

“Obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Salah al-Din Governorate / Iraq”

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Abstract. The aim of the research to identify the size of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Saladin Governorate / Iraq in general, and to identify the size of the obstacles in each of the following areas of research: (administrative problems facing broiler breeders, financial problems related to the processing aspect facing breeders Broiler chickens, production problems facing broiler breeders, marketing problems facing broiler breeders, guidance problems facing broiler breeders) and arranging the research areas according to the size of the obstacles facing broiler breeders. The research included all broiler breeders who own breeding halls and have broiler rearing licenses from the Salah al-Din Agriculture Directorate, their number (585) breeders officially registered in the records of the Salah al-Din Agriculture Directorate and who are distributed in the districts and districts of the governorate. A random sample was chosen from the breeder community with a percentage of (25%) of breeders, bringing the number of respondents who underwent research procedures to (146) breeders. The results in the objective showed that 51.36% of the respondents fall into the category of major obstacles, which is the highest percentage. We conclude from this that there are real obstacles that threaten the profession of raising broiler chickens in the governorate. Salahaddin. In light of the results and conclusions reached by the research, it is recommended that the Agricultural Extension Center and the Veterinary Clinic prepare educational extension training activities to provide broiler breeders in Salah al-Din Governorate with the theoretical and applied information and expertise necessary to protect broilers from the most important diseases and provide them with financial support represented by treatments.

Keywords: obstacles, broiler chicken

Introduction and research problem:

Countries of the world seek to achieve integrated agricultural development, and for this reason they have adopted many methods and means to develop their agriculture, including: the use of modern agricultural techniques, which is an important element in agricultural development that focuses on the optimal exploitation of the unit of cultivated area to maximize agricultural production in it (1). Thus, modern agricultural technologies have begun to play an important role in developing food security conditions through their contribution to increasing productivity, reducing production costs, and improving its

quality. These modern innovations include the use of agricultural mechanization and improved animal breeds, the use of modern technologies in the field of animal and plant genetic improvement, and the use of modern systems in the field of Diagnosing and developing plant and animal diseases (2). Agriculture is the leading sector in the economies of developing countries, as agricultural development is the key to economic development in many developing countries. It is also the starting point for economic development and breaking the cycle of stagnation that developing countries suffer from (3). It is also difficult to imagine a

fundamental change in The country's productivity base if agriculture is neglected and looked to as a secondary sector. The agricultural sector plays a distinctive role in the economies of many countries of the world, both developed and developing, and countries around the world strive to develop and grow the agricultural sector to satisfy the food needs of their populations and provide the necessary raw materials for many industries (4). Agriculture is still the primary source of providing food for humans, and the importance of agriculture increases if we know the extent of the dynamic imbalance existing between the increasing need for food on the one hand, and what is available on the other hand. The seriousness of the food problem and the role that agriculture must play in this field, in addition to the role The positive role that this sector can play in the exports of Arab countries and the provision of surplus foreign currency (5).

Breeding broilers has an important place in economic and social development programs in most developing countries. This is due to the major role played by the agricultural sector in supporting and strengthening the national economy of those countries in facing the increasing demand for agricultural food or industrial commodities, in addition to providing the surplus of them in foreign currency. There is no doubt that the development of the poultry industry requires the proverbial usage of modern techniques and technology and communication with the relevant authorities in this regard. The poultry industry and its development are considered one of the most important branches of animal production and in need of development (6). Poultry is one of the most important sources of livestock in the agricultural sector in Iraq, as it gives a high nutritional value among the meat

of various animals, and is distinguished from larger animals by the speed of the production cycle and thus the speed of the capital cycle (7).

Although raising chickens is one of the most important and prominent activities, it has been noted that breeders lack knowledge of modern and sound methods and methods for taking care of raising chickens in terms of methods of feeding, housing, and health care, which reflects positively on the high rate of productivity and increasing the income of rural families through marketing the product as well as improving the situation. Food for the family by consuming local products (8), and in light of this, poultry farming has become a tangible reality through which the importance of managing herds, poultry farms and what is in them and entrusting them to qualified individuals is evident. This huge development and intensive breeding has resulted in this industry being exposed to major health and disease problems and consequently material losses. It is catastrophic because healthy broilers are considered the basis of profit, while infected broilers are the ones that cause economic losses. It is difficult to avoid all the losses that befall the broiler breeding sector, but they can be mitigated by following health and disease control programs (9). These problems may be attributed to administrative or guidance issues, or the low level of knowledge of broiler breeders regarding the scientific foundations involved in breeding processes, and to other reasons that will be revealed through the current research. Salah al-Din Governorate is one of the important governorates of Iraq in agricultural production, both plant and animal, as raising broilers is considered one of the prominent activities in the governorate and is spread in many of its areas and districts.

Breeding broilers is affected by many factors (10), and despite the abundance of capabilities and resources in Iraq in general, Salah al-Din in particular, but there is still a noticeable shortage in local production and the failure to achieve self-sufficiency in broiler products, which is due to several reasons that led to the faltering and reluctance of projects to advance this sector, and the most important of these reasons may be exposure to many risks and problems, including Productive Risks Hence the idea of this research came to identify the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Salah al-Din Governorate / Iraq. Based on the above, the following questions came to mind:

- What is the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Saladin Governorate / Iraq in general?
- What is the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Salah al-Din Governorate / Iraq in each field of research?

Research objectives: The research aimed to achieve the following:

- 1- Identify the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Salah al-Din Governorate / Iraq in general.
- 2- Identify the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Salah al-Din Governorate / Iraq in each of the following areas: (administrative problems facing broiler breeders, financial problems related to the processing aspect facing broiler breeders, production problems facing broiler breeders Broiler chickens, marketing problems facing broiler breeders, guidance problems facing broiler breeders.
- 3- Arranging the research areas according to the size of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in each field.

research importance:

Given the important role that animal production plays in the agricultural sector and national agricultural wealth in general, in addition to the importance and special care that farmers give to domestic animals, especially broiler chickens; Because, from their point of view, they represent the best types of investments, and given the many problems, difficulties and obstacles facing this vital sector, which limit its launch and advancement, it is therefore necessary for the agricultural extension system to work at its various levels to identify the most important or prominent problems facing educators in the fields of study.

Procedural definitions

1- Broiler chicken: These are chickens that are raised indoors for the purpose of producing meat during a rearing period of up to (8) weeks. The meat of this chicken is characterized by its ease of digestion, tenderness, and containing a high percentage of proteins.

2- Breeders: They are the people responsible for raising broiler chickens.

Determine the study population and sample:

The research included all broiler breeders who own breeding halls and have broiler rearing licenses from the Salah al-Din Agriculture Directorate, who number (585) breeders officially registered in the records of the Salah al-Din Agriculture Directorate and who are distributed in the districts and districts of the governorate. A random sample was chosen from the breeder community with a percentage of (25%) of the educators, bringing the number of respondents who underwent the research procedures to (146) educators, and the initial test sample of (30) educators was excluded from the research sample.

Design the questionnaire form:

A questionnaire form was designed as a tool for collecting data related to the research, as it is appropriate for the research methodology followed. The questionnaire is an appropriate data collection tool for obtaining objective and realistic data, information and facts through which the research objectives can be achieved. The questionnaire form consisted of two parts as shown below:

- The first part: includes questions related to all the independent variables included in the research, which are: (age, educational level, number of years of raising broilers, number of halls, ownership of the field, type of hall, dedication to raising broilers, tendency towards raising broilers, contacting sources the information) .

- Part Two: Identifying the problems facing broiler rearing from the point of view of breeders in Salah al-Din Governorate in each of the following areas: (administrative problems facing broiler breeders, financial problems related to the processing aspect facing broiler breeders, production problems facing broiler breeders. Broiler breeders face, marketing problems facing broiler breeders, guidance problems facing broiler breeders.

Measuring validity and statistical methods:

The questionnaire was presented to a number of experts in agricultural extension,

psychology, animal production, and veterinary medicine for the purpose of achieving face validity and content validity. After making the required modifications, the process of collecting data from the initial sample took place, where the Cronbach alpha method was used to calculate reliability, and the value of the reliability coefficient reached the full value (0.88). To obtain the validity of the scale, the square root of the reliability was taken, which had a value of (0.93), as the reliability of the scale is acceptable if its value reaches (0.70) or more. After applying the conditions of reliability and validity to the items of the scale, the questionnaire is ready to collect data. Thus, the questionnaire is ready. To collect the final data, the data was collected, transcribed, and processed statistically using Excel and Spss.

Results and discussion

The first goal: to identify the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Salah al-Din Governorate in general.

The results showed that the lowest value of obstacles for educators was 99 degrees, and the highest value was 297 degrees, with an arithmetic average of 198.5. The respondents were divided into three categories using the range law, as shown in Table (1):

Table (1) Distribution of respondents according to categories of obstacles facing broiler breeders in general

Average Obstacles	%	Number	Categories
142	14.40	21	Minor obstacles(99-165)
211	34.24	50	Moderate disabilities(166-232)
242	51.36	75	Major obstacles(233- And more)
SD=21.72	100%	146	Total

It is clear from Table (1) that 51.36% of the respondents were in the category of major obstacles, which is the largest percentage,

followed by the category of moderate obstacles, at 34.24%. As for the category of small obstacles, the percentage reached

14.40%, which is the lowest percentage. Therefore, the level of obstacles is described as major obstacles that tend to Medium obstacles. This increase in obstacles is due to reasons including the fact that there are obstacles. These obstacles are divided into administrative, financial, production, marketing and guidance obstacles, and these appear clearly in the reasons for the reluctance of some breeders to raise broiler chickens in Salah al-Din Governorate, and a large number of halls have been closed. Because of these problems.

The second goal: to identify the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in the areas of Salah al-Din Governorate in each of the following areas:

The first field: Administrative obstacles facing broiler breeders

The results showed that the lowest value of obstacles for educators was 15, and the highest value was 45, with an arithmetic mean of 30.9 and a standard deviation of 3.33. The respondents were divided into three categories using the range law, and the highest percentage appeared within the category of major obstacles, as shown in Table (2):

Table (2) Distribution of respondents according to categories of administrative obstacles facing broiler breeders

Average Obstacles	%	Number	Categories
19	24.8	36	Minor obstacles(15-24)
29	30.8	45	Moderate disabilities(25-34)
41	44.5	65	Major obstacles(35-and more)
SD=3.33	%100	146	Total

It is clear from Table (2) that 44.5% of the respondents fall into the category of major obstacles, which is the highest percentage, followed by the category of medium obstacles, at 30.8%. As for the category of small obstacles, the percentage reached 24.7%, which is the lowest percentage. Therefore, the level of obstacles facing broiler rearing is described. From the point of view of breeders, they are major obstacles that tend to be moderate obstacles. The high obstacles in this field may be attributed to reasons including the lack of experience in scientific methods for managing a broiler farm and the lack of competence of the workers responsible for managing the field, in addition to the difficulty

of obtaining a permit to open the fields, and the absence of... Government support for breeders, whether with treatments or fodder, and complex administrative procedures for obtaining loans from the Agricultural Bank.

The second field: Financial obstacles related to the processing aspect facing broiler breeders

The results showed that the lowest value of obstacles for educators was 24 and the highest value was 68, with an arithmetic mean of 45.39 and a standard deviation of 10.71. The respondents were divided into three categories using the range law, and the highest percentage appeared within the category of major obstacles, as shown in Table (3):

Table (3) Distribution of respondents according to categories of financial obstacles related to the processing aspect facing broiler breeders

Average Obstacles	%	Number	Categories
32	20.6	30	Minor obstacles(24-38)

47	31.5	46	Moderate disabilities(39-53)
61	47.9	70	Major obstacles(54-68)
SD=10.71	%100	146	Total

It is clear from Table (3) that 47.9% of the respondents fall into the category of major obstacles, which is the highest percentage, followed by the category of medium obstacles, at 31.5%. As for the category of small obstacles, the percentage reached 20.6%, which is the lowest percentage. Therefore, the level of obstacles facing broiler rearing is described. From the point of view of breeders, they are major obstacles tending to moderate obstacles. The high obstacles in this field may be attributed to reasons including the high material cost of building the structure of the halls, the cost of purchasing fuel, feed, and treatments, and the high cost of manpower to

manage the broiler breeding fields, in addition to the impact of the fluctuation of the dollar exchange value on Prices of production requirements and an increase in the purchase prices of chicks.

The third field: Production obstacles facing broiler breeders

The results showed that the lowest value of obstacles for educators was 29 and the highest value was 85, with an arithmetic mean of 58.4 and a standard deviation of 11.18. The respondents were divided into three categories using the range law, and the highest percentage appeared within the category of major obstacles, as shown in Table (4):

Table (4) Distribution of respondents according to categories of production obstacles facing broiler breeders

Average Obstacles	%	Number	Categories
40.2	27.4	40	Minor obstacles(29-47)
57.3	32.2	47	Moderate disabilities(48-66)
78	40.4	59	Major obstacles(67-85)
SD=11.18	100%	146	Total

It is clear from Table (4) that 40.4% of the respondents fall into the category of major obstacles, which is the highest percentage, followed by the category of medium obstacles, at 32.2%. As for the category of small obstacles, the percentage reached 27.4%, which is the lowest percentage. Therefore, the level of obstacles facing the raising of broiler chickens is described. From the point of view of breeders, they are major obstacles tending to moderate obstacles. The high obstacles in this area may be attributed to reasons including lack of experience with disease prevention programs (in terms of their types and timing), the problem of increasing losses

due to the long period of fattening broiler chickens, spending additional amounts of feed, and the difficulty Control and control of the old halls, in addition to the weak effectiveness of some medicines (due to unreliable pharmaceutical companies).

Fourth field: Marketing obstacles facing broiler breeders:

The results showed that the lowest value of obstacles for educators was 18 and the highest value was 54 with an arithmetic mean of 32.5 and a standard deviation of 5.31. The respondents were divided into three categories using the range law, and the highest

percentage appeared within the category of major obstacles, as shown in Table (5):

Table (5): Distribution of respondents according to categories of marketing obstacles facing broiler breeders

Average Obstacles	%	Number	Categories
22	13.7	20	Minor obstacles(18-29)
34	37.7	55	Moderate disabilities(30-41)
45	48.6	71	Major obstacles(42-and more)
SD=5.31	100%	146	Total

It is clear from Table (5) that 48.6% of the respondents fall into the category of major obstacles, which is the highest percentage, followed by the category of medium obstacles, at a rate of 37.7%, while the category of small obstacles reached 13.7%, which is the lowest percentage. Therefore, the level of obstacles facing the raising of broiler chickens is described. From the point of view of breeders, they are major obstacles that tend to be moderate obstacles. The high obstacles in this field may be attributed to reasons, the most prominent of which is the problem of competition from imported chickens, and the number of deaths during the marketing

process as a result of high heat or cold, in addition to the small number of marketing outlets, selling on credit to merchants, and delayed payment. And other reasons.

Fifth field: Guidance obstacles facing broiler breeders:

The results showed that the lowest value of obstacles for educators was 14 and the highest value was 42, with an arithmetic mean of 27.8 and a standard deviation of 5.18. The respondents were divided into three categories using the range law, and the highest percentage appeared within the category of major obstacles, as shown in Table (6):

Table (6): Distribution of respondents according to the categories of guiding obstacles facing broiler breeders

Average Obstacles	%	Number	Categories
18.8	20.5	30	Minor obstacles(14-22)
26.9	22.6	33	Moderate disabilities(23-31)
38	56.9	83	Major obstacles(32-and more)
SD=5.18	100%	146	Total

It is clear from Table (6) that 56.9% of the respondents fall into the category of major obstacles, which is the highest percentage, followed by the category of medium obstacles, at 22.6%. As for the category of small

obstacles, the percentage reached 20.5%, which is the lowest percentage. Therefore, the level of obstacles facing the raising of broiler chickens is described. From the point of view of educators in the field of extension

obstacles, they are major obstacles tending to moderate obstacles, and the high obstacles in this field may be attributed to reasons, the most prominent of which is the problem of the lack of training programs for raising broiler chickens and the lack of television and radio extension programmes, in addition to the lack of coordination and communication between extension workers. Agricultural and broiler breeders, and the limited number of agricultural extension workers in the governorate.

Third objective: Arranging the research fields according to the extent of the obstacles facing broiler breeders in each field.

The results of the descending order of the research areas showed that the field of administrative obstacles facing broiler breeders came in first place, while the field of marketing obstacles facing broiler breeders came in last place, as shown in Table (7):

Table (7) Descending order of research fields according to the percentage weight of each field.

ranking	weight, percentile	maximum score	average obstacles,	number of paragraphs	Domains
1	68.66	45	30.9	15	Administrative
2	67.12	87	58.4	29	Productivity
3	66.19	42	27.8	14	Guidance
4	65.78	69	45.39	23	Finance
5	60.18	54	32.5	18	Marketing

It is clear from Table (7) that the field of administrative obstacles facing broiler breeders came in first place with a percentage weight of 68.66. The reason for this may be that the breeders surveyed lack experience in scientific methods for managing broiler farms, in addition to the difficulty of obtaining a permit to open fields, and the absence of government support. For breeders, whether with treatments or feed, and the complex administrative procedures in obtaining loans from the Agricultural Bank, this is why this field ranked first among the fields due to the importance of the obstacles in it, while the field of marketing obstacles facing broiler breeders ranked last, with a percentage weight of 60.18, and the reason for this may be The marketing obstacles, despite their importance, came in this order because the other field were more influential and larger in size than the obstacles in this field.

Conclusions:

In light of the research results, the researcher can conclude the following:

- 1- The results in the first objective showed that 51.36% of the respondents fell into the category of major obstacles, which is the highest percentage. We conclude from this that there are real obstacles that threaten the profession of raising broiler chickens in Salah al-Din Governorate.
- 2- The results showed that the obstacles facing broiler rearing from the point of view of breeders in Salah al-Din Governorate are in each of the following field: (administrative obstacles facing broiler breeders, financial obstacles related to the processing aspect facing broiler breeders, production obstacles facing Broiler breeders, marketing obstacles facing broiler breeders, guidance obstacles facing broiler breeders) The largest percentage of respondents were in the category of major

obstacles for all the above fields. We conclude from this the size of the obstacles and their importance in all fields of study.

3- The results of the descending order of the research areas showed that the field of administrative obstacles facing broiler breeders came in first place, while the field of marketing obstacles facing broiler breeders came in last place. We conclude from this the size of the administrative obstacles and their importance in raising broiler chickens.

Recommendations:

In light of the results and conclusions reached by the research, we recommend the following:

1-It is necessary for the Agricultural Extension Center and the Veterinary Clinic to prepare extension, training and educational activities to provide broiler breeders in Salah al-Din Governorate with the theoretical and applied information and expertise necessary to protect broilers from the most important diseases and provide them with financial support represented by treatments.

2- When planning any guidance program, focus and attention must be paid to the field of research that ranked first in terms of the size of the obstacles.

3- The necessity of encouraging graduates of colleges of agriculture to work in raising broiler chickens, as associations specialized in raising broiler chickens are established after the availability of capital and breeding requirements, which are later deducted from them according to special instructions.

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