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Araştırma Makalesi (Research Article)

**Poultry Farmers' Training Needs Analysis in Edo State, Nigeria**

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**Keywords**

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**Abstract:** This study assessed the training needs poultry farmers in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The objectives were to describe the socio-economic characteristics of the poultry farmers, examine the perceived training needs of the poultry farmers, ascertain the sources of information to poultry farmers, determine the sources of assistance to poultry farmers and identify the constraints to the training of poultry farmers. A quota sampling technique was used to select 84 respondents. The study results revealed that the mean age of the respondents was 33years and more of the respondents were male. More of the respondents were married and had an average household of 6 persons. The respondents were educated up to the secondary education level with a mean farming experience of 8 years and extension visits were annual. This study unveiled that respondents lacked competence among others in feed formulation (85.7%) and medication provision (76.2%). The majority of the poultry farmers possess a high level of awareness from cooperative society (75%) as the highest source of information while few of them possess low-level awareness from extension workers (47.6%). Self- help (mean = 3.26) was the highest source of assistance to the poultry farmers. The constraints such as inadequate farming fund (mean = 3.19), inadequate training provision (mean = 3.10) and inadequate input support (mean = 3.08) were considered to be the most serious. It was recommended that extension workers should be ready to make themselves available to farmers monthly.

**Kümes Hayvanı Çiftçilerinin Nijerya, Edo Eyaletindeki Eğitim İhtiyaç Analizi**

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**Öz:** Bu çalışmada, Edo Eyaleti Egor Yerel Yönetim Bölgesi'ndeki kümes hayvanı çiftçilerinin eğitim ihtiyaçlarını değerlendirilmiştir. Çalışmanın amacı, kümes hayvanı çiftçilerinin sosyo-ekonomik özelliklerini tanımlamak, kümes hayvanı çiftçilerinin algılanan eğitim ihtiyaçlarını incelemek, kümes hayvanı çiftçilerine bilgi kaynaklarını tespit etmek, kümes hayvanı çiftçilerine yardım kaynaklarını belirlemek ve eğitimin önündeki kısıtlamaları belirlemektir. kümes hayvanı çiftçileri. 84 deneği seçmek için bir kota örnekleme tekniği

## Anahtar kelimeler

Çiftçiler,  
Bilgi,  
İhtiyaçlar,  
Kümes hayvanları  
Eğitim,  
Teknikler.

kullanılmıştır. Çalışma sonuçları, katılımcıların ortalama yaşının 33 olduğunu ve katılımcıların daha fazlasının erkek olduğunu ortaya koydu. Ankete katılanların çoğu evli ve ortalama haneleri 6 kişiden oluşmaktadır. Ankete katılanlar, ortalama 8 yıllık bir çiftçilik deneyimi ile orta öğretim seviyesine sahiptir ve yayım ziyaretleri yıllık gerçekleşmiştir. Bu çalışma, katılımcıların yem formülasyonu (% 85.7) ve ilaç sağlama (% 76.2) konularında diğerleri arasında yeterlilikten yoksun olduğunu ortaya koymuştur. Kümes hayvanı çiftçilerinin çoğunluğu, en yüksek bilgi kaynağı olarak kooperatif toplumundan yüksek düzeyde bir farkındalığa (% 75) sahipken, bunların birkaçı, yayım çalışanlarından düşük düzeyde farkındalığa (% 47.6) sahiptir. Kendi kendine yardım (ortalama = 3,26) kanatlı çiftçilere en yüksek yardım kaynağı durumundadır. Yetersiz tarım fonu (ortalama = 3.19), yetersiz eğitim sağlanması (ortalama = 3.10) ve yetersiz girdi desteği (ortalama = 3.08) gibi kısıtlamalar en ciddi olanlar olarak kabul edilmektedir. Yayım çalışanlarının, aylık olarak çiftçilere hizmet vermeye hazır olmaları önerilmektedir.

## 1. Introduction

Agriculture remains a key sector in the global economy to sustain industrial and commercial growth. Agriculture is regarded as the most important sector in the economics of the most non-oil exporting countries (Raheem, 2011). As known, agriculture involves various enterprises including poultry production. The poultry sector, according to Evbuomwan (2005) offers the greatest scope of increasing the quality and quantity of animal protein in Nigeria as they account for about 30% of total livestock output of which eggs account for 80%. Commercial poultry is well established in Nigeria with substantial infrastructure on the ground for income generation (Ike, 2011).

Chickens raised intensively for their meat are known as broilers and different breeds that can grow to an acceptable carcass size of 2 kg in six weeks or less (Brown, 2002) chickens raised for egg production purpose are called laying hens (layers). Some hen breeds can produce more than 300 eggs per annum, after which their laying abilities start to defoliate to the point where the birds are undesirable and also sold out for meat. The rising population and urbanization have led to the bulk of production egg in large quantity, with more intensive specialists units, often situated close to where poultry meat and table eggs are needed which in turn results in cheap and safe food for urban communities (FAO, 2002).

The poultry practice has many branches which include eggs and meat production. Poultry feed formulation and compounding, processing, marketing, and commercial sale of eggs and table birds. Poultry production in all its ramification represents one of the most viable and productive forms of the farming enterprise, providing the much-needed animal protein sources to ameliorate the protein shortage factor in the Nigerian food crisis. However, poultry production is faced with many problems, such as high cost of feeding and veterinary drugs, poor quality of commercial feeds due to abuses from the manufacturers, little or no capital investment and poor knowledge on the nutrients and energy requirements of various classes of poultry birds (Raheem, 2011). This culminates in low production and subsequently reduces income which frustrates the business ventures and sometimes leads to financial bankruptcy (Aromolarun, 1999).

Why poultry farmers' training? The poultry practice in Nigerian would play a vital role in the development and strengthen the Nigerian economy when seriously empowered. Poultry farming also provides great employment opportunities for the unemployed faction, thereby serving as a major source of income to the people. However, the usefulness of poultry farming to the Nigerian economy over time has grown to become a popular avenue for the small holders' group which plays a great contribution to the country's economy. These contributions over the years have serious limitations such as unaffordable loans, inadequate partnership, bad farm-market routes, inadequate poultry extension services, poorly subsidized input and assets support. These gaps call for empirical research to provide interventions that will enhance

the poultry industry to assumed greater importance in improving the employment rate and animal food production for Nigerians and export opportunities.

### 1.1. Objectives of the study

The main objective of this study was to examine the perceived training needs of the poultry farmers in Edo State. The specific objectives were to:

- i. describe the socio-economic characteristics of the poultry farmers;
- ii. examine the perceived training needs of the poultry farmers;
- iii. ascertain the sources of information to poultry farmers;
- iv. determine the sources of assistance to poultry farmers, and
- v. identify the constraints to the training of poultry farmers.

#### *Hypothesis*

A null hypothesis was tested in this study

Ho: There is no significant effect between poultry farmers' socio-economic characteristics and their training needs.

### 1.2. Review of related theories and models

*Training theories:* Training is a term, which covers a wide range of activities. Its length could vary from short term training activities such as one-day demonstration to longer-term professional courses which could last for several months (FAO, 2002). Training is an important tool for assisting poultry farmers in the realization of their objectives and goals of rearing poultry birds. Often the farmers are faced with the need to change their techniques or to implement a new way of raising poultry birds. Agricultural extension training programmes may also need to provide farmers with new knowledge and/or with new skills that are necessary to implement a change. Training programmes on poultry is, therefore, a potential solution to the lack of skills and technical know-how of poultry farmers (FAO, 2002).

The agricultural extension training programme in the agricultural sphere is concerned with the constant educating of farmers with new agricultural innovations and methods. To further grasp the meaning of extension training programme, it is important to bring to light more definitions as given by various scholars.

Jamagani (2013) described extension training programme as an applied science that consists of contents derived from various research, accumulated from countless field practice and relevant principles derived from behavioural science which are being synthesized with useful technology into a philosophy, content, principle, and method focused on the problems of out of school education for youths and adults. He also said that "extension training programme is the process of teaching rural farmers on how to live better through the learning of ways and methods that improves their farm and communities".

Madukwe and Obibuaku (1991) also describe extension training programme as a professional method of informal education which is aimed at impacting behavioural changes in farmers known for increasing their income through improved productivity by establishing a strong and lasting bond with researchers for solving farmer's problems also ensuring a regular and adequate supply of information and innovations using proven methods of communication for rapid process of acceptance and adoption of innovations. He further stated on the point that extension training programme as the dissemination of information, knowledge and also innovations to farmers for the improvement of their rural life. While, Miller and Osinik (2002) described extension training programme as a two-way channel that disseminates scientific knowledge, and information to the rural farmers and also conveys the problems of the farmers to the research institutions for solutions, this is a continuous educational process, in which the learner and teacher are both contributors and receivers.

*Training needs assessment theories:* There are many theories which show how training needs assessment can be conducted McGhee and Thayer's theories of 1961 explained training needs assessment

as identifying training on three levels; organization, task and individuals. To design training programs that will satisfy both organizational and human assets, the training programs must be based on an organizational, operational and individual assessment with the use of appropriate techniques and methods to collect data from the three levels (Jamil, 2006).

*Organizational assessment theories:* Organizational examines where and within an organization training emphases could and should be needed. In doing this the objectives of the organization, human resources, climate and efficiency indices must be analyzed.

Organization analysis involves strategic directions of whether the managers and extension agents support the training activity and of what training resources are available (Jayarante, Owen and Jones, 2010). It helps to know if the proposed training will be compatible with the mission of the organization, goals and strategy. However, organization analysis consists of how personal training can help attain the goals of the organization and where the training is needed. It also ascertains the knowledge, skills and abilities that the extension agent will need for the future (Miller and Osinki, 2002)

*Models in Extension Training:* The channel of communication model is called the extension teaching method. According to Raheem (2011), there is a wide range of training models, methods and aids available for utilization, it is not a question of either-or but which method is appropriate for a particular purpose at a specific time and in certain circumstances. The choice of the model generally relies on the number and location of the target audience and the time available for communication. Farmers learn in different ways, some by listening, seeing, acting and others through discussions.

A systematic approach to an agricultural extension training programme is a result of an oriented process designed to ensure that the training programme is effective and also relevant (FAO, 2009). This systematic approach to training programmes consists of appropriate structuring of different activities, which makes up an extensive training programme.

*Task analysis model:* According to McGehee and Thayer (1961) task analysis begins with the nature of the task to be performed on the job and the skill, knowledge and abilities needed to perform such task. It begins with job requirements and compares the extension agent's knowledge and skills to determine training needs. Any gap reveals training needs (Fabusoro et al., 2008). Job analysis is the identification of the purpose of a job, its essential part and specifying what must be learned for effective work performance (Marchington and Wilkinson (2000). Thus, job analysis is the collecting, recording, tabulating and analyzing duties and task, examining the competence that are important for extension agents to perform their jobs, identifying job performance standard, knowledge skills and abilities that are necessary to perform these task. Job description assembles the important components of the job such as the main task and responsibilities, the qualification required and the functional relationship of the job to another job. Identifying job description and specification provides necessary information on expected performances and skills of extension agents needed to accomplish their work. Task analysis answers the question of what job needs training and where the training is needed.

*Individual Analysis Model:* Generally, this theory focuses on determining who should be trained and what training is needed by an individual. In poultry production, it targets individual poultry farmers and how they perform in their job. The individual analysis identifies poultry farmers' performance and compares it with established standards (Stone, 2002). Therefore, this theory is based on how will poultry farmers perform their job and what knowledge skills and abilities they used to conduct this jobs, individual answers the question of which people needs training and what kind of training is needed, to find the answer to this specific question knowledge and skills are to be developed.

## **2. Materials and Methods**

The study was carried out in Edo State. Edo state lies approximately between longitude 5.00' and 5.93' East and latitude 5.00' and 6.63' North (Federal Republic of Nigeria, 2017). It has a total land area of 19,187 square kilometers and about one-third of this is swampy and waterlogged.

*Sampling technique and sample size:* The sample for the study was drawn from the population of poultry farmers in Egor Local Government Area (LGA) of Edo State. A secondary report from the Agricultural

Development Programme (ADP) reveals that the LGA has a total of 120 registered farmers. Registered farmers were used because it enabled the researcher to measure the extent to which the extension workers conducted their activities. Based on this, a quota sampling technique was used to achieve a sample size of 70% of poultry farmers. This resulted in a sample population of 84 poultry farmers as sample size.

*Method of data collection:* Data was collected from respondents with the use of a semi-structured questionnaire. The questionnaire comprises questions relating to training needs, information sources, assistance sources and constraints.

*Measurements of variables:* The socio-economic characteristics example, age was measured in years by asking the respondents to indicate their actual age which enabled the grouping. The data generated were used statistically for frequency count and percentages.

*Perceived training needs of the respondents:* This was measured using a dichotomous scale of “yes” and “no” to obtain the information needed from the respondents this was further calculated using percentage and frequency count.

*Sources of information to poultry farmers:* Various sources of information (e.g. friends, family) were listed out for respondents to indicate as applicable.

*Sources of assistance to poultry farmers:* Various sources of information (e.g. donor agencies) were laid out for respondents to tick as applicable.

*Constraints to training of poultry farmers:* Constraints to the training of poultry farmers was measured using the four (4) point Likert scales with corresponding weight of “strongly agree = 4”, “agree = 3”, “disagree = 2” and “strongly disagree = 1” with a cut-off point of 2.5 ( $4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 10/4 = 2.5$ ).

*Methods of data analysis:* Inferential statistical tools were used to test the stated hypothesis:

$H_{01}$ : There is no significant difference between the socio-economic characteristics of poultry farmers and their training needs. A Logistic Regression Analysis was used to test this hypothesis:

The various statistical approaches below were used for analysis.

*Regression Analysis:* The regression analysis used in the study was similar to that used by Ajieh and Ulakpa (2018). The hypothesis one was analysed by multiple Regression

$H_{01}$ : There is no significant difference between poultry farmers' socio-economic characteristics and their training needs.

Linear, semi-log, double log and logistic forms of regression were used in the analysis. A lead equation was used to make a conclusion based on the following:

Relative magnitude of the  $R^2$

Relative f calculated value of the models

The function that showed more statistical significance

The Logistic Regression Equation is stated as

$$\text{Log}(\pi) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \dots + \beta_m X_m$$

Where

Log = Training needs

$b_0$  = Constant

$b_1$  to  $b_6$  = Regression Coefficient of six variables

$X_1$  = Age of farmers

$X_2$  = Sex of farmers

$X_3$  = Marital status of farmers

$X_4$  = Educational level of the farmers

$X_5$  = Farming Experience

$X_6$  = Household size

$X_m$  = Random error

Semi-log functional form of Regression

$$Y = \log b_0 + b_1 \log X_2 + b_3 \log X_3 + \dots + b_6 \log X_6 + e$$

$$\text{Log } Y = \log b_0 + b_1 \log X_1 + b_2 \log X_2 + b_3 \log X_3 + \dots + b_6 \log X_6 + e$$

Note: independent variables in logistic regression can also be continuous.

*The omnibus test relates to the hypotheses*

$H_0: \beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_k$   
 $H_1: \text{at least one pair } \beta_j \neq \beta_j'$

### 3. Results

#### 3.1 Socio-economic characteristics of respondents

Table 1. Respondents Socio-economic characteristics (n = 84)

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean/Mode
Gender			
Male	47	56	Male
Female	37	44	
Age			
20-24 years	13	15.5	33 years
25-29 years	24	28.6	
30-34 years	14	16.7	
35-39 years	11	13.1	
40-44 years	11	13.1	
45-49 years	8	9.5	
50-54 years	43	3.6	
Marital Status			
Never married	35	41.7	
Married	37	44	
Divorced	6	7.1	
Separated	4	4.8	
Widowed	2	2.4	
Household size			
1-5 persons	43	51.2	6 persons
6-10 persons	35	41.7	
11-15 persons	5	6	
16-20 persons	1	1.2	
Education Level			
No formal education	14	16.7	SSCE
PSLC	11	13.1	
SSCE	22	26.2	
OND/NCE	8	9.5	
B.Sc./HND	21	25	
Postgraduate	8	9.5	
Farming experience (years)			
1-5 years	44	52.4	7.8 years
6-10 years	22	26.2	
11-15 years	6	7.1	
16-20 years	8	9.5	
21-25 years	3	3.6	
26-30 years	1	1.2	
Farm size (Ha)			
Less than 1 Ha	14	16.7	1.8 Ha
1-3 Ha	58	69	
4-6 Ha	11	13.1	
7-9 Ha	1	1.2	
Extension visits			
Weekly	16	19	Annually
Fortnightly	4	4.8	
Monthly	20	23.8	
Quarterly	12	14.3	
Annually	32	38.1	

The result in Table1 shows that respondents' majority (56%) were male. This finding concurs with Jabil (2009) who reported that some of the agricultural activities were performed by males. The mean age of the respondents is 33 years.

More of the respondents (44%) were married. This is in line with the findings of Miller (2004) who reported that agricultural activities were performed by married men and women as they have the sole responsibilities of providing food for their families.

Some of the respondents (26.2%) had at least secondary education while 25% had tertiary education which revealed that there is a high literacy level among farmers in the study area. Respondents' mean in farming experience was 8 years. This result agrees with the finding of Ovharhe (2015) in a study conducted among farmers in the Niger Delta. Respondents mean poultry farm size was 1.8 Ha. Some of the respondents (38.1%) had contact with extension advisers visited once in a year. This implies poor access to extension agents' visits which may be a contributing factor for poor poultry farming in the study area.

### 3.2 Perceived training needs by poultry farmers

Entries in Table 2 shows the perceived training needs of poultry farmers. Results showed that respondents need training in 5 of the 10 skills. These included the 5 professional skills in which the poultry farmers were found to lack competence. Considering a baseline of above 60% used in proxy by Uzokwe and Ovharhe (2011) in the assessment of participatory tools by extension workers, these were: feed formulation (85.7%), medication provision (76.2%), vaccination techniques (72.6%), housing techniques (69%) and brooding techniques (66.7%). Training has been found to enhance farmers' competency and job performance.

Table 2. Respondents perceived training needs ( $n = 84$ )

Variables	Frequency (Multiple responses)	Percentage
Feed formulation	72	85.7*
Medication provision	64	76.2*
Vaccination techniques	61	72.6*
Housing techniques	58	69*
Brooding techniques	56	66.7*
Marketing skills	47	56.0
Stocking density	45	53.6
Litter application and type	44	52.4
Record keeping	44	52.4
Sorting and handling eggs	43	51.2

Cut – off point = 60%; \* implies significant following Uzokwe and Ovharhe, (2011).

### 3.3 Sources of Information to Poultry Farmers

The result in Table 3 shows that respondents get their information more from 5 out of 12 sources of information. These are membership of cooperative society (75%); neighbours (71.4%); television (65.5%) {on poultry news}; contact farmers (63.1%) and town crier (62%). Relevant and available sources of information enlighten farmers' knowledge and change of attitude for improved farming (Farinde *et al.*, 2004).

Table 3. Respondents Sources of Information ( $n = 84$ )

Variables	Frequency((Multiple responses)	Percentage
Cooperative society	63	75.0
Neighbour	60	71.4
Television	55	65.5
Contact farmers	53	63.1
Town crier	52	62.0
Circulars	50	59.5
Internet	49	58.3
Posters	45	53.5
Newspaper	44	52.3
Radio	42	50.0
Leaflets	41	48.8
Extension worker	40	47.6

### 3.4 Sources of Assistance to Poultry Farmers

The information in Table 4 reveals that self-help (mean=3.26) was the highest source of assistance to the poultry farmers in the study area followed by a cooperative society (mean=3.18) and friends (3.00). Banks had the lowest score (mean=1.88) as a source of assistance to poultry farmers in the study area. Surprisingly, ADP provided poor assistance (mean = 2.36). This confirms the findings of Gbigbi and Ovharhe (2017) who reported that the Edo and Delta States extension workers are below average in their job performance rating.

Table 4. Respondents sources of assistance to poultry farmers ( $n = 84$ )

Variables	Strongly disagree(1)	Disagree(2)	Agree(3)	Strongly agree(4)	Score	Mean
Self-help	6	10	24	44	274	3.26
Cooperative society	12	9	15	48	267	3.18
Friends	16	9	19	40	251	3.00
Fadama	7	11	53	13	240	2.86
NGOs	9	13	55	7	228	2.71
ADP	17	24	39	4	198	2.36
Banks	31	33	19	1	158	1.88

Cut-off score = 2.50 ( $\geq 2.50$  = agree;  $< 2.50$  = disagree).

### 3.5 Constraints to training needs of poultry farmers

Results in Table 5 shows that 5 of the 8 mean score constraints were considered most serious. These include: inadequate farming fund (mean = 3.19), inadequate training provision (mean = 3.10), inadequate input support (mean = 3.08), unavailability of loans (mean = 3.06) and poor management techniques (mean = 3.03). These findings concerning constraints to the training of poultry farmers in the study area are in line with the expectation of the researchers. Poor funding for instance can affect the training of poultry farmers by limiting the budgetary allocation for staff training. This assertion corroborates that of Jamagani (2013) who reported that poor funding is one of the major constraints in the implementation of training programmes.



Table 5. Respondents constraints to the training needs of poultry farmers ( $n = 84$ )

Variables	Not very serious (1)	Not serious (2)	Serious (3)	Very serious (4)	Score	Mean
Inadequate farming fund	5	8	37	34	268	3.19
Inadequate training provision	8	10	31	35	261	3.10
Inadequate input support	7	5	46	26	259	3.08
Unavailability of loans	8	5	45	26	257	3.06
Poor management techniques	9	10	34	31	255	3.03
Nonchalant attitudes of field workers	6	18	33	27	249	2.96
Inadequate market outlet	11	8	40	25	247	2.94
Poor feeder road situation	9	13	38	24	245	2.92
Pooled mean = 3.04						

Cut-off score = 2.50 ( $\geq 2.50$  = serious;  $< 2.50$  = not serious).

### 3.6 Test of hypothesis

Ho<sub>1</sub>: There is no significant effect between poultry farmers' socio-economic characteristics and their training needs

#### *Effects of socioeconomic characteristics on training needs*

The regression result on the effects of socioeconomic characteristics on training needs of poultry farmers in the study area (Table 6) shows that gender and frequency of extension visits had a positive effect on housing techniques and were statistically significant at a 10% probability level. While farming experience and household size also had a positive effect on housing techniques and were statistically significant at a 5% probability level. The result of this finding implies that an increase in farming experience and household size will lead to an increase in the farmers' need for training in housing techniques.

Table 6. Effects of socioeconomic characteristics on housing techniques training needs ( $n = 84$ )

Omnibus tests of model coefficients						
Chi-square	Df	Cox & Snell R <sup>2</sup>	Nagelkerke R <sup>2</sup>	Sig		
50.053s	18	0.449	0.632	0.000***		
Variables in the equation						
Variables	B	S.E	Wald	Df	Sig.	Exp (B)
Age	0.055	0.056	0.953	1	0.329	1.057
Gender	2.072	1.068	3.768	1	0.052*	0.126
Marital status	42.382	32964.691	0.000	1	0.999	2.549E+18
Educational level	-1.079	1.576	0.469	1	0.493	0.340
Farming Experience	0.159	0.078	4.185	1	0.041**	1.172
Farm size	-0.035	0.362	0.009	1	0.924	0.966
Household size	-0.401	0.168	5.695	1	0.017**	0.670
Extension visit	2.771	1.482	3.498	1	0.061*	0.063
Constant	-18.329	27144.380	0.000	1	0.999	0.000

\*=significant at 10% and \*\*=significant at 5% .

## 4. Discussion and Conclusion

The mean age of the respondents corresponded with the findings of Goreux (2003) who reported that younger farmers were more willing to participate and adopt new opportunities. The need to provide for the family upkeep there for explains why farming is dominated by married households depending on age factors. Marital Status is an important socioeconomic variable of farmers that determines the status of individuals toward family responsibilities (Adesehinwa et al., 2004). The average household size was 6

persons. Murtala (2004) observed that household size was important in providing rural farmers with labour required for agricultural activities. The educational level of respondents were above average. This was contrary to the findings of Banmeke and Omoregbee (2009) who reported that a higher of farmers have low literacy levels. Educational qualification according to Murtala (2004) plays an important aspect in farmers' adoption of improved technologies and decision making and also improves their ability to evaluate and manage risk. These qualities affect possible improvements in their farm business. Respondents' farm sizes were on the average. Ovharhe (2019) discovered a similar farm size among farmers in the Niger Delta area.

The assessment of the farmers training needs were of great attention because of the gaps that were observed in the results. It was identified that farmers needed more training in marketing skills, stocking density, litter application and type, record keeping, sorting and handling eggs. There is therefore the need to regularly train farmers through various training options to update their skills and enhance their performance (Jasim, 2016).

On sources of information to poultry farmers, it was discovered that farmers need more awareness and sources of information from circulars, internet, posters, newspaper, radio, leaflets and extension worker. Farinde et al. (2004) emphasizes on the importance awareness creation through virtual aids and related media.

Support or technical assistance to farmers were deficient from the ADP and banking sectors. Gbigbi and Ovharhe (2017) recommend that extension workers in ADP, Ministry and the banking institutions need to be empowered for job effectiveness and efficiency. Besides, all the constraints were important and needs revamping which the ADP banking institutions and other stakeholders can play great roles in adequate farming funding, training provision, input support, management techniques and host of other related issues.

The study showed that the majority of the poultry farmers need training in feed formulation, medication provision, vaccination techniques, housing techniques and brooding techniques. Most farmers' sources of information were through a cooperative society. The majority of the poultry farmers get assistance from self-help efforts. The most serious constraints were inadequate farming funds, inadequate training provision and inadequate input support. From the findings of this study, it can be deduced that poultry farmers in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State are still in need of more training.

Based on the outcomes of the study, the following recommendations are valuable:

- i. Training should be conducted where felt needs were recorded such as current techniques in feed formulation, medication, vaccination, housing, and brooding by extension workers.
- ii. Donors in agriculture should be reaching out to poultry farmers among others in farming assistance.
- iii. Extension workers should be available monthly to farmers.

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