

Table 1: Typical composition of feed for Aslibro (kg/100 kg)

Ingredient	Proportion, kg/100 kg	
	Starter	Finisher
Maize/Bajra/Broken Rice/Sorghum	65	50
Rice bran/Wheat bran/ de oiled rice bran	0	28
Soybean meal/Ground nut meal/Sun flower meal/Till cake (combination of protein source is ideal)	33	20
Vitamin and mineral mixture (Commercial)	2	2

Health Care: Aslibro developed at ICAR-DPR, Hyderabad is known for higher immune response to non specific antigen, however, the birds need vaccination against ND and fowl pox in addition to MD vaccine. The vaccination schedule was given in Table 2. Apart from the vaccination, it is essential to provide probiotics in water immediately on arrival of the chicks in nursery unit. Supplementation of B-complex vitamins in drinking water is recommended during, before and after the management stress (bird shipment, transportation, shifting the birds, debeaking etc.). The birds have a tendency to pick feathers of other birds (cannibalism), it is essential to trim the upper and lower beak of the birds at 2nd weeks of age to prevent fighting injuries to the birds at lower social order of flock hierarchy.

In addition, strict biosecurity measures should be followed in the farm for minimizing the contamination of pathogens.

Table 2: Vaccination schedule

Age	Vaccine	Strain	Dose	Route
1 st day	Marek's disease	HYT	0.20 ml	SC injection
7 th day	Newcastle disease	Lasota	One drop	Eye
14 th day	Infectious Bursal disease	Georgia	One drop	Oral
24 th day	Infectious Bursal disease	Georgia	One drop	Oral
28 th day	Newcastle disease	Lasota	One drop	Eye
6 th week	Fowl Pox	Fowl pox	0.20 ml	IM/SC injection
9 th week	Newcastle disease *	R2B	0.50 ml	SC injection

* Deworming of birds is recommended before ND R2B vaccination



Table 3: Performance of Aslibro chicken variety

Economic Trait	Performance
Body weight, kg	
6 weeks	0.60-0.65
12 weeks (3 months)	1.4-1.6
Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR)	2.6
Dressing Percentage, % (DP)	75
Mortality, % (Up to 3 Months)	6-9
Cost Benefit Ratio (C:B Ratio)	1:1.9



Supply

Fertile eggs: Fertile eggs of Aslibro are available at this Directorate on all working days on payment basis. Eggs should be stored in cool place till they are set for hatching. About 10-12 eggs can be set under Desi broody hen for better hatchability.

Day old chicks: Chicks are available on advance payment. The supply will be made only on receipt of advance through **SBI Collect Payment Gateway (DPR webpage) or DD drawn in favour of "ICAR Unit DPR or by paying Cash/ Card Swipe" at the hatchery office or by RTGS/ NEFT to Account No: 52114970338, Name: "ICAR Unit DPR", Bank: SBI, Budvel Branch, IFSC code: SBIN0020378.** Payment details may be sent to "The Director, ICAR-Directorate of Poultry Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad – 500 030" through e-mail @ pdpoult@nic.in, dprhatchery@gmail.com. Provide your contact address, telephone number and e-mail for correspondence. The customers are required to receive the birds from the Directorate. For further details please visit our website www.pdonpoultry.org



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Aslibro

An alternative to native chicken farming



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Aslibro

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Broiler farming with native chicken breeds is fast picking up in urban and peri-urban areas in recent past due to increased demand and niche market for native chicken meat. Many farmers established small scale poultry farms and rearing the native chicken breeds like Aseel and Kadaknath for meat purpose and are realizing premium price for their produce. There is a huge demand for these birds due to its meat texture, quality and consumer preference. The inherent drawback with native chicken is their slow growth rate and low productivity. The native chicken weighs about 1.0 to 1.5 kg on an average at six months of age. The farmer needs to wait till six months or even more for marketing the birds. Keeping in view, a new variety was developed crossing Aseel and an established meat line at ICAR-DPR Hyderabad. The phenotypic appearance of Aslibro was almost similar to the native birds with multi coloured plumage, lean body and agility. The presence of Aseel inheritance makes the birds more lean and compact making them suitable for broiler purpose and definitely increases the acceptability among the consumers.

Aslibro chicken variety is an alternative to native chicken farming for meat purpose targeting the niche market. The birds resemble native chicken with multicoloured plumage, pea comb, lean body, yellow shanks and agility. The lean body structure is the unique character compared to other broiler varieties which is preferred by the farmers and consumers. The birds are intended for intensive farming with full feeding. The body weight of 1.2-1.5 kg at 3 months of age is the ideal weight for a crossbred variety intended for meat purpose as an alternative to native chicken. The Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR) under field conditions was 2.6. The tenderness, flavour and acceptability of meat is another unique character of this variety.

A small scale unit of 200 birds was a viable unit with an additional income of Rs. 64,000 and profit margin of Rs. 30,000 per cycle. A farmer can rear at least 3 to 4 cycles per annum with a net profit of Rs. 90,000 to 1,20,000 per annum. This income was in addition to his / her regular income from other agricultural and livestock sources. However, the prices may vary based on the market demand and price fluctuations. The Cost benefit ratio (CBR) of Aslibro variety was 1: 1.9, which was almost double the cost of investment offering bright scope for taking up this activity.



PACKAGE OF PRACTICES

Aslibro is reared in "All-in all-out system" with full feeding under intensive system of rearing. for maximum exploitation of the genetic potential of birds and reduce the source of infection in the flock. All birds in the shed/farm should be of the same age group and preferably of the same breed for better management. Movement of men and material should be restricted. Foot baths should be provided at the entry of each shed. Good quality water should be made available to the birds.

Preparation before Arrival of Chicks

Prevention of disease has become the most cost-effective approach to poultry productivity. The procedures enumerated below substantially minimize the risk to the flock.

- Immediately after liquidating flock, spray the entire poultry house (inside and outside) with an approved insecticide in accordance with the manufacturer's direction. This should be done prior to removal of litter and equipment.
- Remove all litter and dust. Then wash the house and equipment thoroughly with a pressurized water jet. Ensure that maximum possible organic matter and dirt is removed from inside and outside the house. Make sure that all wire nets, iron structures, concrete structures and the roof are thoroughly cleaned.
- When the building is completely dry, use selected disinfectants like quaternary ammonium compounds, liquid ammonia or other commercially available approved disinfectants. One can also treat floors and parapet walls with caustic soda. Place all disinfected equipment back in place.
- Clean all water pipelines, feed bins, etc., with suitable disinfectants. Fumigation is effective in poultry houses which are reasonably air tight and at a temperature of 700°F (210°C) and at 65% relative humidity. Close all openings and fumigate while building is still wet. Use 400 ml of Formaldehyde and 200 g of Potassium permanganate for each 1000 cubic feet of air space (28 cubic metre). Keep the building closed for 24 hours. Fumigation should only be done under strict supervision of an authorized skilled person.
- An effective rodent control program should always be in use at all times.
- Regular spray of suitable disinfectants, strict biosecurity procedures are necessary to minimize the disease incidence.

Housing Space

Aslibro is grown in a intensive system of rearing with proper floor space to avoid overcrowding and provide optimum feeder and drinker space to the birds uniformly. These birds need higher floor space than the commercial broilers. Aslibro need a minimum of 2.0-2.2 sft per bird for optimum growth. The farmer should have facility of 500 sft shed to rear 200 birds with adequate space for storing of feed and poultry equipment.

Rearing and management

Nursery

Chicks are produced with artificial incubation and they need initial mother care in the form of nursery rearing, where they will be provided with balanced feed, artificial warmth, protection from predators and health care. Required warmth, balanced nutrition, good quality drinking water and vaccination are important activities in nursery rearing which determines the success of poultry farming.

Brooding: Brooding is essential to provide the required temperature. Before housing the chicks prepare the pen (where chicks are placed) by uniformly spreading the clean litter material (rice husk/ground nut husk/saw dust/sand) of 2-3 inches thickness. Spread the newspaper on the litter to prevent access of litter material to chicks and arrange the feeders and drinkers alternatively around the heat source. Hang the brooder hovers with electrical bulbs of different capacity (60 / 100 watt) based on the season of the year and temperature. The movement of the chicks can be restricted with the help of the chick guards which are arranged in circular manner near the heat source. If the temperature is higher the birds move away from the heat source and start showing the typical system of panting. When temperature is inadequate, the chicks huddle under the brooder near to the heat source. At ideal temperature, chicks are uniformly distributed across the brooding area.

Feeding: Complete balanced feed containing all nutrients, minerals, vitamins, amino acids and other essential feed additives should be provided to the chicks during the nursery phase up to 6 weeks of age. The chicks were fed ad-libitum with broiler starter (2900 kcal/kg: ME and 20%: CP) diet based on maize-soybean meal up to 6 weeks of age. The birds were maintained on a broiler grower ration (2600 kcal/kg: ME and 18%: CP) up to 12 weeks of age. Farmers can use commercially available feed (broiler ration) or can prepare their own feed with the locally available ingredients as shown in Table 1.

