



SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS INFLUENCING ADOPTION OF IMPROVED PRODUCTION PRACTICES AMONG POULTRY FARMERS IN BWARI AND GWAGWALADA AREA COUNCILS OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT: This study examines the socio-economic factors influencing adoption of improved poultry production practices in the Federal Capital Territory Abuja, Nigeria. The specific objectives were to describe the socio-economic characteristics, identify the management practices adopted, determine the socio-economic factors influencing adoption of poultry technologies, and identify the constraints associated with adoption of poultry technologies. Multi-stage sampling technique was adopted to select 180 respondents. Data for the study was generated through the use of questionnaire. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used in analyzing the data. Socio-economic characteristics analysis revealed (67.82%) were male. Majorities (48.85%) were within the age range of 31-40 years with mean age estimated at 41 years. Majority (75.29%) were married. Majority (97.13%) has at least household size of 1-10 people with mean household size of 6 persons. Majority (96.53) had one form of education or the other. Majority (56.89%) had rearing experience of 6-10 years with mean rearing experience of 9 years. Majority (71.26%) adopts the deep litter method. Majority (52.87%) were members of cooperative societies. Majority (58.38%) have extension contacts. Majority (64.94%) own their land through purchase. The coefficient of multiple determinations (R^2) indicates that 69.18% variation in the adoption of poultry production technologies is explained by four variables included in the model namely: education, the coefficient for education (0.234) and significant at 1%; Credit sources, with coefficient (-0.646) and significant at 1%. The value of the coefficient shows that if all other factors are held constant, 1% increase in informal sources of credit will decrease the likelihood of adoption of poultry technologies by 0.646%; Farm size with coefficient of (0.0001), significant at 1% and Membership of association has coefficient of 0.649 and significant at 1%. Major constraints were technology not efficient; lack of fund; high cost of technology and lack of capacity building. Government should grant loans and provide technologies to farmers at subsidized rate.

Keywords: Socio-Economic, Adoption, Management, poultry, Practices

INTRODUCTION

Poultry production is an important part of farming in Nigeria agriculture. People depend on poultry for food and it serves as an additional occupation to supplement the income of small and marginal farm families. The poultry sector has developed such that large scale production is being practiced and a lot of people derive their means of livelihood from poultry and its associated industries. (Rahman *et al.*, 2017) stressed the importance of poultry industry in Nigeria as producing two main products, egg and meat to meet up with the protein demand of the populace. The United States Department of Agriculture-USDA (2013) reported that the Nigerian poultry industry in particular has been rapidly expanding in recent years and is one of the most commercialized sub-sectors of Nigerian agriculture. The poultry enterprise is reported to have employed over 25million people nationwide, directly or indirectly in the commercial poultry production (Action Plan for Poultry Commodity Transformation-APPCT, 2012; Rahman *et al.*, 2017).

Farming methods are still largely traditional, partly because farmers lack finance, modern agricultural technology and know-how to inject into their farming related activities. Rural farmers are further constrained by dwindling earnings from agricultural and non-agricultural activities. Poor infrastructure (inadequate power and water supply)

and low-income owing to low outputs, and the high cost of production may have had adverse implications for the well-being of rural farmers across the states in Nigeria. Nevertheless, agriculture is still the bedrock of their income and food security (Soyemi, 2014; Verter and Becvarova, 2015; World Bank, 2018).

In the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), the chicken has been the most extensively exploited in commercial poultry production and this remains a vital region where investment in poultry farming is immensely serving as source of income to entrepreneurs and subsistence role in backyard practice (Mbodi, 2014). Poultry production can be carried out on small portion of land since the land space is a major problem of agriculture in most part of Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria-Abuja (Udoh, 2010). Although the poultry sector holds an important position for economic development and food security in FCT and Nigeria at large, it still lags behind in terms of production and productivity mainly because of the extensive system of rearing, coupled with poor adoption of improved management practices and lack of improved poultry breeds (Udoh, 2010). This is particularly when compared with what is obtainable in order states of Nigeria.

Several research works had been carried out on poultry farming across FCT-Abuja Nigeria, for instance Ebukiba and Luka (2019) reported on Economic analysis of broiler production in Karu Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, Nigeria; Ewubare and Ozar (2018) examine the effect of poultry production on Agricultural production in Nigeria; Samuel *et al.* (2017) reported on serological survey of Newcastle disease in free ranging local chickens in the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Nigeria; and Sadiq and Mohammed (2017) study the Economic impact of some important viral diseases affecting the poultry industry in Abuja, Nigeria. Past studies recognized that socio-economic characteristics, inputs supply, technical supports, technology characteristics, limitations and constraints may influence the probability of the technology elements adoption (Ermias *et al.*, 2015). Lestrelin *et al.* (2012) reported that environmental and socio-economic factors have significant influence towards adoption and diffusion of agriculture technologies.

However, no empirical studies have been conducted to study adoption of improved poultry farming practice in the FCT and farmer's response to improved poultry technology as a whole. Studies on socio-economic factors influencing farmer's decision to invest on poultry production technologies are scanty or non-existent. Therefore, there is need for information on the socio-economic factors influencing farmer's decision to invest in improved poultry production technology. The study sought to describe the socio-economic characteristics, identify the management practices adopted, and determine the socio-economic factors influencing adoption of poultry technologies.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The Study Area

The study was conducted in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja; the capital city of Nigeria is located in the Centre of Nigeria and has a land area of 8,000 square Kilometers and a population of about 3,464,000 persons as projected at a growth rate of 5.67% from 2020 (NPC 2021). It is bounded on the North by Kaduna State, on the West by Niger State, on the East and south-east by Nasarawa State and on the south-west by Kogi State. The FCT falls within latitude $7^{\circ} 25'N$ and $9^{\circ} 20'N$ of the equator and longitude $5^{\circ} 45'E$ and $7^{\circ} 39'E$ of the meridian. The FCT has Six (6) area councils, Bwari and Gwagwalada area councils were selected for this study. Bwari fall within latitude $9^{\circ} 26'20''N$ and $9^{\circ} 11'10''N$ and longitude $7^{\circ} 18'30''E$ and $7^{\circ} 43'0''E$ while Gwagwalada falls within latitude $9^{\circ} 11'10''N$ and $8^{\circ} 59'30''N$ and longitude $6^{\circ} 61'40''$ and $7^{\circ} 13'50''E$. One beautiful feature about Abuja which it derives from its central location is that it shares the savannah grass with the north. And the overall effect of this is that Abuja has rich soil for agriculture and enjoys an equable climate that is neither too hot nor too cold all year round. The FCT experiences two weather conditions in the year. These are the rainy season which begins around March and runs through October, the dry season (usually characterized by bright sunshine) which begins from October and ends in March. Within these periods, there is a brief period of harmattan occasioned by the north east trade wind, with a resultant dusty haze and intense coldness and dryness. Nevertheless, the high altitude and undulating terrain of the FCT act as a modulating influence which makes the weather always clement.

The study area has a number of ethnic groups speaking different languages. The predominant population comprises the Gwari, Koro, Ganagana, Gwandara, Afo, and Bassa ethnic groups and Hausa and Fulani which are dairy farmers also live in the territory. Farming is one of the occupations of the inhabitants. Some of the crops produce in the area are rice, maize, guinea corn, millet, and beans. Cattle rearing, fish farming, and poultry farming are also practice by

inhabitants. The population of Bwari and Gwagwalada according to National population census as projected (2016) is 402,000 and 581,100 respectively.

Source and Method of Data Collection

Primary data was used for the study which was conducted through the use of a questionnaire to obtained relevant information from the poultry farmers, on the socio-economic factors influencing their adoption of improved poultry technologies.

Sampling Technique

The population for the study comprises of poultry farmers in Bwari and Gwagwalada area councils of FCT Abuja due to the high number of poultry farmers in the areas. Records from Bwari and Gwagwalada area councils indicate that the poultry farmers in these areas are not registered. A multi-stage sampling technique was used. In the first stage, two Local Government Areas with notable population of poultry farmers were purposively selected. Second stage includes purposive selection of the wards from the area councils based on their poultry production capacity. Third stage involves identifying poultry farmers from each ward using the snoball sampling based on concentration of the poultry farmers in the area. The last stage was the random selection of poultry farmers from each ward using Taro Yamanes sample size determination formula at one percent margin of error (Yamane, 1967). Therefore one hundred and eighty (180) questionnaires were administered to poultry farmers in the selected wards as shown in table 1 below; though only one hundred and seventy four (174) were retrieved and analyzed for the study.

$$n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Where:

n=sample size

N=signifies the population under study

E=margin error (5% or 0.05)

Table 1: Sample Size Selection Plan

Council Area	Wards	Number of farmers	Sample size
Bwari	Bwari Central	42	21
	Igu	38	19
	Kubwa	40	20
	Kuduru	34	17
	Ushafa	38	19
Gwagwalada	Dobi	30	15
	Gwagwalada	44	22
	Paiko	34	17
	Tungamaje	24	12
	Zuba	36	18
Total	10 ward	360	180

Source: Pre-field survey 2021

Methods of Data Analysis

Both descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze the objectives of the study.

Descriptive Statistics

The descriptive statistics was used to summarize data in an organized manner by describing the relationship between variables in a sample or population. The descriptive statistics used are frequency, percentage, likert type scale and mean to analyze objective i, and ii.

Multiple Regressions

The socio-economic factors influencing adoption of poultry technologies was determined using ordinary least square (OLS) estimation technique to achieved objective iii. The model specification of the regression analysis is specified below:

$$Y=f(b_1X_1+b_2X_2+b_3X_3+b_4X_4+b_5X_5+b_6X_6+b_7X_7+e_i)$$

Where,

Y = Number of technologies adopted

X₁=Level of education (years spent in school)

X₂=Farming experience (years)

X₃=Source of credit (formal=1,informal=0)

X₄=Farm size (number of birds reared)

X₅=Cost of feed (naira)

X₆=Membership of cooperative (yes=1,no=0)

X₇=Access to extension contact (number of contact)

b₁ – b₇ = estimated Coefficients

X_{nei}=error term

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Socio-economic Characteristics of the Poultry farmers

Sex refers to the biological classification of an individual in terms of gender, that is, either feminine or masculine. It influences the types of economic activities an individual performs. The results obtained showed that 67.82% of the poultry farmers were male while 32.18% were female. This may be attributed to the fact that poultry enterprise is a highly risky venture, labour intensive and characterized by uncertainties which in most cases can only be handled by men. The findings concur with those of Babatunde *et al.* (2012) and Babalola (2014) who reported that the majority of poultry farmers in Nigeria were males. Of course one should expect this since production of birds is highly demanding and very strenuous thus making a low percentage of involvement of the female. The results for age distribution of the respondents in Table 2 revealed that 7.47% of the respondents were within the age bracket of 20-30 years. Most (48.85%) of the respondents were within the age range of 31-40 years. The mean age was estimated at 41 years. The minimum and maximum age were 24 and 70 years respectively. The overall result revealed that most of the respondents fell within the active age of 30-50 years and have potential for optimum productivity. As a result they tend to be innovative, try new technologies, much progressive and operate efficiently than older poultry farmers. This study agrees with the findings of Ebukiba and Luka (2019) who found out that majority (45%) of poultry farmers were between the age range of 31-40 years, while 27.5% were between 21-30 years and the average age of the farmers was 38 years. This study is equally in line with the findings of (Otunaiya *et al.*, 2015) who reported that younger farmers have greater desire to maximize their income.

Marital status refers to the categories of the respondents in the study area who are married, single, widowed or divorced. The distribution of the respondents based on marital status is presented in Table 2. The result revealed that 75.29% of the respondents were married with 20.69% singles, 2.87% widow(er) and 1.15% divorced. The implication of marital status on adoption of improved poultry production technologies is that when the household head are married family labour force tend to increased, then the need to expand the family farming enterprise which will facilitate the adoption of new technologies in order to obtained optimum production. The result agrees with the finding of Rahman *et al.*, (2017) who reported that the larger the household size, the more labour force will be available for the poultry farm day to day activities. Educational level describes the level of formal education attained by individual farmers. According to Omotesho *et al.* (2012) education is a variable that broadens the mental horizon, influences the totality of the mind and predisposes farmers to new ideas, adequate education could enhance farmers understanding and sources of information on improved farm innovations and practices.

The educational distribution of the respondents is presented in Table 2; the findings revealed that 2.87% of the respondents has no formal education. Majority of the respondents had tertiary education (55.17%) while the lowest percentage of the respondents had primary education (0.57%). About 41.38% had secondary education, this implies that majority of the respondents have attained at least a primary education. This result indicates that literacy level is high among the respondents and the implication of this result is that, the highly educated poultry farmers are expected to achieved optimum production as higher education improves farmers ability to make decisions that will maximize his/her benefit. This result is in line with Ebukiba and Luka (2019) who reported that 54.5% of the respondents attended secondary school while 45.5% had tertiary education. This concur with the findings of Ermias *et al.* (2015) opined that the literate farmer was more likely to adopt village poultry technology packages than the illiterate farmers.

Household size is the number of people in the household for each respondent that is the number of people who live together in a single home. The distribution of respondents according to household size is given in Table 2. The result showed that majority (97.13%) of respondents have at least household size of 1-10 people, and 2.30% have household size of 11-15 people while only 0.57% have household size of 16 and above people. The mean household size is 5 persons. The implication is that large household size constitutes family labour, the larger the household the more labour force is available for family farm activities. The result agrees with the report of (Ume, *et al.*, 2016) who reported that the mean of household size was 6 persons.

Table 2: Socio-Economic Characteristics of Poultry Farmers (n = 174)

Variables	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	St. deviation
Sex				
Male	118	67.82		
Female	56	32.18		
Age			41	7.95
20-30	13	7.47		
31-40	85	48.85		
41-50	57	32.76		
51-60	16	9.20		
61 & above	3	1.72		
Marital Status				
Married	131	75.29		
Single	36	20.69		
Divorced\	2	1.15		
Widow(er)	5	2.87		
Level of Education				
Non formal education	5	2.87		
Primary	1	0.57		
Secondary	72	41.38		
Tertiary Education	96	55.17		
Household Size			6	2.79
1-5	83	47.70		
6-10	86	49.43		
11-15	4	2.30		
16 & above	1	0.57		
Farming Experience			8.79	3.63
1-5	31	17.82		
6-10	99	56.89		
11-15	36	20.69		
16 & above	8	4.60		
Source of Credit				
Personal saving	126	72.41		
Cooperative	9	5.17		
Bank loan	21	12.07		
Gift from relatives	18	10.34		
Source of Land				
Inheritance	25	14.37		
Purchased	113	64.94		
Lease	1	0.57		
Place or residence	35	20.11		

The result is in confirmative with (Otunaiya, *et al.*, 2015) who reported that family size is recognize as a major source of labour supply in small holder agricultural production in most African country like Nigeria. Farming (Rearing) experience refers to the periods the farmer had been engaged in poultry production. This may include the knowledge, skills, techniques and experience acquired through continues and consistent period of poultry production. The result in Table 2 revealed that 17.82% of the respondents had rearing experience of 1-5 years. The

result also shows that majority of the respondents (56.89%) had rearing experience of 6-10 years while 25.29% of the respondents had rearing experience of 11-15 years and above. The mean, minimum and maximum rearing experience of the poultry farmers in the study area was 9 years, 2 years, and 23 years respectively. The mean rearing experience of the respondents is 9 years this indicates that the respondents have stayed relatively long enough for them to have gained practical experience about some of the risks and uncertainties associated with poultry production. Given the high risks and uncertainties that poultry farming is associated with, high literacy level coupled with farmers. Experience in poultry farming is expected to have positive impact on their decision to adopt improved poultry technologies. The more experience the poultry farmers have, the more technically efficient they will be in production. An average household head is expected to have the ability to adopt his or her production technology that will minimize loss and maximize his or her benefit. The result shows that majority of the respondents (52.87%) were members of cooperative societies, while 47.13% of the respondents were not members of any cooperative society. In an ideal situation belonging to an association is very important, this enable the fellow to benefit from support of either government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), financial institutions or politicians. Farmers who belong to cooperatives are better informed on resource use and farm planning which enables them to utilize resources more efficiently (Mamman *et al.*, 2016). This result confirmed the report of Babatunde *et al.* (2012) who revealed that cooperative membership has a significant and positive relationship on profitability such that a farmer with memberships status in an association tend to have an increase in income generation potential than a farmer that is not a member of any association. The distribution of respondents by contact to extension services revealed that 83.33% of the respondents had contact with extension agents while 16.67% of the respondents had no contact with extension agents. This is an indication that many of the respondents are early majority who are pragmatists and constitute the first part of the mainstream. The implication is that majority (83.33%) of the poultry farmers have adopted new technologies which increase production. This concur with Ujang *et al.* (2012) who opined that extension services to poultry farmers is an important incentive in farm production as it aids information dissemination and adoption of innovation thereby increasing production. Financial working capital is crucial in any business enterprise. It can be obtained through loans from credit institutions or family savings. The distribution of the respondents according to access to credit is shown in Table 2. The result revealed that 72.41% use their personal savings, 5.17% through cooperative, 12.07% through bank loans and 10.34% through gift from relatives. This indicates that only 12.07% actually have access to credit from financial institutions the majority average 87.92% of the respondents do not received credit from formal sources. This may be due to the high interest rate charge by these lending organizations. Land is an important factor of production thus having a land for agricultural purpose could determine to a large extend the scale of farming operation a farmer may undertake. The distribution of respondents by source of land for poultry production is presented in Table 2. The result showed that 14.37% of the respondents acquired their land through inheritance, 64.94% through purchase, only 0.57% through lease, while 20.11% of the respondents used their place of residence for poultry production. Majority of the respondents own their land through purchase this is due to the fact most of land space in the FCT are owned by the government and only few individuals have inherited land space. This study is in line with Udo, (2010) who reported that Poultry production can be carried out on small portion of land since the land space is a major problem of agriculture in most part of Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria-Abuja. This finding is not in conformity with Gororo and Kashangura (2016) who reported that majority (67%) of the poultry producers owned their land through inheritance, 19% used rented housing, while 14% used employer provided housing.

Management Practices

The intensive management system which is classified as battery cage and deep litter methods is the most commonly used in the study area. The distribution of respondents according to rearing management system identified as shown in Table 3. The results revealed that majority (71.26%) of the respondents adopt the deep litter method while 28.74% adopted the battery cage method of production. These systems are used by medium to large-scale commercial enterprises, and are also used at the household level. Birds are fully confined either in houses or cages. Capital outlay is higher and the birds are totally dependent on their owners for all their requirements. These systems are usually adopted where land is limited and expensive. This concurs with Mgbakor and Chinonso. (2013) they opined that majority (95.33%) practiced deep litter system of management while 4.65% engaged in battery cage of which is mainly imported from developed countries, whereas deep litter system can be practiced under wooden houses using wood shavings which is readily available and cheaper. This result is contrary with Ebukiba and Luka (2019) who reported that 65% practiced battery cage system while 35% practiced both deep and battery cage system of broiler management in the study area.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents based on Management Practices

Management Practices	Frequency	Percentage
Deep Litter Method	124	71.26
Battery Cage Method	50	28.74
Total	174	100.00

Factors Influencing the Adoption of Improved Poultry Technologies Diagnostic Test

To identify factors influencing the adoption of improved poultry technologies of the respondents, socio-economic characteristics of household were regressed against their adoption of improved poultry technologies indices and the result is presented in Table 4. The diagnostic test results in Table 4. revealed that the Ramsey Reset test and Breusch-pagan/Cook-weisberg test for heteroskedasticity were not statistically significant different from zero at 5% probability level. Similarly, the Variance Inflation factors (VIF) with respect to all the independent variables included in the model were less than the threshold level of ten. The model therefore is not spurious and fits the data analysis and interpretations of the results.

Table 4: Diagnostics test Result

Type of test	Value	Probability
Ramsey RESET test	1.47	Prob>F=0.3991
Breusch-pagan/Cook-weisberg test for heteroscedasticity	0.02	Prob>chi2=0.8753
Variance Inflation Factor (VIF)	X1=1.38 X2=1.25 X4=1.22 X6=1.15 X7=1.13 X5=1.04 X3=1.04	

Factors Influencing the Adoption of Improved Poultry Technologies

The determinants of adoption of poultry technologies by respondents in Table 5 in which the linear model gave the best fit on the basis of economic, statistical and econometrics criterion revealed that; the coefficient of multiple determinations (R^2) indicated that 69.18% variation in the adoption of poultry production technologies in the study area is explained by the variables included in the model. Four variables namely; education, sources of credit, farm size, and membership of association were significant. Year of formal education attained by respondents is positively correlated to adoption of poultry technologies and significant at 1%. This could be expected because, education enables individuals to make rational thinking and choose the combination of technology that can boost their farming activities. The coefficient for education (0.234) shows that 1% increase in years of formal education by respondents will lead to increase in adoption of more poultry technologies by 0.234%. Credit sources by respondents negatively influence the adoption of poultry technology. This is obvious since informal sources of credit are given a small amount which could be redeemed within a short period of time. The value of the coefficient shows that if all other factors are held constant, 1% increase in informal sources of credit will decrease the likelihood of adoption of poultry technologies by 0.646% in the study area. Number of birds reared (farm size) of the respondents positively influences adoption of improved poultry technologies.

The coefficient of the variable is positive and statistically significant at 1%. This means that 1% increase in the number of birds reared will increase adoption of technologies in the area by 0.001%. Membership of association is an association of persons, voluntarily united to meet their socio-economic needs and aspiration through a jointly owned and controlled business enterprise. This variable of the respondents has a positive influence on adoption of improved poultry technologies in the study area. The coefficient of the variable is positively significant at 1%. This indicates that membership has a significant and positive relationship on profitability such that a farmer with membership status in an association tend to have an increase in income generation potential than a farmer that is not a member of any association. The implication of this result is that with 1% increase in membership, the probability of the adoption of technologies will be increased by 0.649%. This collaborates the report of Babatunde *et al.* (2015) who revealed that cooperative membership has a significant and positive relationship on profitability such that a

farmer with membership status in an association tend to have an increase in income generation potential than a farmer that is not a member of any association.

Table 5: Factors Influencing Adoption of Poultry Production Technologies

Variables	Coefficient	Standard error	t-ratio
Education (X ₁)	0.023	0.029	7.96***
Farming experience (X ₂)	0.026	0.028	0.96
Sources of credit (X ₃)	-0.646	0.187	-3.46***
Farm size (X ₄)	0.0001	0.00002	4.65***
Cots of feed (X ₅)	0.003	0.006	0.55
Membership of association (X ₆)	0.649	0.152	4.28***
Extension contact (x ₇)	0.012	0.009	1.38
Constant	-15.963	29.608	-0.54

***=Significant at 1% probability level; R-squared=0.6918; R-squared Adjusted=0.6745; F-statistic=34.38; Prob>F= 0.000; Number of observation=174; Root MSE = .9115

Constraints Associated with Adoption of Poultry Technologies

The poultry industry experience a lot of constraints which eventually affects their production output level thus making it an unprofitable venture. Different kinds of constraints are faced by the poultry farmers in the country which translates to their inefficiency. The constraints face by farmers in the study area by the respondents is presented in Table 6. The result revealed that major constraints of the respondents in the study area was technology not efficient with mean of (2.07), lack of fund (2.90), high cost of technology (2.84), and lack of capacity building with a mean of (2.18). However access to information with a mean of (1.96) and unavailability of technology (1.81) were not significant to adoption of poultry technologies in the study area. This should be expected because most of these technologies come with their constraints. The associated constraints were that most of the technologies were not efficiently utilized by the farmers. Others do not have the financial power to obtained the technologies, also high cost of the technologies itself was a major constraint in their adoption and lack of capacity building as well limit adoption.

Table 6: Constraints to Adoption of Poultry technologies

s/n	Constraints	Very serious (3)	Serious (2)	Not serious	Total score	Mean
1	Access to information	28(16.09)	111(63.79)	35(20.11)	341	1.96
2	Unavailability of technology	15(8.62)	106(60.92)	53(30.46)	310	1.81
3	Technology not efficient	28(16.09)	130(74.71)	16(9.20)	360	2.07
4	Lack of fund	160(91.95)	11(6.32)	3(1.72)	505	2.90
5	High cost of technology	150(86.21)	21(12.07)	3(1.72)	495	2.84
6	Lack of capacity building	45(26.01)	117(67.63)	11(6.36)	380	2.18

*Multiple responses

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study focuses on the socio-economic factors influencing the adoption of improved production practices among poultry farmers in Bwari and Gwagwalada area councils of Abuja, Nigeria. The findings reveal that improved poultry production technologies have been disseminated in the study area. Both male and female farmers have adopted these improved technologies, and they possess varying levels of education. The adoption of technologies is observed among farmers operating large-scale farm enterprises in the study area.

It is essential to encourage other poultry farmers in the study area to embrace factors influencing production practices. Policies aimed at subsidizing the cost of technologies should be implemented to facilitate broader adoption among farmers in the area.

Recommendations:

1. Farmers should sustained and encourage others to adopt factors influencing production practices positively such as education, farm size and membership of association.

2. Government and Non-Governmental organizations should develop and implement policies aimed at subsidizing cost of technologies so as to provide these technologies to farmers at a reduced price.

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