

Contribution of the informal market of village chickens to sustainable livelihoods in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa



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Introduction

- ❑ In 2050, the world population is expected to increase by at least 2.5 billion and the demand for animal protein will increase drastically.
- ❑ This suggests creating traditional markets using underutilized animal resources such as village chickens for protein alternatives.
- ❑ Using underutilized animal resources through informal village chicken vending may prevent insufficient conventional protein sources in developing countries that may come with population increase.
- ❑ There has been a growing interest in investigating informal market village chicken in response to the agenda of Sustainable Development Goals.

Objective

- ❑ The objective of this study was to assess and evaluate how the informal market of village chickens contributes to sustainable livelihoods in KwaZulu-Natal.

Materials and Methods

- ❑ The study was conducted in Pietermaritzburg (-29.617°S 30.383°E) and Durban (-29.8120392o: 30.8039474) CBD in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.
- ❑ Durban and Pietermaritzburg Central Business District (CBD) were selected where the informal market for village chickens exists in KwaZulu-Natal.
- ❑ Informal market village chicken vendors were selected randomly based on selling village chickens, and the selection was based on willingness to participate and ownership of village chickens

Statistical Analysis

- ❑ All data were analyzed using SAS (2011).
- ❑ Cramer's V- strength of the association

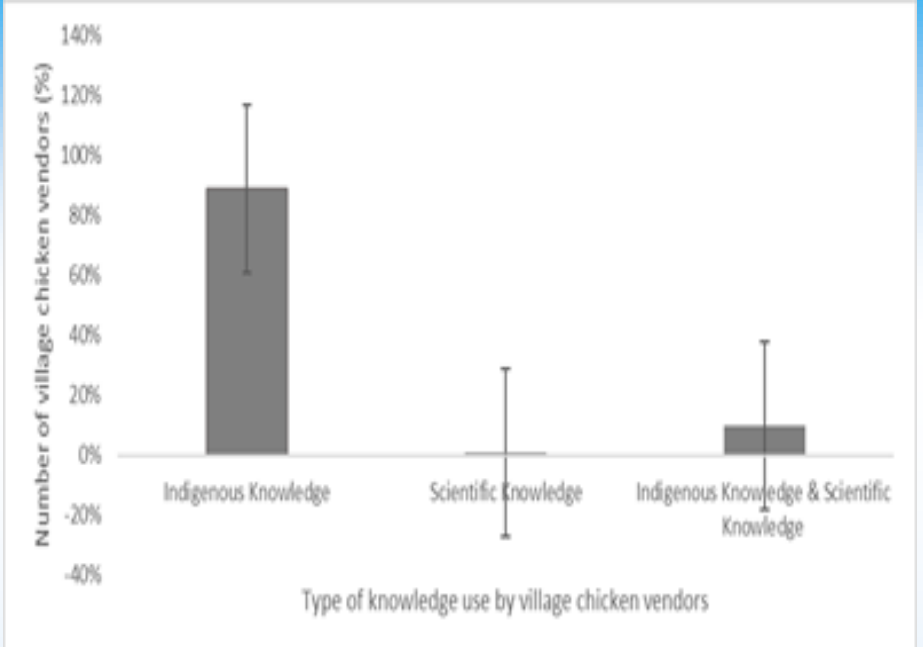


Figure 1



Figure 2

Results and discussion



1. Village chicken vendors depended greatly on indigenous knowledge (89%), followed by combination of indigenous and scientific knowledge (10%) and lastly scientific knowledge (1%).
2. The results (Table 2) indicated that only 11% of village chicken vendors received training with 95% willingness to attend in Pietermaritzburg.
3. Less than 10% of extension officers were available for village chicken vendors to provide knowledge in both Durban and Pietermaritzburg.
4. This is in line with Simbizi et al. (2022) who stated that village chickens are of benefit in South Africa but the sector is underdeveloped.

Associations	Cramer's V	P value
Gender * Age	0.28	NS
Duration of selling * Major source income	0.30	NS
Major source of income * Uses of chickens	0.60	*
Type of chicken preference * Reasons for preference	0.33	NS
Type of breed in demand * Reasons breeds in demand	0.64	NS

1. The association level was measured between the type of breed in demand and the reason for breeds in demand was the strongest (0.64).
2. In addition, the association between gender and age was the weakest (0.28). There was a significant difference (P<0.05) between the major source of income and the uses of chickens.
3. The lowest association compared to the type of breed in demand and reasons for breeds in demand was not significant (P>0.05).
4. In South Africa, village chickens play a significant role socially, traditionally and economically hence this niche is underutilized and poorly managed.

Conclusion

- ❑ The study concludes that village chicken vendors use village chickens to sustain livelihoods in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Even though the market is populated by women from youth, adults and old age.

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