

Profile of Layer Farmers in South Sulawesi Province, Indonesia

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Abstract

The study aims to analyze the profile of poultry breeders in South Sulawesi with a focus on age, education, gender, business scale, breeding age, and annual income. The data was obtained from a survey of poultry farmers in eight districts in South Sulawesi, including Maros, Gowa, Sidrap, Pinrang, Enrekang, Takalar, Bone, and Pangkep. The results show that the majority of farmers are in the age range of 41–50 years with an average education at the high school level, and they are mostly male. Farming enterprises are dominated by small scales, with most farmers having 1–10 years of experience. Annual income varies, with most income exceeding IDR 100 million. These findings indicate that additional support in the form of training, dissemination, and access to financial services is urgently needed to increase the productivity and well-being of farmers, especially for those with small and medium-sized enterprises.

Keywords: profile, layer chicken, layer farmer

1. Introduction

The layer farming industry is one of the strategic sectors in agribusiness that plays an important role in fulfilling animal protein needs. South Sulawesi, as one of the regions with significant egg production in Indonesia, has great potential for the development of layer farming. Understanding the profile of layer farmers in this region, including age, education, gender, business scale, length of farming, and annual income, is important in order to formulate policies that support increased productivity and welfare of farmers.

In South Sulawesi, layer farms are spread across districts such as Sidrap, Maros and Gowa. Farmers in these areas show variations in demographic and socio-economic terms. Farmers' age can influence productivity and innovation in the farming business. Younger farmers may be more open to new technologies and modern management practices, while older farmers may have rich experience but must be more adaptive to change.

Education is also an important factor affecting farmers' ability to manage their businesses. Higher levels of education usually correlate with better managerial skills and a deeper understanding of the technical aspects of animal husbandry. In addition, the farmer's gender can also influence the dynamics of the farm business. Although men often dominate layer farming,

the role of women in farm management and operations must be addressed.

The scale of farming varies from small to large enterprises. Larger-scale farmers usually have better access to capital, technology, and markets. In contrast, small-scale farmers often face constraints in terms of access to resources and marketing of produce. The length of farming is also an important indicator that shows the farmer's level of experience and knowledge in dealing with challenges in the business.

Annual income from a livestock business reflects its economic success. This income is influenced by various factors, including business management, feed quality, animal health, and market conditions. Farmers' annual income profiles can provide insight into the welfare and sustainability of livestock enterprises in South Sulawesi.

This study aims to provide a comprehensive picture of the profile of layer farmers in South Sulawesi based on the demographic and socio-economic variables mentioned above. By understanding this profile, more targeted development policies and strategies can be formulated.

2. Literature Review

Several previous studies have examined the profile of layer farmers and the factors that influence the success of these farms. According to (Burton, 2014; Sapbamrer & Thammachai, 2021), demographic characteristics such as age, education, and farmer experience significantly impact productivity and business sustainability. A study by (Van Vu et al., 2019) shows that education and farming experience can positively affect production efficiency and farm management.

According to Ntshangase et al. (2018), farmer age can affect business sustainability. Younger farmers tend to be more innovative in applying new technologies and management practices. This approach is important in facing challenges such as fluctuating feed prices and increasing production costs.

Gender is also a significant factor in the farmer profile. Although few, female farmers tend to have a different approach to managing livestock enterprises, focusing on livestock welfare and environmental sustainability (Tourtelier et al., 2023).

Business scale is also an important consideration in farmer profiles. Small-scale farmers may face different challenges compared to large-scale farmers, including access to markets and technology (Dhillon & Moncur, 2023).

Length of farming experience can also influence the success of a livestock business. Farmers who have been in the business for a long time tend to have greater experience and knowledge, which can help them overcome challenges that arise (Kahan, 2010).

Annual income is an important indicator of the success of a livestock enterprise. A stable and adequate income can ensure the sustainability of the farmer's business and improve the overall welfare of the farmer (Tenrisanna & Kasim, 2021).

3. Research Method

This study used a descriptive approach using primary data obtained through questionnaires distributed to layer chicken farmers in South Sulawesi Province spread across eight districts, including Maros, Gowa, Sidrap, Pinrang, Enrekang, Takalar, Bone and Pangkep districts. The research sample was taken by simple randomization from the population of layer farmers in South Sulawesi. The sample size in this study was 150 people. The data collected were then analyzed using descriptive statistical methods.

4. Finding and Discussion

The respondents in this study are divided into several profiles: age, education level, gender, business scale, length of time breeding, and annual income. Table 1 shows the demographic profile of Layer Chicken Farmers in South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Table 1. Demographic profile of laying hen farmers in South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

Description	Criteria	Frequency	Percentage % (n =150)
Age (Years)	20-30	33	22
	31-40	38	25
	41-50	45	30
	51-60	34	23
Education	Didn't go to school/didn't finish elementary school	15	11
	elementary school	20	13
	Junior High School	29	19
	Senior High School	43	29
	Diploma (D3)	5	3
	Bachelor's Degree (S1)	38	25
Gender	Male	132	88
	Female	18	12
Business Scale (heads)	≤ 10000	105	70
	10001-20000	24	16
	20001-30000	6	4
	30001-40000	0	0
	40001-50000	3	2
	50001-60000	3	2
	>60000	9	6
Length of Farming (Years)	1 s/d 10	102	68

	11 s/d 20	41	27
	21 s/d 30	6	4
	>30	1	1
Annual Income	>25-50 juta	10	7
	>50-75 juta	35	23
	>75-100 juta	20	13
	>100 juta	85	57

The results showed that the majority of layer farmers in South Sulawesi are in the 41-50 age range. As many as 30% of the total respondents are in this age group, indicating that layer farms are dominated by individuals who are productive and have sufficient experience to manage the farm business.

Most farmers have a high school education. A total of 29% of respondents completed their education at the senior high school level, while 43% had an education below senior high school and 28% had an education above senior high school. This diverse level of education shows that while formal education is important, many farmers rely on practical experience in managing their businesses.

The study found that 88% of layer farmers are male, while 12% are female. Although animal husbandry is often considered a male-dominated field, the significant contribution of female farmers shows the important role played by women in this industry.

The profile of layer farmers in South Sulawesi shows that individuals of productive age with varying levels of education dominate the business. Although animal husbandry is often considered a male-dominated field, the significant contribution of female farmers indicates the potential for further development.

The scale of layer farming in South Sulawesi varies. 70% of farmers have a small-scale business with less than 10,000 birds, 16% have a medium-scale business with 10,001 to 20,000 birds, and 14% have a large-scale business with more than 20,001 birds. These varying business scales indicate diversity in the capacity and resources of farmers.

Most layer farmers in South Sulawesi have run their businesses for 1 to 10 years. 68% of the respondents had 1 to 10 years of farming experience, while 27% had between 11 to 20 years of experience, and 5% had more than 21 years of experience. Longer farming experience is usually associated with overcoming challenges and improving productivity.

Variations in business scale and length of farming experience indicate diversity in farmers' capacities and resources. Small-scale farmers may face different challenges compared to large-scale farmers, including access to markets and technology. Longer farming experience is usually associated with overcoming challenges and improving productivity. In comparison, farmers with less experience may need additional support in the form of training and extension.

The annual income of layer farmers in South Sulawesi also varies. Seven percent of farmers

have an annual income in the middle range (between IDR 25 million and IDR 50 million), 23 percent have income (between IDR 50 million and IDR 75 million), 13 percent have income (between IDR 75 million and IDR 100 million), and 57 percent have income of more than IDR 100 million. These variations in income reflect differences in business scale, management, and production efficiency.

The variation in annual income reflects differences in the efficiency and productivity of livestock enterprises. Farmers with higher incomes tend to have larger business scales and better management. Therefore, efforts are needed to improve the capacity and efficiency of small and medium-scale farmers through technical support and access to financial services.

Overall, this study's results show that despite various challenges, the layer farming industry in South Sulawesi has great potential for growth. Support from the government and relevant institutions in training, extension, and access to financial services can help farmers improve their productivity and welfare.

5. Conclusion

This study shows that layer farmers in South Sulawesi are dominated by individuals aged 41-50 years with an average education of senior high school level, and most are male. Farm businesses are predominantly small-scale, with most farmers having 1 to 10 years of experience. Annual income varies, with most earning more than IDR 100 million. Additional support in the form of training, extension, and access to financial services is needed to improve the productivity and welfare of farmers, especially for those with small and medium-scale enterprises.

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