

Original Research Article

Broiler Farming in Hathazari ~~Region~~ of Bangladesh: A Study of Management ~~and~~ ~~Outcomes~~ Practices.

Abstract

Broiler farming has greatly ~~contributed to improving~~ improved the socio-economic status of people in underdeveloped countries like Bangladesh. The productivity and profitability of broiler farming largely depend on good management practices. The present study was conducted on selected broiler farms to know about the socio-economic status of the farmers, ~~the~~ managerial practices ~~adapted-adopted~~ by them and ~~the~~ overall production performance of the broiler chicken in Hathazari region, Chittagong. The data for this study was collected ~~by using~~ direct ~~interview-interviews to-with~~ farmers, visual inspection of farms and farm records through a pre-formed questionnaire. ~~Through-In~~ the study, it was found ~~out~~ that most of the farmers are ~~of young age~~ young (60%), started ~~the~~ farm with ~~their~~ own money (60%), received no training (90%), ~~has had an~~ experience of 6-10 years (50%) and has taken farming as ~~a~~ main occupation (70%). Considering management practices, 50% of the farmers collected ~~day old~~ day-old chick (DOC) from Kazi Farms Limited through local dealers. The housing system was intensive, ~~open-sided~~ open-sided with kacha (60%) and paka (40%) floors and tin shed roof. In all farms, sawdust was used as litter material ~~in study region~~ due to ~~the~~ unavailability of rice husk. ~~Electric~~ An electric brooding system was ~~done used~~ in all ~~the~~ farms with ~~a~~ duration of 5-7 days in summer and 10-15 days in winter. ~~and About~~ -50% of farmers ~~reported that they~~ did not ~~measured-monitor nor measure~~ air temperature during brooding. Most of the farmers used feed ~~of from the~~ Kazi brand (30%) followed by Paragon (20%), ACI (20%), Aman (10%) and Nourish (10%). Broilers were reared for 28-35 days. The most common disease in this area is ~~Infectious-infectious~~ Bursal-bursal disease (66%). Most farmers maintained vaccination schedules but hygiene ~~condition-conditions~~ were minimal, with no foot bath and unrestricted public access. All the farmers used different growth promoters, antibiotics, liver tonics, ~~and~~ vitamins in broilers. The average mortality rate of the studied farm was 3.36%, ~~the~~ average final body weight was 1.7 kg and ~~the~~ average feed conversion ratio (FCR) was 1.26. It is concluded that the information gathered through this study would be beneficial in developing enhanced poultry management strategies in the study area.

Keywords: Broiler, production performance, mortality rate, day old chick, feed conversion ratio.

1. Introduction

The poultry sector ~~is has developing~~ developed as one of the most promising commercial sectors in Bangladesh in recent years. It contributes 14% to the overall economic value of livestock [30] and 37% of the total animal protein in Bangladesh [27]. The total poultry population is 3857.04 lakh in 2022-23 which is ~~the~~ highest among the previous years [23]. It is estimated that per year per capita consumption of broiler meat was 6.3 kg in 2018 which was assumed to reach 7 kg in 2020 [15]. So the demand for broiler chicken which ~~is mainly produce~~ is mainly produced for meat ~~purpose-purposes~~ is increasing day by day due to its shorter production cycle, tenderness, high palatability and digestibility and low price [21].

In recent years poultry industry has experienced a positive transformation evolving from backyard rearing to fast growing commercial sector. A study done on the effect of ~~the~~

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Smallholder Livestock Department Project showed that ~~the~~ socio-economic condition of the people of rural ~~area-areas specially-especially the~~ meat and egg consumption rate, employment rate improved due to the measures taken by SLDP (smallholder livestock department project) [3]. About more than 6 million job opportunities are created by the poultry industry [7]. Thus facilitating in reducing unemployment problems, improving ~~socio-economies~~ socio-economic ~~condition-conditions~~ also expanding ~~the women-women's~~ empowerment in ~~the~~ rural areas [28]. A great number of rural women are under the non-government organization and department of livestock service conducting poverty alleviation ~~program-programs~~ which include poultry production and rearing [23]. The poultry sector also created great investment ~~opportunity opportunities~~ in Bangladesh [14]. So the poultry sector has become one of the great ~~sourcee sources~~ for earning, reducing poverty [10]. It has also a greater contribution ~~on-to~~ the GDP of the country, thus contributing 1% of the total GDP of Bangladesh [12]

Broilers are young ~~chicken-chickens~~ of either male or female reared for meat production. They are characterized by rapid growth gaining a weight of 1.5-2 kg from around 40 gm within 5 weeks. So ~~for achieving-achieving~~ profits from ~~the~~ poultry industry, one should have good knowledge and more concern on its technical aspects like housing, breeding, feeding and overall management. Like layer birds, broiler also need similar housing with one square feet floor space per bird after they are brought from hatcheries as day old ~~chick-chicks~~. As they grow quickly, they require high protein, ~~vitamin-vitamins~~, minerals and ~~other trace element-other trace elements~~ in their diet. According to [6], probiotics in the diet of ~~broiler-broilers has-have~~ a great effect on their body weight gain, mortality rate and feed conversion ratio. Again feed conversion ratio was greater ~~of-for~~ those birds kept under bio-secured ~~condition-conditions~~ than those without bio-security [5]. However, the percentages of farmers using lime water to disinfect their farms in Jessore and Bhola were 43.08% and 63.46% respectively [20]. Bangladesh has ~~a~~-suitable weather for rearing ~~broiler-broilers~~. But most of the broiler farm ~~owner-owners~~ suffer from different problems like lack of capital, ~~over~~ price and low quality of the chicks, high feed cost which is also low in quality, improper transportation system, ~~and Inadequate-inadequate~~ veterinary services [22]-. ~~Study-Studies~~ found that ~~the~~ high price of ~~the~~ broiler feed is one of ~~the~~ important factors affecting broiler farms [11,13]. Environmental factors like ~~weather~~, temperature also affect the growth of the broilers. ~~Beside-Besides~~ this broiler faces a lot of diseases like infectious Bursal disease (Gumboro), Newcastle disease (Ranikhet Disease), Avian Influenza, salmonellosis and many more which lead to high mortality [31]. Most of the diseases ~~occurs-occur~~ due to managerial problems ~~in-on~~ the farm as most of the farmers are illiterate and ~~having-have~~ no training or experience ~~on-in~~ broiler farming. ~~But-However~~ according to a study in Jessore and ~~Bhola-Bhola~~, 40.38% of farmers had ~~been~~ vaccinated against three ~~disease-diseases~~ Ranikhet, Gumboro and infectious bronchitis ~~whether-while~~ 36.64% of farmers vaccinated ~~the birds~~ against Gumboro and Ranikhet only [20]. Moreover, worldwide the broiler industry including Bangladesh ~~adapting adopting~~ new strategies and technologies ~~in-order-to-to~~ improve managerial ~~system-systems~~ and production performance.

A good number of research have ~~been-occurred~~ occurred in different ~~region-regions~~ in Bangladesh on broiler production and management. However, no research was found on ~~the~~ management and production aspect of broiler farms in ~~the~~ Hathazari region of Chittagong which has great geographical significance due to ~~it's-its~~ rich agricultural land and abundant water resources from ~~the~~ Halda river. Therefore, the current study was undertaken in the Hathazari upazila of Chittagong to minimize this research gap by achieving ~~the~~ following objectives:

1) ~~1)~~ ~~(i)~~ To know the socio-economic status of the farmers of ~~the~~ Hathazari region.

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2) T(ii) to assess the different management ~~system-systems adapted-adopted~~ by farmers in ~~the~~ Hathazari region.

3) T(iii) to assess ~~the~~ production performance of broilers in ~~the~~ Hathazari region

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Study area

This study was conducted at ~~some~~ selected broiler farms ~~of-in the~~ Hathazari ~~upazila-Upazila~~ of Chattogram district, Bangladesh.



Figure 1: Location of study area

2.2 Study period

The information related to broiler farming was collected from February, 2024 to March, 2024.

2.3 Study design

The study design is a retrospective descriptive study.

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2.4 Study population

The study was conducted on broiler farms with a flock size ranging from 500 to 3000 birds in ~~hathazari~~ Hathazari upazila Upazila. By maintaining this criteria data were collected from 10 randomly selected broiler farms.

2.5 Data collection

The data were collected through ~~the direct~~ ~~interview~~ interviews of with the broiler farmers and also by direct ~~visit~~ visits to the farm. A Questionnaire was designed for data collection which contained both open and ~~close~~ closed forms of ~~question~~ questions. The data were collected from the owner, their family members and the workers by asking different ~~question~~ questions in simplest way. In addition, a farm record book was used, when available, for validation of this information. All the data were collected according to the management systems of the farms. The data were collected on different ~~parameter~~ parameters like —owner's information (Name, age, occupation, experience and ~~whether~~ received any training or not), management system (No. of birds, type of housing, floor and litter management, brooding, feeder and drinker, biosecurity and hygiene practices, common disease and drug used and vaccination schedule) and finally on production performance like feed conversion ratio (FCR), mortality rate and final body weight.

$$\text{FCR} = \frac{\text{Total feed (kg) consumed up to the age of marketing}}{\text{Live weight (kg) of bird at the age of marketing}}$$

$$\text{Mortality rate} = \frac{\text{Total death till marketing}}{\text{Total DOC introduced in farm}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Final body weight gain} = \frac{\text{Final body weight} - \text{live weight of bird at marketing day}}{\text{day old chick weight}}$$

2.6 Statistical analysis

The collected data was ~~entered~~ processed into using Microsoft ~~excel~~ Excel 2016 and sorted ~~accordingly~~ for further analysis. Descriptive statistics including mean value, frequencies and percentages were calculated using ~~excel~~ Excel formula. For various qualitative variables, the Fisher's Exact test was performed using STATA-11 software.

3: Results

3.1 Owner's information

~~The Detailed information about the~~ owners' information like name, age, sex, experience in this field, ~~received any training or not~~ are presented in Table 1. Most of the farmers (60%) invested from their own ~~fund~~ funds. ~~Majority~~ The majority of them did not receive any training (90%; p = 0.001). No female broiler farm owner was observed in the ~~study~~ area. A great ~~number~~ percentage (60%) of them are between the age of 24 to 30 years ~~are young~~ (60%) individuals ~~aged between 24-30 years~~. About 50% of the owner ~~has had an~~ experience of 6- to 10 years and a considerable number of them have taken farming as their primary occupation.

Table 1: Information about the status of broiler farms' owners (N=10).

Parameter	Categories	No. of farmers	Percentage (%)	p-value (Fisher's Exact)
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Investment source	Own	6	60	0.656
	Bank loan	4	40	
Received any training	Yes	1	10	0.001
	No	9	90	
Age (year)	24-30	6	60	0.090
	31-35	2	20	
	36-40	2	20	
Sex	Male	10	100	-
	Female	0	0	
Experience (year)	1-5	3	30	0.118
	6-10	5	50	
	11-15	1	10	
	16-20	1	10	
Farming main occupation	Yes	7	70	0.178
	No	3	30	

3.2 Managerial practices in broiler farms

3.2.1 Collection of day-old chick and no. of birds:

The farmers collected the ~~day-old~~ day-old chicks (DOC) from different companies like Kazi farms, Paragon, CP, Nahar etc. in the Hathazari region. They collected the DOCs through the local dealers of particular hatcheries. ~~Size-~~ The size of the observed farms and the source of DOCs are presented in Table 2. Among the ten (10) farms three ~~small-scale~~ small-scale (30%), five ~~medium-scale~~ medium-scale (50%) and two large ~~scale-scales~~ (20%) farms were seen. ~~& most~~ Most of the DOCs (50%) ~~are were brought-obtained~~ from the Kazi farm in that area.

Table 2: Size of farms and source of DOC.

Parameter		No. of farmers	Percentage (%)	p-value
Farm size	Small (500-1000 birds)	3	30	0.349
	Medium (1000-2000 birds)	5	50	
	Large (2000-3000 birds)	2	20	
Source of DOC	Kazi Farm	5	50	0.111

	Paragon	2	20	
	Aman	1	10	
	Nourish	1	10	
	Dhaka group	1	10	

3.2.2 Housing system

All ten broiler farms are of intensive type with tin shed ~~roof~~roofs. Large and ~~medium scale~~medium-scale farms had separate brooder and grower ~~shed~~sheds. But in ~~small scale~~small-scale farms, there was a single shed used for both brooding and growing ~~purpose~~purposes. ~~Housing~~The housing system of ~~our the~~ selected farms ~~are is~~ shown in Table 3 which reveals that most farms had kacha ~~floor~~floors (60%) & ~~and the~~ majority of farmers used tarpaulin as curtain to protect their birds from adverse weather.

Table 3: Housing system of farms.

Parameter		No. of farms	Percentage (%)	p-value
Floor type	Kacha	6	60%	0.656
	Paka	4	40%	
Curtain type	Sack	4	40%	0.656
	Tarpaulin	6	60%	
Floor space/bird at the grower stage	1-1.5 Sq. ft	5	50%	–
	1.5-2 Sq. ft	5	50%	

3.2.3 Feeder and drinker

In most ~~of the~~ farms, tray ~~feeder~~feeders are used during brooding (some farmers avoid it as it causes more ~~wastages~~wastage of feed) and round ~~feeder~~feeders after brooding. ~~Feeder~~Feeders are wiped daily with a clean cloth and washed per batch. Drinkers ~~are~~ washed three times per day. Water was supplied directly from deep ~~well~~wells in most farms. ~~No~~The number of feeders and drinkers ~~are is~~ presented in Table 4 ~~shown~~showing that during brooding 6 farms used 1 feeder and drinker per 100 ~~bird~~birds. At growing stage, 6 farms (p = 0.057) kept 3-4 ~~feeder~~feeders for every 100 birds which indicating a significant difference in feeder distribution.

Table 4: No of feeder and drinker in farms.

Period of flock	No. of feeder feeders/100 bird	No. of farm	p-value	No. of drinker drinkers/100 bird	No. of farm	p-value
Brooder	1	6	0.656	1	6	0.656

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	2	4		2	4	
Grower	1-2	3	0.057	1-2	4	0.142
	3-4	6		3-4	5	
	5-6	1		5-6	1	

3.2.4 Brooding management

The brooder house was prepared before the arrival of the chicks at the farm using rice husk as litter material and plastic board as chick guard. In most farms, 500 chicks were brooded together except some in which 300/400/750/1000 were brooded together. The duration of brooding was 5-7 days in summer and 15-18 days in winter.

No significant differences can be figured out on brooding temperature measurement and the number of bulbs used for brooding from Table 5. Half of the farms maintained the brooder temperature schedule by keeping the temperature scale in the brooding area whereas half of the farms did not maintain that.

Table 5: Temperature measurement and No. of bulb used during brooding.

Parameter		No. of farms	p-value
Brooding temperature	Measured	5	-
	Not measured	5	
No. of bulb used/ brooding	3-5 of 100-watt 100-watt/500 bird	5	-
	6 of 100-watt 100-watt/ 500 or 750 bird	5	

~~No significant differences can be figure out on brooding temperature measurement and no. of bulb used for brooding from the Table 5. Half of the farms were maintaining brooder temperature schedule by keeping temperature scale in brooding area whereas half of the farms did not maintain that.~~

3.2.5 Litter management

Sawdust was used as litter material in all farms due to scarcity of the rice ~~husk-husks~~ in the Hathazari region. A study in Bangladesh investigating the impact of various liter materials on broiler performance concluded that sawdust was most effective for promoting broiler growth (Monira et al., 2003). The depth of the liter was thicker in cold season than summer. The depth was 1-1.5 inch in most farms in summer season; in some farms it was 2-2.5-inch depth. In cold season the depth ~~was-is usually 3 inch-inches~~ in most farms.

3.2.6 Feeding management

Effective feed and feeding management is a primary concern for successful commercial poultry farming. ~~Feed-The feed~~ should contain all of the nutrients like protein, fat, carbohydrate

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~~vitamin~~vitamins, and minerals for proper growth of broilers. All the farmers of the study area used feed from different companies like Kazi, ACI, Paragon etc.

Table 6: Feed, feed type and feeding schedule adapted by different farmers.

Feed company Company	Farm no. (%)	Feed type	Feed size	Time
Kazi	3 (30%)	Broiler starter	Crumble	0-15 days
		Broiler grower	pellet	15-till marketing
ACI	2 (20%)	Broiler starter	Crumble	0-14 days
		Broiler grower	Pellet	14- till marketing
Paragon	2 (20%)	Broiler starter	Crumble	0-15 days
		Broiler grower	Pellet	15-till marketing
Suguna	1 (10%)	Broiler starter	Crumble	0-20 days
		Broiler finisher	Pellet	20-till marketing
Aman	1 (10%)	Broiler starter	Crumble	0-17 days
		Broiler grower	Pellet	17-till marketing
Nourish	1 (10%)	Broiler pre-starter	Crumble	0-8 days
		Broiler starter	Crumble	9-20 days
		Broiler finisher	Pellet	21- till marketing

3.2.7 Common disease and medication

~~Prevalence~~The prevalence of different ~~kind-kinds~~ of ~~disease-diseases~~ were was seen in all broiler farms. ~~Outbreak~~Outbreaks of ~~Infectious-infectious~~ Bursal-bursal disease (Gumboro) and Newcastle disease (Ranikhet) were seen in some of the farms which caused high mortality and great loss to the farmers. ~~Beside~~Besides these, ~~Brooder-brooder~~ pneumonia, ~~Chronic~~chronic Respiratory ~~respiratory Disease~~disease, ~~Ascites~~ascites, ~~Infectious-and infectious~~ coryza were also seen in different farms.

From Table 7, it can be observed that infectious bursal disease (66%) is the most prevalent disease in that region followed by Newcastle disease (44%). Various kinds of medicine were used by farmers in the brooding and growing stages of broilers. In the brooding stage, Cefa-1 Vet (Cephalexin), Lisovit (anti-stress drug), and different vitamins and minerals like Zinc, Calcium, selenium etc were given to the birds. Glucose and amino acid preparations were used. In the growing stage, different antibiotics like Sulpha drug, amoxicillin, Colistin, Enrofloxacin, Amprolium etc. were used. Toxin binder, liver tonic, and different vitamin-mineral preparations were also used to enhance the growth of broilers.

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Table 7: Disease prevalence in different ~~farm~~ farms.

Name of Disease	No of Farms	Prevalence (%)
Infectious bursal disease (IBD)	6	66%
Newcastle Disease (ND)	4	44%
Chronic Respiratory disease	4	44%
Infectious Coryza	3	33%
Brooder Pneumonia	1	11%
Ascites	1	11%

From Table 7 we can see that infectious bursal disease (66%) is the most prevalent disease in that region followed by Newcastle disease (44%). Various kind of medicine are used by farmers in brooding and grower stage of broilers. In brooding stage Cefa-1 Vet (Cephalexin), Lisovit (anti-stress drug), different vitamin and minerals like Zinc, Calcium, selenium etc. Glucose and Amino acid preparations are used. In growing stage different antibiotics like Sulpha drug, amoxicillin, Colistin, Enrofloxacin, Amprolium etc. are used. Toxin binder, liver tonic, different vitamin mineral preparations were also used to enhance the growth of broilers.

3.2.8 Vaccination schedule

Most of the farmers maintained the proper vaccination schedule whereas some of them had vaccinated their chicks for 2- to 3 ~~time~~times.

Table 8: Proper vaccination Schedule maintained by farmers in ~~the~~ study area.

Day	Disease	Vaccine	Dose and Route
3-4	ND	BCRDV	1 drop in 1 eye
7-12	IBD	Gumboro	1 drop in 1 eye
18-20	ND	BCRDV	1 drop in 1 eye
22-25	IBD	Gumboro	1 drop in 1 eye

3.2.9 Biosecurity and hygiene management

Most of the farmers maintained minimal biosecurity in their farms. Farmers and workers used separate shoes and ~~dress-dresses~~ to enter ~~into~~ the farms. There was no footbath in any farms. No strict restriction was available to the entry of common people in most of the farms. ~~Vehiele~~ Vehicles carrying feed had their wheels sprayed before ~~enter into~~entering the farms. Proper ventilation ~~were was~~ maintained in most of the farms. Most of the farms had proper drainage ~~system-systems~~ to wash out the ~~wastageswastage~~. Dead birds were either buried in the soil or ~~given in the pond as feed fed for to~~ fish or thrown away ~~in land~~into the ~~push~~. In some farms there were no access to rodents as net were used to prevent their entry whether in some of them had access of rodents like rat. After the marketing of flock at first the litter materials were cleaned properly. Then some farmers washed the shed with bleaching powder and lime while

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some of them washed with potash and lime water. At last the sheds were sprayed with copper sulphate.

3.2 Production performance of the farms

Table 9: Production performance of the 10 studied farms with mortality rate

Sl no.	Initial Population	Final Population	Mortality Rate (%)	Total feed consumption/Bird (Kg)	Final body weight/Bird (Kg)	FCR
1	3000	2830	5.6	1.6	1.5	1.06
2	2000	1960	2	2.5	1.5	1.6
3	1500	1470	2	2	1.8	1.1
4	1500	1430	4.6	3	1.6	1.8
5	1500	1470	2	2	1.8	1.1
6	1000	995	0.5	2	2	1
7	1000	970	3	2.5	1.7	1.5
8	600	570	5	2	1.6	1.25
9	500	480	4	1.8	2	0.9
10	500	485	3	2	1.5	1.3
Total	13100	12660	3.36	21.4	1.7	1.26

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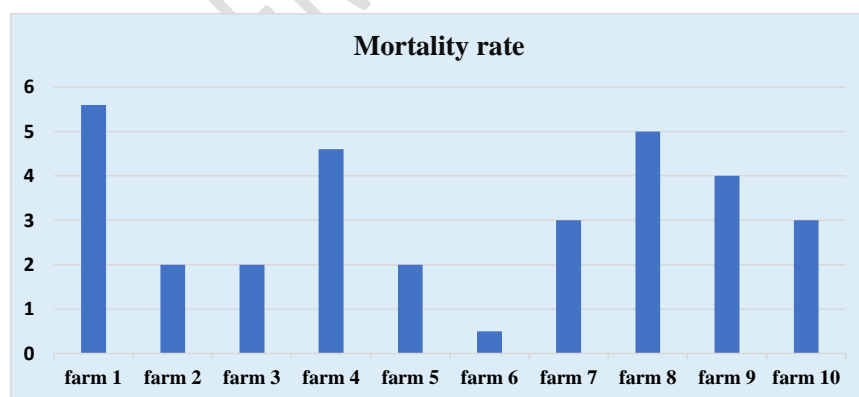


Figure 2: Mortality rate of 10 farms

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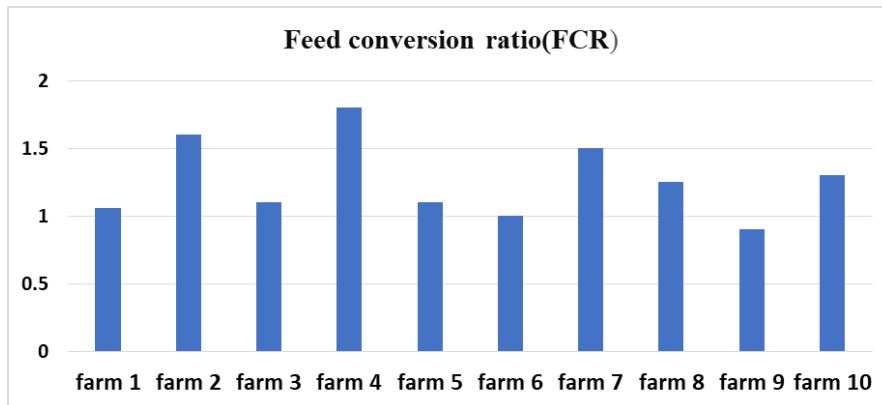


Figure 3: Feed conversion ratio (FCR) of 10 farms

Discussion

The present study revealed that the investment sources of 60% of the farmers were their own money while [17] found that farmers started their farm-farms by taking loan-loans from Bangladesh Krishi Bank. In the study area, 60% of farmers are of young age (24-30 years) which is contraindicated to the study of [32] that 60% of the farmers are of middle age (31-50 years). [2] also observed that 54.84% of the farmers were of middle age (31-50 years) in Mymensingh. Most of the farmers (50%) had an experience of 6-10 years while 30% of them had experience of 1-5 years. (Islam et al., 2015) found that 75% of Mymensingh and 33.3% of farmer-farmers of Barguna had experience of more than 3 years. Only 10% of farmer-farmers received training in the study area and 90% got no training. [4] reported that only 27.5 % farmer got training while majority of them (72.5%) got no training. Farming was the main Occupation-occupation of 70% farmers while 30% of them taken-took it as a secondary occupation or hobby. [26] showed that 35% of broiler farmer had taken farming as main occupation.

In the study area, 50% of the farms were of medium scale while 30% were of small scale & and only 20% of farm-farms were of large scale. These findings contradicts-contradict the findings of [8] who reported that most of the farms (80%) were of small scale; only 8.3% farmers had medium &-and 11.7% farmers had large farms in Botswana. Maximum farmers purchased day-day-old chick from Kazi Farms Ltd and this has previously been reported in another study. Which is similar to study of [14]. The flooring system of most of the farms were was Kacha whereas some of them had Paka floor-floors. [33] reported that most broiler flooring system-systems are Kacha and brick in Bangladesh. They suggested that using Kacha flooring because it resulted in higher growth rates and better feed conversion ratio (FCR) compared to other types of flooring [1]. All of the broiler shed-sheds in the study region were intensive open-sided type-types which has-similarity-is-similar-with-to the study of [19]. Maximum farmers of Hathazari upazila-Upazila used the feed of Kazi farms LTD. (30%) which has-is similarity-with-similar-to [33] in Santhia upazila under Pabna district. Besides this, feed of Paragon, ACI, Aman, and Nourish were also used in the study region. All farmers of the study region used sawdust as litter material due to lacking of rice husk in that region. However, [1] reported that rice husk-husks were mainly used by the farmers (60%) in the Sylhet region other than sawdust (28%). Brooding was done with an electric brooder in all of the farms for 5-7

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days in the study area. [19] also reported electric brooding for 7 days in Mymensingh and Barguna district. In the study area, the prevalence of ~~Infectious-infectious Bursal-bursal~~ disease (66%) & Newcastle disease (44%) were the highest which has similarity with [1]. But [16] reported that salmonellosis was the most prevalent (28.57%) disease while infectious bursal disease & Newcastle disease were the next most prevalent ~~disease-diseases~~ affecting 14.87% & and 12.56% of poultry in the Gazipur district. In the study area, ~~vaccine-vaccines~~ against ~~infectious bursal disease IB~~ and Newcastle disease were used and a maximum ~~numbers of~~ farmers maintained proper vaccination ~~schedules-schedules~~. [29] reported that 70% of farmers maintained regular vaccination ~~schedules-schedules~~ ~~whether-whereas~~ 30% of them ~~didn't-did not~~ maintain it. [9] reported that 16% of the farmers had done regular vaccination to control disease in the Mansa district of Punjab. In ~~hathazari-Hathazari~~ region most farmers ~~didn't-did not~~ imposed strict ~~restriction-restrictions~~ on the entry of common people and did not ~~kept-keep~~ any footbath at the entrance of farms which ~~has-is similarity-similar with-to~~ the findings of [18] that the biosecurity practices in Bangladesh by poultry farmers are quite insufficient like common people can easily enter the farms without properly disinfecting their hand, shoes and ~~cloths-clothes~~.

The average feed conversion ratio (FCR) of the study area was 1.26 ~~whether-and~~ [35] found the FCR 1.93 to 1.94. The average mortality rate was 3.36% in the Hathazari region but [24] reported 6.2 % mortality in the Haryana region. The final body weight per bird was 1.7 kg which is similar to [1]. But [34] reported a 1.5 kg average market weight per bird in Sherpur Sadar ~~upazila-Upazila~~.

Conclusion

~~Broiler-The broiler~~ sector has a great role in the improvement of the socio-economic condition of the people of Bangladesh. It has created employment opportunities for the educated young generation and rural women. In the Hathazari region all of the broiler farm owners (100%) are male and most of them are youth of age 24-30 years old. Only 10% of the farmers got training on farming and large number of them (70%) has taken it as their main profession. Intensive rearing was practiced in all farms, with most of the farms (60%) having kacha ~~floor-floors~~. ~~Majority-The majority~~ of DOCs (60%) and feed (30%) were supplied by Kazi farms. Electric brooding was done in all farms for 5-7 days in summer. Sawdust was used as litter material in that area. Birds were mostly affected by infectious bursal disease (66%) despite most farmers maintaining a proper vaccination schedule in that area. The result of the present study will be helpful for the broiler farmers and researchers to find out the lacking on management system of broilers as well as how to overcome these lacking so that production performance of the broiler increases. ~~Beside-Besides~~ this, the government should take the lead in advancing this sector.

The information collected in this study were collected at a time from the farmers. The flock were not observed for full rearing time. Some farmers were not cooperative and showed unwillingness to give information

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