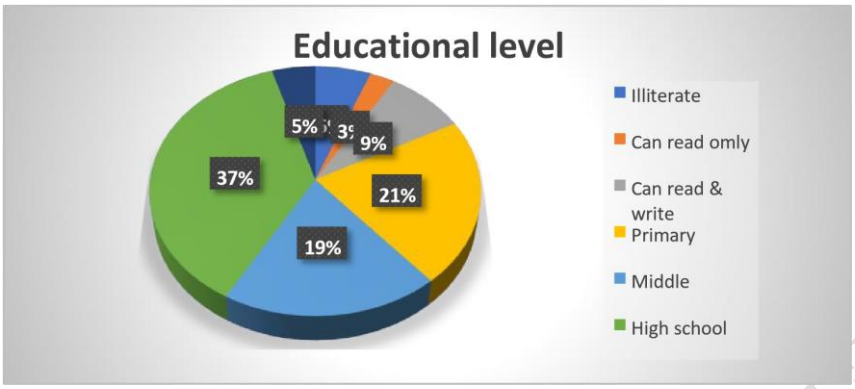

Fig 3: Educational qualification of the respondent farmers

The pooled data revealed that the majority of the respondents (37.33%) had education up to high school level followed by 21.67 percent respondents had education up to primary level, 19.67 percent of the respondents had education up to middle school level and only 4.67 percent of the respondents had education up to graduation level. It can be seen that maximum number of respondents were educated till high school education level. It depicts that BYPF can be done even with less knowledge and low educational level. So, transfer of technology for BYPF can be concentrated more to people belonging to primary to high school level of education. So, that it can be easily adopted by the community. The findings are in line with the observations of Razzaq et al (2011), Bibhu (2015), Pratap et al (2017) and Rajkumar et al (2017) as they also found that majority of the farmers had education up to high school level, during their studies on BYPF in different regions of India.

REFERENCES:

- GOI (2017), Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, KrishiBhawan, New Delhi.
- GOI (2012), 19Th Livestock census- All India Report, Ministry of Agriculture Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, New Delhi.
- Anonymous (2016), Bihar population census data.
- Anonymous (2013). FAOSTAT annual report. (www.fao.org/faostat)
- BAHS: Basic Animal Husbandry statistics (2019)

Comment [S3]: The anonymous references are unacceptable.

Comment [S4]: Add here retriewed date of this internet site The anonymous references are unacceptable.

- Deka P. and Thakur D. (2013). Status of Backyard Poultry Farming in Himalayan Regions of India. Indian Journal of Poultry Science. 47(1) pp.-102-105, Research Article.
- Mandal, M. K., Khandekar, N. and Khandekar, P. (2006). Backyard poultry farming in Bareilly district of Uttar Pradesh, India: An analysis, Livestock Research for Rural Development, **18**(7).
- Pratap, J., Sagar, M.P., Chander, M.,Tripathi, H., Kumar, S. and Verma, M.R. (2017) , Assessment of Training Needs of Broiler Poultry Farmers in Barabanki District of U.P.

  , Indian Journal of Poultry Science 50(2): 0974-8180
- Kumar, R. and Jiji, R.S. (2008). Training needs of dairy farm instruction in Kerela. Journal of Dairying, Food and Home Science. 27(2): 94-98.
- National Commission on Agriculture (1976), Report government of India. Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, New Delhi, Part VII (A.H.)
- Daya Ram, Singh, M.K., and Laishram, J.M., (2017), Training Needs Assessment of Poultry Farmers in East & West Imphal of Manipur, International Journal of Current Microbial Applied Sciences 6(9): 2218-2227
- Dhaka, B.L., Baira, R.K., Meena, N.L., Chayal, K. and Nagar, B.L. (2017). Training needs assessment of women farmers on livestock production management in Bundi District of Rajasthan, International Journal Current microbial and applied sciences. 6(6): 796-803.
- Pratap, J., Sagar, M.P., Chander, M.,Tripathi, H., Kumar, S. and Verma, M.R. (2017) , Assessment of Training Needs of Broiler Poultry Farmers in Barabanki District of U.P.

  , Indian Journal of Poultry Science 50(2): 0974-8180
- Rajkumar U**,** Rama Rao SV and Sharma RP, (2010). Backyard poultry farming changing the face of rural and tribal livelihoods. Indian Farming, 59: 20-24