

Abstract

The project on highland farm management system of Pradu Hang-dum chicken raising in a free range in Ban Mae-tor community, Tambon Bor Kaew, Samoeng district, Chiang Mai province with 9 farmer members, was aimed: 1) to develop the management system for raising Pradu Hang-dum chicken in the highlands in a natural free range system with integrated farming of the Ban Mae-tor community; 2) to create planning for production and marketing suitable to the way of life of farmers in the highland in fitting with local resource management and daily life of the farmers; and, 3) to study the cost structure of an integrated organic farm and reduction of production cost for native chicken through integrated farming. Results are as follow:

In this study, farmers were able to develop their farm management system on production that involved the use of roughages to reduce cost for commercial feed, learning the method of feed formulation to provide protein based on their needs during cage management period as a requirement for farm standards by the Department of Livestock so as to reduce the risk of infectious diseases during selection of male/female breeders. For production efficiency, farmers raising Pradu Hang-dum chicken using male/female breeders in a ratio of 3:15, were found to produce 5,463 eggs/year (average of 607 eggs/farmer) with hatching percentage of 74.62 and producing 4,078 chicks/year (average of 453 birds/farmer). From these hybrid chicks, farmers were able to produce 3,681 broilers (average of 409 broilers per farmer) with 90 birds selected as male/female breeders.

Analysis of cost structure and cost returns from chick production, results showed that fixed cost was 1,952.14 baht (8.23% of the total cost) and variable cost was about 21,762.70 baht (91.77% of the total cost) with important variable costs such as labor (57.72%), feed (15.51%) and breed (11.39%). Farmers had an average production cost of 22.14 baht. When producing broilers, the average cost was 77.23 baht/kg. Total average cost was 37,902.06 baht which was divided into fixed cost of 1,927.94 baht (5.09%) while variable cost was 35,974.12 baht (94.91%) with 3 important production costs, namely: household labor (36.11%), feed (30.36%) and breed (26.46%) generating an average income of 25,339.4 baht/farmer/year or 2,111.62 baht/farmer/month.

Survey conducted to identify markets for products from a group enterprise by selling 90-100 day old broilers with average weight of 1.2 kg, selling live birds at 110-130 baht but price variation was due to product volume and needs of the consumers during each season.