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# Performance of TANUVAS Aseel under Backyard Condition in Dharmapuri District

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## Abstract

Backyard poultry production in India is practiced since time immemorial which was the primary source of animal protein and supplementary income for the down trodden rural poor. Backyard poultry is the only source of poultry egg and meat for city dwellers before poultry industrialization. Existing local variety of chicken having low production potential the introduction of new varieties to the backyard poultry increases the income of the farmer families which paves way for the sustainable livestock in the rural areas. The body weights and egg production of TANUVAS Aseel chicken are 1.9 kg and 154 numbers at the age of 50<sup>th</sup> week. Performance of TANUVAS Aseel under backyard condition will give many benefits to farming community.

## Introduction

Backyard poultry Farming is a promising option for rural livelihoods. It requires low initial investment. Boost up family income for better utilization of family laborers who are not able to perform other works like old family members or children. It is a potent tool for upliftment of socio economically backward people. Backyard poultry production can cater the nutritional requirements of the family. Acts as an ATM, because as per family need the birds and eggs can be sold at any time with cash in hand. Quality of chicken and egg is better in terms of organic farming as the birds are raised in stress less environment and consumers are willing to pay higher prices for high quality desi chicken meat or egg. Most of the backyard poultry production comprises of rearing indigenous birds with poor production performances. However, over the period of time improved strains have been introduced by extension and development agencies. In order to enhance the socioeconomic and nutritional status of the rural population, there is a need to promote backyard poultry farming with improved chicken varieties (TANUVAS Aseel) that are suitable under village condition.

TANUVAS Aseel is a new variety of native chicken developed at Poultry Research Station. TANUVAS is a multi coloured plumage good disease resistance, and adaptability to substandard managerial condition and massive appearance of male are special features. More preferred by urban and semi urban consumers owing to the desirable flavour of meat. Most popular among semi-urban farmers is backyard bird due to attractive plumage. The introduction of high performance poultry breeds is a viable option to motivate the farmer towards backyard poultry.

## Special Features of TANUVAS Aseel Chicken

- The face is long and slender.
- The eyes are compact, well set and present bold looks.

- Wattles and ear lobes are bright red and the beak is hard.
- The neck is long, uniformly thick but not fleshy.
- Close feathering, predominantly reddish brown plumage.
- Predominantly pea comb, occasionally.
- Elongated body length measuring 58 cm from head to tail and 60 cm from head to toe.
- The tail is small and dropping.
- The legs are strong, straight, and set well apart.
- Dark brown shelled eggs with thick shell.

### Advantages of Rearing TANUVAS Aseel Chicken

- Alleviate protein malnutrition in vulnerable groups.
- Waster material can be effectively converted into egg and chicken meat for human consumption.
- Minimize environment pollution.
- Provide additional income to rural households.
- Integrate well with other agricultural operations.
- Aid enhancing soil fertility.
- High price compared to those produce from intensive farming system.
- This chicken breed has more immune power feed cost and

suitable to most of the climatic condition.

### Nursery Management and Health Care

**B**rooding is essential for initial six weeks of age. Feeding of balanced ration, health care and management practices during this period are similar to that of layer chicks of the age.

#### Feeding

**F**eeding with balanced ration fortifies with required minerals, vitamins, antimicrobials and anti coccidial is to be done during nursery period. Feed can be prepared using locally available feed ingredients such as ground maize, bajra, jowar, ragi, broken rice, rice bran, sunflower cake, ground nut cake, etc., to achieve 2400 kcal ME (Energy)/kg, 18% crude protein 0.85% lysine 0.38 methionine, 0.7% calcium and 0.35% available phosphorous. Ensure easy and continuous access to feed and clean drinking water to all chicks.

#### Health Care

**A**seel birds are hardly and relatively resistant to some of the bacterial and parasitic disease. However, they need to be protected against commonly occurring viral disease like Marek's, Ranikhet and fowl pox disease by vaccinating at right time.

Table 1: Vaccination programme for Aseel chicken

S. No	Age	Name of the vaccine	Strain	Dose	Route
In the field					
1	9 <sup>th</sup> week	Ranikhet Disease	R2B	0.50 ml	SC injection
2	12 <sup>th</sup> Week	Pox	Fowl pox	0.20 ml	SC injectin

Table 2: Production performance TANUVAS Aseel

S. No.	Parameters	TANUVAS Aseel	
1	Body weight (g)	10 <sup>th</sup> week	600
		20 <sup>th</sup> week	820
		30 <sup>th</sup> week	1250
		40 <sup>th</sup> week	1400
		50 <sup>th</sup> week	1900
2	Hatch weight	32	
3	Feed conversion ration	2.70	
4	Body measurement (cm)	Neck length	22
		Thigh 6length	11
		Drumstick	14
		Shank length	10

Table : Continue...

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		50 <sup>th</sup> week	1900
2	Hatch weight	32	
3	Feed conversion ration	2.70	
4	Body measurement (cm)	Neck length	22
		Thigh length	11
		Drumstick	14
		Shank length	10
5	Livability (%) (0 to 12 weeks)	99	
6	Age of first egg (d)	175	
7	Egg Production % (20-40 weeks)	154	
8	Egg weight	53	
9	Hatchability	86	
10	Adult livability (%)	99	
11	Market rate (Rs.)/kg	250	
12	Net return (Rs.)	19,986	
13	BC ration	1.4	



Figure 1: TANUVAS Aseel chicks



Figure 2: TANUVAS Aseel Adult chicken

### Conclusion

**T**ANUVAS Aseel chicken will be good alternative for landless small and marginal farmers. High egg production and body weight will enhance annual



Figure 2: TANUVAS Aseel Adult chicken

income. This variety is very much suitable for backyard system so farmers can rear TANUVAS Aseel in their backyard condition for their livelihood, income generating and nutritional security.

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