

**EFFECT OF COVID-19 ON URBAN POULTRY ENTERPRISE IN OVIA
NORTH-EAST AND EGOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA**

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JANUARY, 2023

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BY

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**A PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, AND EXTENSION SERVICES,
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN
CITY**
**IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE
AWARD OF BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE (OPTION:
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND EXTENSION SERVICES)**

JANUARY, 2023
CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the work “Effects of COVID-19 on Urban Poultry Enterprise in Ovia North East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State, Nigeria” was carried out by Ajibare Miracle UNUSENAME (AGR1600129), of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension Services, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria.

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Prof. (Mrs.) C.O. Egomwan Date
Supervisor

Prof. (Mrs.) Koyenikan Date
Head of Department

DEDICATION

This research work is dedicated to the almighty God for His Love and faithfulness,

Pst. and Mrs. Unusename my beloved parents, my siblings and friends.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My appreciation goes to almighty God who has gifted me with the grace, wisdom and strength throughout the research.

My sincere and profound gratitude goes to my supervisor, Prof. (Mrs.) C.O. Egomwan for her patience, amazing show of motherly love, guidance and effort in ensuring that this work was a success.

Special thanks goes to the Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Benin, Prof. E.R. Orhue, Head of Department, Agricultural Economics and Extension Services, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Benin, Dr. (Mrs.) O.B. Izekor and my Course Adviser, Dr. S.O. Konkwo for their encouragement towards the completion of this research.

I am very grateful to my loving and amazing family for their love, support and prayers towards the completion of my programme.

My sincere and profound gratitude goes to my mentor, Mrs. DolapoOlugbenga for being a blessing to my life.

Finally, I am grateful to my friends, OdeleOjoyo, Efionayi Precious, Owobu Josephine, SanwooluBabatunde, Obiyan John and Oshodi Emmanuel God bless you all to the fullest.

<u>TABLE OF CONTENT</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>Title page - - - - -</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Certification - - - - -</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Dedication - - - - -</u>	<u>iii</u>
<u>Acknowledgement - - - - -</u>	<u>iv</u>
<u>Table of content - - - - -</u>	<u>v</u>
<u>List of tables - - - - -</u>	<u>ix</u>
<u>Abstract - - - - -</u>	<u>x</u>
 <u>CHAPTER ONE</u>	
<u>1.0 INTRODUCTION - - - - -</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>1.1 Background of the Study- - - - -</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>1.2 Problem Statement - - - - -</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>1.3 General Objective of the study - - - - -</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>1.4 Specific Objective of the study - - - - -</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>1.5 Hypotheses of the study - - - - -</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>1.6 Justification of the study - - - - -</u>	<u>6</u>
 <u>CHAPTER TWO</u>	
<u>2.0 LITERATURE REVIEWS - - - - -</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>2.1 The Incidence of Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19) - - - - -</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>2.2 Poultry Farming - - - - -</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>2.3 The Need for Poultry Farming - - - - -</u>	<u>10</u>

2.4 Impact of COVID-19 on Urban Poultry Farming-	-	-	-	11
--------------------------------------------------	---	---	---	----

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	-	-	-	-	-	16
---------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

3.1 Study Area	-	-	-	-	-	16
----------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

3.2 The Population of the Study	-	-	-	-	-	17
---------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

3.3 Sampling Techniques	-	-	-	-	-	18
-------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

3.4 Data Collection	-	-	-	-	-	19
---------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

3.5 Measurement of Variables	-	-	-	-	-	19
------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

3.6 Analysis of Data	-	-	-	-	-	21
----------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

3.6.1 Descriptive Statistics	-	-	-	-	-	22
------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 RESULT AND DISCUSSION	-	-	-	-	-	23
----------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1 Social Economic Characteristics of Urban Poultry Farmers	-	-	-	-	-	23
--------------------------------------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.1. Sex	-	-	-	-	-	24
------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.2 Age	-	-	-	-	-	25
-----------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.3 Marital Status	-	-	-	-	-	25
----------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.4 Household Size	-	-	-	-	-	25
----------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.5 Educational Level	-	-	-	-	-	26
-------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.6 Farm Size/Stock Size	-	-	-	-	-	27
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.6.1 Number of Broilers	-	-	-	-	-	27
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

4.1.6.2 Number of Layers	-	-	-	-	-	27
--------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	----

<u>4.1.7 Product Type</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
<u>4.1.8 Type of Labour</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
<u>4.1.9 Annual Farm Income</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
<u>4.1.10 Source of Finance</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
<u>4.1.11 Major Occupation</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
<u>4.1.12 Number of Eggs Collected Daily (Crate)</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
<u>4.1.13 Membership of Agricultural Association</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
<u>4.2 Patronage of Poultry Products in the Pre, During Lockdown Era of COVID-19</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
<u>4.3 Income of Respondents in the Pre and During Lockdown of the COVID-19 Era</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
<u>4.4 Coping Strategies of Urban Poultry Enterprise</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
<u>4.4.1 Coping Strategies of the Urban Enterprise Prior to COVID-19</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
<u>4.4.2 Coping Strategies of Urban Poultry Enterprise during COVID-19</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40
<u>4.5 Preventive Measures of COVID-19</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
<u>4.6 Constraint Confronting the Urban Poultry Enterprise</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
<u>4.6.1 The Constraint Confronting the Urban Poultry Enterprise in the Pre COVID- 19 Era</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
<u>4.6.2 The Constraint Confronting the Urban Poultry in n during the COVID-19 Era</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
<u>4.7 Hypothesis</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
<u>4.7.1 Relationship between the Socio-economic Characteristics of the Poultry Farmers and Effect of COVID-19 on Poultry Enterprise</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50

<u>4.7.2 Difference in the Patronage of Poultry Products in the Two Era of COVID-19</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

<u>4.7.3 Difference in the Income of the Poultry Farmers in the Pre and During COVID-19</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

CHAPTER FIVE

<u>SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION</u>	-	-
------------------------------------------------------	---	---

<u>5.1 Summary of the Study</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
---------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

<u>5.2 Conclusion</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-----------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

<u>5.3 Recommendation</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
---------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

<u>References-</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
--------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

<u>Appendix (Question)</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

LIST OF TABLES

<u>Table</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Pages</u>
4.1	<u>Socio-Economic Characteristics of Urban Poultry Farmers</u> - - - - -	32
4.2	<u>Patronage of Poultry Products in the Pre, and During Lockdown Era of COVID-19</u> - - -	35
4.3	<u>Income of Respondents in the Pre, and During Lockdown of the COVID-19 Era</u> - - - - -	38
4.4	<u>Coping Strategies of Urban Poultry Enterprise</u> - -	41
4.5	<u>Preventive Measures of COVID-19</u> - - - -	44
4.6	<u>Constraints Confronting the Urban Poultry Enterprise</u> -	49
4.7.1	<u>Multiple Regression Analysis Showing the Relationships Between Socio-Economic Characteristics and Effects of COVID-19 Lockdown.</u> - - -	53
4.7.2	<u>Results of T-Test Showing the Significance Difference in The Patronage of Poultry Products in Pre and During COVID-19 Era.</u> - - - - -	55
4.7.3:	<u>Results of T-Test On the Differences in Income in Pre and During COVID-19 Era.</u> - - - -	57

ABSTRACT

After spreading through East Asia, Europe, and North America in early 2020, the COVID-19 global pandemic started affecting countries in Africa. However, there has been little or no work on the effect of COVID-19 on Urban Poultry Enterprise. This study therefore evaluates the effect of COVID-19 on urban poultry enterprise in Ovia-North East and Egor local government area. And the specific objectives of this study are to: examine the socio-economic characteristics and level patronage of the poultry enterprise in the study area, estimate the income of respondents in the pre and during of the COVID-19 era, examine the constraint facing the poultry enterprise and the preventive measures put in place to curb the spread of COVID-19 by the government and then identify coping strategies of poultry enterprise in the pre and during the COVID-19 era.

A three stage sampling technique was used, involving a purposive selection of five most urban towns, based on urbanization and presence of poultry enterprise, getting the contact of the poultry farmers, using the Krejcie and Morgan 1970 sample size technique and then a simple random sampling of 70 percent of the respondents from the sample size gotten from population.

The result of the descriptive statistics reveals the R-Square of 0.3375 which indicates that household size, farm size, annual farm income and number of eggs collected daily eggs collected daily have 33.75% influence on the effects of COVID-19 on

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poultry enterprise. This indicates that there is a significant relationship between some of the socio-economic characteristics of the poultry farmers and effect of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise, there is a difference in the patronage of poultry products and income of urban poultry farming farmers in the two era of COVID-19 in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State.

In conclusion, in curbing the effect of the COVID-19 insurgency, it is important that Federal Government strive to promote and integrate public health measures, along with food security measures in the society.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

After spreading through East Asia, Europe, and North America in early 2020, the COVID-19 global pandemic started affecting countries in Africa and Latin America. With the largest population in Sub-Saharan Africa, and long-standing travel and trade links within Africa and to the rest of the world, it seemed inevitable that the pandemic would eventually reach Nigeria. In late February, Nigeria recorded the subcontinent's first confirmed case, after which it began to spread throughout Lagos, Ogun State, and the Federal Capital Authority (FCT) area of Abuja.

The arrival of the pandemic set off a chain of policy actions, including public health and education campaigns, fiscal and monetary measures, restrictions on large sections of the economy, and compensating measures in the form of social protection for poor and vulnerable people (Onyekwena and Amara Mma, 2020). The sudden onset of the pandemic and the scale of policy responses imposed significant economic costs on Nigeria's population, but the nature of the impacts on food systems and the poor remains unclear.

The role of livestock in the people's livelihood through different channels: food, transport, income, employment, manure and social status. Livestock keeping is an

integral part of the Nigerian society and economy: about 13 million households keeps farm animals and the sector contributes 6 to 8 percent of the national GDP (Africa Sustainable Livestock (ASL) 2050, 2018). This provides proofs on the contribution of the poultry sector to people's livelihood in Nigeria, which is given priority in the Agricultural Promotion policy 2016-2020.

The Nigerian poultry enterprise comprises about 180 million birds, second to South Africa (SAHEL, 2015), producing 650 000 tonnes of eggs and 300 000 tonnes of poultry meat in 2013 (FAOSTAT, 2017).

International Labour Organization (ILO. 2019) reports that the agriculture sector is the largest employer of labour in the country, providing jobs for as high as 36% of the Nigerian labourforces. Although, this statement has been negatively altered owing to the outbreak of COVID-19.

COVID-19 has impacted global food security due to the lockdown and movement restrictions across many countries of the world. In a bid to combating the impending global hunger, the need to attain food security has become extremely important, the pandemic could plunge about 265 million people (up from 135 million people) into acute hunger by the end of 2020 World Food Programme (WFP, 2019)

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Prior to Covid-19, the Urban-agriculture sector was affected by several challenges ranging from drought and flooding and widespread instabilities, Fulani Herdsmen-farmer clash, banditry crisis and kidnappings in the South. The outbreak of Covid-19 may further exacerbate the challenges of the urban-agricultural enterprises (poultry), not just impacting the urban life but stressing out food security in the country.

1.2 Problem Statement

Poultry enterprise is one of the major livestock agricultural-business in Nigeria; however, the supply of poultry products is not enough to meet the needs of the consumers in Nigeria. Therefore, the need for the importation of poultry products is inevitable both at the inter-state and international levels.

The supplies of these products have been disrupted, due to the COVID-19 insurgency, owing to the restriction in movement, which has greatly affected the marketing and distribution of poultry products. This problem has resulted in food insecurity, where food is either insufficient or utterly lacking in some regions of the country.

Food and Agricultural Organization, (2008) defined food insecurity as a situation when all people, do not have physical, social and economic

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access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food which meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

The unsolved problem of food insecurity and movement restriction has resulted in inflation, especially in the price of poultry inputs, leading to the increase in the cost of production in poultry enterprises.

According to Keynesian theory, inflation can be caused by an increase in cost (Jhingan, 2010). This persistent increase in price has an effect on the marketing margin owing to a reduction in the customers' purchasing power, thereby resulting in production losses.

Risks associated with the market, such as value chain fragmentation, high intermediation costs, and/or lack of traceability, all impedes the distribution of poultry and poultry products, which have further been heightened by the incidence of COVID-19. (MoFood-Ministry of Food, 2020).

The following research questions emanate from the above:

- (1) What are the socio-economic characteristics of urban poultry farmers?
- (2) What is the effect of COVID-19 on the patronage of poultry enterprise?
- (3) What is the perceived income of poultry enterprise in the pre, during and post lockdown era of COVID-19?

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(4) What are the coping strategies of poultry in the pre, during and post lockdown era of COVID-19?

(5) What are the preventive measures taken by poultry farmers to prevent the spread of the virus, in line with government policies?

(6) What are the constraints affecting urban poultry enterprise in the area of study?

1.3 General Objectives

The general objective of this study is to examine the effects of COVID-19 on the poultry enterprise among urban poultry farmers in Ovia North-East Local Government Area, Edo State.

1.4 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of this study are to:

(1) examine the socio-economic characteristics of poultry enterprise in the study area.

(2) examine the patronage of poultry products in the pre, during and the post lockdown era of COVID-19

(3) estimate the income of respondents in the pre, during and post lockdown of the COVID-19 era.

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(4) identify coping strategies of poultry enterprise in the pre, during and lockdown era of COVID-19

(5) examine urban poultry enterprise use of the preventive measure put in place to curb the spread of COVID-19.

(6) examine the constraint confronting the urban poultry enterprise in terms of marketing and distribution of their products in the pre, during and post COVID-19 era.

1.5 Hypothesis of the Study

H₀₁: There is no significant relationship between the socio-economic characteristics of the poultry farmers and effect of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise.

H₀₂: There is no significant difference in the patronage of poultry products in the three (3) era of COVID-19.

H₀₃: There is no significant difference in the income of the poultry farmers in the pre, during and post lockdown era of COVID-19.

1.6 Justification

Although much work has been done on poultry analysis by lots of individuals and agricultural institution, namely; Reason for the fall in poultry production by Ali, S. (2020)., Livestock and livelihoods spotlight in

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Nigeria Poultry Sector by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, among others. Furthermore, most of the research work done on COVID-19 is a review work drawn from secondary data which to some level are not relative enough to Nigeria, and this is because the country lacks an accurate database to monitor and check the impact of the pandemic insurgency on poultry enterprise. However, there are no research work expressing the impact of covid-19 insurgency on poultry enterprises in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State, including the commendable actions of Nigeria poultry enterprise to manage the situation in order to ensure a continuous stable production and marketing channel needed to obtain the required income.

It is hoped that the information provided by this study will serve as a guide to the study of the effect of covid-19 on poultry enterprise and the various mechanism used by poultry enterprise to manage the impact of COVID-19 on the enterprise.

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Onyekwena C., Amara Mma E. Brookings Institution; Washington, DC: 2020. Understanding the Impact of the COVID-19 Outbreak on the Nigerian Economy. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2020/04/08/understanding-the-impact-of-the-covid-19-outbreak-on-the-nigerian-economy/>

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CHAPTER TWO

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 The Incidence of Corona virus Disease (Covid-19)

Corona viruses (COVID-19) is caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus an infectious disease that comes from a large family of viruses that cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases. A novel corona virus (nCoV) is a new strain that has not been previously diagnosed in humans. The new virus was subsequently named the “COVID-19 virus” (World Health Organization, 2019). The arrival of the pandemic set off a chain of policy actions, including public health and education campaigns, fiscal and monetary measures, restrictions on large sections of the economy, and compensating measures in the form of social protection for poor and vulnerable people (Onyekwena and Amara Mma, 2020). Despite the effect of COVID-19, there was still misconception about the virus.

On 31 December 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) was formally notified about a several cases of pneumonia in Wuhan City, with a population of 11 million people and the cultural and economic hub of central China. By 5 January, 59 cases were known and none had been fatal. Ten days later, WHO was aware of 282 confirmed cases, of which

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four were in Japan, South Korea and Thailand. There had been six deaths in Wuhan, 51 people were severely ill and 12 were in a critical condition. The virus responsible was isolated on 7 January and its genome shared on 12 January.³ The cause of the severe acute respiratory syndrome that became known as COVID-19 was a novel corona virus, SARS-CoV-2. The rest is history, albeit history that is constantly being rewritten: as of 12 May, 82,591 new cases of COVID-19 worldwide were being confirmed daily and the mortality rate was over 4200 per day.⁴ (World Health Organization, 2020). The virus is airborne and can spread from an infected individual's mouth or nose in liquid particles when they cough, sneeze, speak, and breathe. These particles range from larger respiratory droplets to smaller aerosols. One can be infected by breathing in the virus staying close to an infected person, or by touching a contaminated surface and then your eyes, nose or mouth. The virus spreads more easily indoors and in crowded settings (World Health Organization, 2020).

2.2 Poultry Farming

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, (N.D) defines poultry as an avian species that can be domesticated for the production of eggs, feather and/or meat. Poultry covers a wide range of birds, from indigenous and exotic breeds of chickens to ducks, turkey, quail, pigeons, guinea

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2.3 The Need for Poultry Farming

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Owing to the problem of over population and food insecurity, there is a need to strengthen the urban agriculture, which to a certain extent can provide a realistic solution to overcome the critical food insecurity as is being observed in many parts of the developing world (Van Veenhuizen, 2006). In all these aspects, poultry farming can create employment and additional income besides consumption of eggs can help improve nutritional security to the most vulnerable sections of the urban resource challenged specifically, pregnant and nursing mothers, old and infirm people, growing children and those who are suffering from immune compromising diseases (Ruxton, 2013).

2.4 Impact of Covid-19 on Urban Poultry Farming

Economic impacts of COVID-19 are assessed in terms of their effects on national gross domestic product (GDP), agro-food system GDP, and the number of people living below the international US\$1.90-a-day poverty line, it was estimated that national GDP declined sharply during the country's lockdown period, and that Nigeria will experience recession during 2020 (National Center for Biotechnology Information, (NCBI), 2020). More specifically, the lockdown policies reduced Nigerian GDP by US\$11 billion or 23% during the 8-week period. Depending on the nature of economic recovery in the second half of 2020, it was estimated that GDP will

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between 6% and 9% lower compared to the levels of GDP there were expected during 2020 prior to the onset of COVID-19. The estimated contraction of the economy is inconsistent with global projections (IMF, 2020b; World Bank, 2020a).

The global outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic presented many challenges to nations of the earth and its impact had continued to be felt in the life of everyone (Tripathi *et al.*, 2020). These unanticipated restrictions in physical, social and economic activities interrupted the ability to earn a living and affected economic sectors at different levels ranging from the primary sector to manufacturing and services; thereby, threatening the achievement of the second sustainable development goal targeted at ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition (Nicola *et al.*, 2020; Niles *et al.*, 2020). Pandemics have occurred throughout history and seem to be increasing in frequency, particularly because of the increasing emergence of viral disease from animals (Madhav *et al.*, 2017). The challenges of pandemics can never be unfelt.

From past pandemics (Pre COVID-19) that the world has experienced, it has been shown that quarantines and panic have impacts on farmers' activities and economic growth (Bermejo, 2004; Hanashima and Tomobe,

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2012). Lessons from past epidemics indicate that disruptions in the activities of farmers are likely to have dire socioeconomic consequences.

With an increasing number of COVID-19 cases in March 2020, states in Nigeria ordered either a partial or total lockdown according to the severity of COVID-19 in each area. There was also an interstate restriction of movement. The mobility restrictions and the reduced milk, vegetables, livestock, and poultry were dumped or destroyed. (Qingbin *et al.*, 2020; Weersink *et al.*, 2020; Yaffe-Bellany and Corkery, 2020). This has been the trend in the Pre-COVID-19 era. However, other than the replication of those trends, the impact of COVID-19 is more intense.

With regard to the livestock sector, (Sattar *et al.*, 2020), these have included:

i

(i) local and international movements of live animals and animal products;

i

(ii) supplies of raw materials for feed and medicine;

(iii) provision of other production inputs and equipment;

(iv) access to labor and professional services (Food Agriculture Organization, 2020a).

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In many countries, the closure of schools, restaurants, hotels, shops and markets, limitations on public gatherings and travel have reduced demand for animal products (In Europa, 2020; Marchant-Forde and Boyle, 2020).

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Lockdowns and movement restrictions within the Country/and States have significant effects on urban-agricultural enterprises, as the major facilitators of the business growth (which is marketing and distribution) are disrupted due to lockdown, travel restrictions, border closures and controls.

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According to FAO, (2019) the inability to distribute food in the country is one of the reasons for food insecurity and high cost of food in Nigeria, and with the distortion caused by COVID-19 pandemic, the distribution of food across the country could deteriorate in the coming months (FAO, 2019).

In many countries, the closure of restaurants, shops, schools and markets, limitations on public gatherings have reduced demand for animal products and infections among workers and subsequent closure of slaughterhouses and food processing plant has reduced slaughtering and processing throughput (In Europa, 2020; Marchant-Forde and Boyle, 2020).

These factors resulted in the overstocking or culling of animals and animal products (Huffstutter, 2020), with farmers depopulating their farms to

ireduce the costs of maintaining animal populations which they could neither feed nor

trade (Barrett, 2020). Inevitably, this affected poultry production and trade (Mulder, 2020). Risks associated with the market, such as value chain fragmentation, high intermediation costs, and no or lack of traceability, all impede the distribution of poultry and poultry products (MoFood-Ministry of Food, 2020). Apart from the difficulty attached to feeding, there were other challenges such as medication.

Medication needed for the feeding and treatment of poultry birds were not available as suppliers reported that disruption in global trade meant they could not import component raw materials to produce feed and medicine. This is supported by reports of prolonged border closures preventing the import of essential feed items like maize. Production in pharmaceutical industries was also severely disrupted as the import of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) was blocked (IDLC, 2020). In addition, due to an absence of necessary equipment, irregular testing of imported feed ingredients at the country's sole diagnostic laboratory was suspended (Khan, 2021). This meant that raw materials were delayed at the port, resulting in severe reductions in overall production. The shortage of laborers in the lockdown situation

also slowed operations in the feed industries (Food Agriculture Organization, 2020b).

The socio-economic effect of COVID-19 has been studied extensively across and within countries and there is also a growing body of literature investigating the nexus between COVID-19 and food security amongst other indicators of sustainable development. For instance, a cross-sectional study of 1478 low income adults in the United States (Wolfson & Leung, 2020) showed that 44% were food insecure, 36% were food secure and 20% experienced marginal food security in the early stages of the pandemic.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Study Area

The study will be conducted in Edo State using Ovia North-East Local Government Area of Edo State as the case study. Edo State lies between longitude 60 4' East and 60 43' East and latitude 50 44' North and 70 34' North of the Equator. The state is bounded by the states of Kogi to the northeast and east, Anambra to the east, Delta to the southeast and south, and Ondo to the west and northwest; the Niger River flows along the state's eastern boundary. Edo State is located in the southern region of the country, the state was ranked as the 24th populated state (3, 233, 366) (Census, 2006). And the state is divided into 18 local government areas among which are Ovia North East and Egor Local Government Area. Benin City is the state capital and largest urban centre.

Ovia North-East is a Local Government Area of Edo State, Nigeria. Its headquarters are in the town of Okada. According to Census, 2006, it has an area of 2,301 km² and a population of 153,849. The postal code of the area is 302. Ovia North East LGA is made up of 12 major communities. They are Okada (headquarters), Oduna, Oghede, Utoka, Iguoshodin,

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CHAPTER TWO REFERENCE

Abraham, L. Yaynesht T (2010.) Performance of exotic and indigenous poultry breeds managed by smallholder farmers in northern Ethiopia. *Livestock Resource Rural Development* ...

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Oluku, Adolor, Isuiwa, Uhiere, Ofunm-Wengbe, Khohuo and Uhen. Ovia North-East Local Government Area has an average temperature of 28 degrees centigrade and average humidity level at 52. The target population for the study will be the urban poultry enterprise in the study area.

However, Egor is a Local Government Area of Edo State, Nigeria. It has an area of 93 km² and a population of 339,899 at the 2006 census. The area is located within latitude 6.47 and 7.15°N of the equator and longitude 5.49 and 6.14°E. The postal code of the area is 300103. Egor local government area which is found in South-South geopolitical zone of Nigeria and has its headquarters in the town of Uselu. The local government area entails a number of towns and villages and these include; Agidigbi's Camp, Egor Environ Camps, Evbougide, Iguediayi, Igwikpe, Oghedaivbiobaa, Oghokhugbo, Oviasuyi Camp, Ugbigoko, Urunmwon, Uwelu and Uselu. The area is home to Christians, Muslims, and traditional worshippers while Bini, Owan and Esan are the prominent languages that are spoken in the area.

Geographically, Egor local government area falls under the Tropical Savannah Climate. Experiencing two major seasons which are the rainy and the dry seasons the average temperature of the area is at 28 degrees centigrade. And the average humidity level of the Egor local government area is estimated at 68 percent.

3.2 The Population of the Study

This study will examine the effect of Covid-19 on the Urban Poultry Enterprise in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State.

3.3 Sampling Techniques

Stage one: Based on the level of urbanization of the area, a purposive selection of five urban towns each from Ovia North East and Egor local government area, namely: Okada, Oluku, Adolor, Uhen, Iguoshodin. And then: Egor, Evbougide, Iguediayi, Oghokhugbo, Uwelu and Uselu from Egor local government area. This selection is based on urbanization and presence of poultry enterprise in the two local government area.

Stage two: Getting the contact of the poultry farmers association in the most urban towns in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area to get the list of all registered farmers of the Nigeria poultry farmers association. And then calculate the sample that represent the population by using Krejcie and Morgan 1970 sample size formula given as:

$$S = \frac{X^2 \cdot N \cdot P \cdot (1-P)}{d^2 \cdot (N-1) + X^2 \cdot P \cdot (1-P)}$$

Where,

S = required sample size

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X^2 = the table value of chi-square for 1 degree of freedom at the desired confidence level (3.841).

N = the population size of the study area.

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P = the population proportion (assumed to be 0.50 since this would provide the maximum sample size).

d = the degree of accuracy expressed as a proportion (0.05).

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Stage Three: A simple random sampling technique will be used to select 70 percent of the respondents from the sample size gotten from stage two.

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3.4 Data Collection

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Data will be collected and analyzed from both primary and secondary source of this study, and it is by using a well-structure questionnaire, administered to the respondents, and also with personal interview.

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Primary Data

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Primary data will be collected using a structured questionnaire and interview schedule.

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The secondary data will be collected from reliable source such as textbooks, journals, agricultural publications, newsletters and other pieces of literature relating to the subject matter; these resources will be consulted in

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the construction of the background of study, literature review and in discussion of result.

3.5 Measurement of Variables

A. Socio-Economic Characteristics

1. Age will be measured in years
2. Sex: This will be measured with option of females coded i1, and males coded i2.
3. Marital Status: This will be measured using option of, single coded i1, married coded, i2 and divorced i3.
4. Farming Experience: This will be measured in years: i1-5 years coded i1, i6-10 years coded i2, i11-15 years coded i3, i16-20 years coded i4, and i21 years and above coded i5.
5. Educational Qualification: This will be measured in terms of how many years the respondent took to attain the present level of qualification, using coding the options of: i no formal education coded i1, primary education coded i2, secondary education coded i3 and tertiary education. iCoded i4.
6. Farm Size: poultry i stock
7. Source of Labour: This will be measured with family coded i1, hired labourers i code i2, others coded i3.

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C. Income i*per i*production i*period*

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D. Coping iStrategies iof iPoultry iEnterprise

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This iwill i*be i*measured i*by i*asking i*the iurban ipoultry ifarmers i*to iidentify i*the icoping istrategies i*put i*in iplace i*in i*their ipoultry i*enterprise i*in i*the ipre, i*during i*and ipost i*lockdown i*period i*of i*COVID-19 i*by iticking i*any i*of i*the i*strategies i i*used i*by i*their i*enterprise.*

E. Preventive iMeasures i

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This iwill i*be i*measured i*by i*asking i*the iurban ipoultry ifarmers i*to itick i*their i*level i*of icompliance i*to i*the ipreventive imeasures i*put i*in iplace i*by i*the igovernment, i*using ia i4-point Likert i*scale i*of i*always i*(coded i4), i*sometimes i*(coded i3), i*rarely i*(coded i2) i*and i*never i(i coded i1).

F. Constraint iFacing iUrban iPoultry iFarmers

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This iwill i*be i*measured i*using ia i*4-point Likert i*scale i*of i*very i*serious i(i coded i4), i*serious i*(coded i3), i*not i*serious i(i coded i2) i*and i*not i*at iall*

(coded i1) iand ithen iasking ithe iurban ipoultry ifarmer ito iidentify
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3.6 Analysis of Data

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3.6.1 Descriptive Statistics

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ibelow:

$$Y = a + bx_1 + bx_2 + bx_3 + \dots + b_n x_n$$

Where iY i= idependent ivariable i(Effect iof iCOVID-19 ion ipoultry ienterprise)

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While,

$a_i = \text{Constant}$

$x_{1i} = \text{Age}$

$x_{2i} = \text{Sex}$

$x_{3i} = \text{Year of experience}$

Hypothesis H_0 and H_1 will be tested with F-Statistics in Analysis of

variance (ANOVA)

Given the (ANOVA) model.

$$y_{ij} = \mu + \alpha_i + \epsilon_{ij}$$

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CHAPTER FOUR

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4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section shows the result of the analysis of the data collected from the field. The total number of respondents for the study was 75. The chapter shows the result of the socio-economic characteristics of urban poultry farmers, the effect of COVID-19 on the patronage of poultry enterprise, the perceive income of poultry enterprise in the pre and during the era of COVID-19, the coping strategies of poultry in the pre and during lockdown era of COVID-19, the preventive measures taken by poultry farmers to

prevent the spread of the virus in line with government policies and the constraints affecting urban poultry enterprise in the area of study. The results are presented as follows;

4.1 Socioeconomic Characteristics of Urban Poultry Farmers

The socio-economic characteristics of the respondents considered in this study include: Age, sex, marital status, educational level, household size, farm size (number of broilers and number of layers, product type), type of labour, source of income, annual farm income, major occupation, number of eggs collected daily (crate) and membership of agricultural association.

4.1.1 Sex

Table 4.1 shows that out of the surveyed 175 poultry farmers, 77.3% were male while 22.7% were female. This implies that the poultry farms in the study area were dominated by males. Male dominance may possibly be because of the rigours required to take care of the birds to maintain. The evidence is supported by Olumayowa and Otunaiya (2011) who did a work on profit efficiency and waste management in poultry farming in Ogun State, claims that poultry production is possibly masculine because its activities

require physical strength that men can provide alone. This result agrees with a recent study by Nwagwugwu and Lemea (2016) in Rivers State, which revealed that males (72.5%) significantly pre-dominated urban poultry production. This also agrees with Adesiyun, 2014, findings that the predominance of males implies that poultry production is tiring and energy consuming. However, this disagrees with Ekunwe, Soniregun, and Oyediji, (2006) who work on the Economics of small scale deep litter system of egg production in Edo State, findings that females are more involved in poultry production and which also agrees with the findings of Idowu, Cofie and Adetola (2012) who researched on gender analysis of land use for urban agriculture and sustainability of livelihoods in Freetown, Sierra Leone, that farms managed by females command higher returns compare to the male.

4.1.2 Age

Most of the farmers (42.7%) fall within the age range of 30-39 years with a mean of 49 years. This implies that they are young and very energetic to carry out tedious work associated with poultry waste management. This is in line with the findings of Olumayowa and Otunaiya (2011) that poultry farmers are mostly middle-aged citizens.

4.1.3 Marital status

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The finding shows that most of the respondents 73.3% were married. This suggests that marriage is part of most culture and as such every marriage individual take to marriage with a view to raising family and sustain their generation genealogically. It is normally believed that married household heads tend to be more stable in farming activities than unmarried heads (Chauke, Anim, Pfumayaramba and Nekhavhambe, (2014) who research on an assessment of factors affecting income generation under irrigation in South Africa.

4.1.4 Household size

The distribution of respondents according to their individual household sizes showed that most of the urban farmers (45.3%) had between 6-10 persons per household, with a mean of 6 persons. This implies that the respondents have family responsibilities since previous result shows that the majority are married and are in their thirties (4.1.2). This is an indication that the respondents had moderate household size which could serve as family labour supply. According to Olumayowa and Otunaiya (2011), household size influences the possible number of labour readily available to individual poultry farmer and this finding is also supported by Oladebo and Oluwaranti (2012) who worked on the profit efficiency in cassava

the urban farmers has one form of education and this support the belief that farmers are illiterate

4.1.6 Farm size/stock size

4.1.6.1 Number of broilers

Table 4.1 reveals that a majority 44.0% of the urban poultry farmers involved in poultry farming have stock size of 101-200 birds, 20.0% urban poultry farmers have stock size of 401-500 birds, 16.0% urban poultry farmers have a farm/stock size of 201-300 birds, 9.3% urban poultry farmers have a stock size of more than 501 birds, 6.7% urban poultry farmers have a stock size of 301-400 birds and less than 100 birds are raised by 4.0% of urban poultry farmers.

4.1.6.2 Number of layers

Majority (40.0%) of the urban poultry farmers involved in poultry farming have stock size of 101-200 birds, 25.3% urban poultry farmers have a stock size of 301-400 birds, 12.0% urban poultry farmers have a farm/stock size of 201-300 birds and more than 501 birds, 6.7% urban poultry farmers have stock size of 401-500 birds and less than 100 birds are raised by 4.0% of urban poultry farmers.

The result implies that most of the poultry farms in the study area were small scales. This finding is supported by Olumayowa and Otunaiya (2011) who in their study of profit efficiency and waste management in poultry farming in Ogun State, observed that 78% of the farmers reared less than 5,000 birds.

4.1.7 Product type

Majority (62.7%) of the urban poultry farmers raised broilers only. 21.3% of the urban poultry farmers raised layers only and then 16.0% of the urban poultry farmers raised combination of broilers and layers. This finding is in line with that of Moreki and Keaikitse (2013) but differed from that of Kalu *et al.*, (2016) who claimed that layers production is most prevalent among poultry farmers.

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4.1.8 Type of labour

The result in table 4.1 shows that 60.0% of the urban poultry farmers use hired labour while 40.0% of urban poultry farmers use family labour. This implies that most poultry farmers in the study area do not rely on their family labour in order to avoid bias in decision making and achieve better efficiency. But this disagree with Oyelami, Osikabor, Ugege, Odeyale, Ajanaku, (2020) work on the socio-economic characteristics analysis

of Poultry farming in Edo State, that household are the most needed labour requirement for poultry production activities.

4.1.9 Annual farm income (Naira)

Result showed that a higher proportion (46.7%) of the respondents earn between ₦301,000.00 - ₦600,000.00, followed by 13.3% earning between ₦100,000.00 - ₦300,000.00, 12.0% earn between ₦601,000.00 - ₦1,200,000.00, 4.0% earn more than ₦1,200,000.00. However, using relative poverty line (FOS, 1999) as used by Edeghon (2012) as the basis for assessment of poor and rich, this is generally fair when considered in the context of the national minimum income of one dollar per day as estimated by the United Nations. This amount is somewhat inadequate to sustain a family on food purchases in addition to other services that they would have to pay for, such as child education, health, electricity, water, rent, etc. Also, it is expected that they would be able to afford farm inputs (seeds, fertilizers and herbicides etc.) and the use of social facilities/places. This finding contrasts Adedayo and Tunde (2013) that most urban women farmers earn less than ₦50,000.00 annually.

4.1.10 Source of finance

Table 4.1 reveals that a majority (60.0%) of the respondents' source of finance for poultry production is from personal savings, 36.0% of the respondents' sources of finance for poultry production is from co-operatives while 4.0% of the respondents' source of finance is from bank loans. From the above findings, it is evident that most respondents use their little saving in poultry production activities which might be an impediment to expanding the horizon of their production activities because agricultural production generally is capital intensive. In Nigeria and the world at large, agricultural credit has been an important instrument not only for fostering agricultural development but also for improving efficiency and expanding production. It is a known fact that credit makes it possible for farmers to take advantage of new machines, good seed, fertilizers, engage in other production activities profitably, all of which enables them to organize and operate large and more profitable agricultural business. This agrees with the findings of (Ani A.O., 2004) which reported that, the need for providing agricultural credit to women farmers is universal, and agricultural credit has been an important instrument not only of fastening agricultural development but also for improving production and enhancing income and also at times for making up seasonal shortfalls.

4.1.11 Major occupation

The result of the distribution of respondents showed that 42.7% of the respondents were involved in other business as source of income, 20.0% of respondents had farming as their occupation, and 21.3% of the respondents are artisans while 16.0% of the respondents are civil servant /paid workers. This implies that the respondents also engaged in other income generating activities. Akanni and Benson (2014) support this outcome.

4.1.12 Number of eggs collected daily (Crate)

The results reveal that urban poultry farmers in the study area collect number of eggs of mean 20.15 daily.

4.1.13 Membership of agricultural association

The result in table 4.1 shows that 34.7% are members of Agriculture Association of Nigeria, majority (65.3%) of the urban poultry farmers are not members of agricultural association. This implies that majority of the respondents didn't see it as a necessity to belong to agricultural association which may have been of benefit to them. Involvement in poultry farmers' associations could help in the acquisition of irrelevant information in form of trainings and seminars that could enhance proper poultry management. However, this finding agree with the result of Oladeji (2011) in Oyo

State which revealed that a majority (83.3%) of the respondents were not in
any social organization.

Table 4.1: Socio-economic characteristics of urban poultry farmers

Variables	Freq.	%	Mean	Std. Dev	Min.	Max
Age (years)						
20-29 years	11	14.7				
30-39 years	32	42.7				
40-49 years	17	22.7	49	8.73	19	66
50-59 years	9	12.0				
60-69 years	6	8.0				
Sex						
Male	58	77.3				
Female	17	22.7				
Marital status						
Single	16	21.3				
Married	55	73.3				
Divorced/Separated	1	1.3				
Widow/Widower	3	4.0				
Household size						
1-5	30	40.0				
6-10	34	45.3	6.33	1.52	1	14
11-15	11	14.7				
Highest level of education						
No formal education	13	17.3				
Primary education	16	21.3				
Secondary education	45	60.0				
Tertiary education/Degree	14	18.7				
Farm size						
How many broilers			115.61	36.15		
<100	3	4.0				
101-200	33	44.0				
201-300	12	16.0	450.77	172.812	20	2500
301-400	5	6.7				

<u>401 i- i500</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>501 ibirds iand iabove</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9.3</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>How imany ilayers</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u><100</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>101 i- i200 i i</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>40.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>201 i- i300 i i</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>12.0</u>	<u>150.991</u>	<u>56,671.55</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>3000</u>
<u>301 i- i400 i</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>25.3</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>401 i- i500</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6.7</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>501 i ibirds iand iabove</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>12.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Product itype</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Broilers ionly</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>62.7</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Layers ionly</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Broilers i+ iLayers</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Type iof iLabour</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Family</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>40.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Hired ilabourers</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>60.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Annual ifarm iincome i(Naira) i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>N100,000- i300,000</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>13.3</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>N301,000 i- iN600,000</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>46.7</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>N601,000 i- N900,000</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>25.3</u>	<u>409,980.11</u>	<u>110,213.25</u>	<u>45,000.00</u>	<u>3,000</u>
<u>N901,000 iN1,200,000</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>12.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>>N1,200,000</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Source iof ifinance</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Personal isavings</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>60.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Co-operatives</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>36.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Banks</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Major ioccupation</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Farming</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Business</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>42.7</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Civil iservant/paid iworkers</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16.0</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Artisans i</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>
<u>Number iof ieggs icollected idaily i(Crate) i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>20.15</u>	<u>5.59</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>75</u>
<u>Membership</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>34.7</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>

iofiagricultural iassociation

Source: iField isurvey, i2022.

4.2 Patronage iof ipoultry iproducts iin ithe ipre, iand iduring ilockdown iera iof iCOVID-19

The iredult iin iTable i4.2 ishowes ithat ithe ilevel iof ipatronage iof ipoultry iproducts
iwas ihigh i(mean=2.77) iprior ithe ilockdown iera iof icovid-19. iThis iis
iconsidered ihigh ibecause ithe imean iis iabove i2.5. iWhile iduring ithe ilockdown,
ithe ilevel iof ipatronage iof ipoultry iproducts iwas ilow i(mean=1.33). iIt iis
iconsidered ilow ibecause ithe imean iis iless ithan i2.5. iIn imany icountries, ithe
iclosure iof irestaurants, ishops, ischools iand imarkets, ilimitations ion ipublic
igatherings ihave ireduced idemand ifor ipoultry iproducts iand iinfections iamong
iworkers iand isubsequent iclosure iof islaughterhouses iand ifood iprocessing iplant
ihas ireduced islaughtering iand iprocessing ithroughout ithe icountries i(InEuropa,
i2020; iMarchant-Forde iand iBoyle, i2020). iA ikey ipart iof ithe idisruption
ioccurred iwhen iretailers ireported ithat ithey icould inot icontinue inormal itrading
ipractices iin imarkets iand ishops. iThis iredulted ifrom igovernment irestrictions ion
iall ibusinesses iin ian ieffort ito iprevent ipublic igatherings i(World iHealth
iOrganization, i2020). iExceptions iwere imade ifor i“emergency iservices” iwhich
iincluded ifood istalls iand ikitchen imarkets. iEven ithose iemergency iservices
ipermitted ito iremain iopen ihad ito iclose iby i7 ip.m. i(TBSNEWS, i2020). iIn
iaddition, ivarious isocial, ireligious iand ipolitical ievents isuch ias

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weddings, parties, religious gatherings, election campaigns, where chicken and eggs were necessary food items, were banned (Ali, 2020). Several countries have outlawed the import of poultry meat, which has resulted in a 15–25% decline in chicken orders overall (De Lange 2020).

Table 4.2 Patronage of poultry products in the pre, and during lockdown era of COVID-19

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PERIOD	Very High Freq	%	High Freq.	%	Low Freq.	%	very Low Freq.	%	Mean
Pre iCovid-19	35	46.7	26	34.7	9	12.0	5	6.7	2.77
During iCovid-19	7	9.3	12	16.0	25	33.3	31	41.3	1.35

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Source: Field survey, 2022.
Mean > 2.5 = High

4.3 Income of respondents in the pre and during lockdown of the COVID-19 era

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As shown in Table 4.3, the seasonal income of the respondents on broilers before and during COVID-19 was N349,619.55 and N157,132.11, respectively. The seasonal income of the respondents on old layers before and during COVID-19 was N412,719.55 and N95,771.91 respectively. The result also revealed the seasonal income of the respondents on eggs production before and during COVID-19 was N217,158.25 and N65,771.33 respectively. The result implies that there is a drastic drop in the income of the urban poultry farmers during the lock down.

Lack of marketing opportunity was probably the most important issue, which forced the farmers/owners to keep the birds for a longer period, even much beyond the marketing age. Such action led to continued feeding of birds and increased feed conversion ratio, thereby heavy economic loss to the keepers. Longer rearing period causing over-growth of birds also resulted in the reduction of market acceptance and thus lower income.

Poultry traders also reported that the gradual increase in the severity of lockdown measures (World Health Organization, 2020), including the temporary closure of businesses and workplaces, had reduced consumer incomes. They speculated that many people could no longer afford to buy chickens even if they were able to adapt to new market systems.

These responses are in keeping with the findings of recent reports in which job losses or disruptions in the ability to do certain jobs during lockdown diminished many people's income (Islam and Babu, 2020; Rahman and Ruszczyk, 2020). In one report exploring COVID's impact on the labor market in Dhaka and Chittagong City Corporations, 22–25% of people reported losing their jobs either permanently or temporarily as a result of disruptions linked to COVID-19 (Genoni et al., 2020). According to one study, about 95% of households experienced income loss in the first two months of the pandemic, and 62% of earners reported lost jobs (Miah et al., 2020).

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According to law of demand, income of customers is a factor affecting demand such that a decrease in the income of customers will lead to a decrease in the quantity of goods demanded. The decrease in the quantity of goods demanded in turn decreases the income of the seller/respondents in this context. Also death of some birds as a result of the lockdown which restrict movement of the poultry farmers to purchase feeds or medicines for the sick birds may also decrease the income of the respondents. The result is in line with Abdullah Al Sattar1, et al., 2021, research on COVID-19 impact on poultry production in Bangladesh. The research revealed that wholesalers and retailers also reported that due to low consumer demand and restricted business hours (10a.m. to 4 p.m.), many more birds than

usual were left unsold every day meaning that vendors had to bear the cost
of keeping them alive

Table 4.3 Income of respondents in the pre, and during lockdown of the COVID-19 era

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<u>Seasonal income</u>	<u>Broiler (₦)</u>	<u>Old layers</u>	<u>Eggs (₦)</u>
<u>Pre COVID-19</u>	<u>349,619.55</u>	<u>412,719.55</u>	<u>217,158.25</u>
<u>During COVID-19</u>	<u>157,132.11</u>	<u>95,771.91</u>	<u>65,771.33</u>

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Source: Field survey, 2022.

4.4 Coping Strategies of Urban Poultry Enterprise

This was measured by asking the urban poultry farmers to identify the coping strategies put in place in their poultry enterprise in the pre and during lockdown period of COVID-19.

The result in table 4.4 reveals the coping strategies of urban poultry enterprise in the pre and during lockdown period of COVID-19.

4.4.1 Coping strategies of urban poultry enterprise prior to COVID-19.

The results show that less than half (36.0) of the urban poultry farmers implemented biosecurity measures. These measures prevent the entry and transmission of pathogens in the farms, thus minimizing the negative impact they can have on poultry production. 33.3% of the respondents reduced production rate, 21.3% of the respondents processed poultry products to enhance storage, 20.0% of the respondents slashed salaries of workers, 16.0% of the respondents were involved in digital marketing (online marketing), 12.0% of the respondents laid off workers to maximize income, 4.0% of the respondents provided efficient marketing channel and 2.7% of the respondents were involved in virtual mode of communication keeping in touch with old and new customers.

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These finding simply that urban poultry farmers in the study area had various coping strategies prior to COVID-19 but the most employed was implementation of biosecurity measures. Biosecurity systems is designed to involve the physical, biological, and chemical components of farms, guarding against the introduction and spread of pathogens (Derx 2020).

4.4.2 Coping strategies of urban poultry enterprise during COVID-19

The results shows that majority (97.3%) of the urban poultry farmers were involved in virtual mode of communication keeping in touch with old and new customers, 96.0% of the respondents provided efficient marketing channel, 88.0% of the respondents laid off workers to maximize income, 84.0% of the respondents were involved in digital marketing (online marketing), 80.0% of the respondents slashed salaries of workers, 87.7% of the respondents processed poultry products to enhance storage, 66.7% of the respondents reduced production rate, 64.0% of the respondents implemented biosecurity measures.

These finding simply that urban poultry farmers in the study area had various coping strategies during COVID-19 but the most employed was virtual mode of communication keeping in touch with old and new customers. This implies that the respondents made use of digital tools such as emails, text messages, messages, chats and video conferences to

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irelay information to their icustomers. iStaff imeetings ican ibe iconducted ivia iweb ilinks iand ion isocial imedia iplatforms ias ia icontingency iplan ito iensure iworkflow ifrom ithe iestablishment i(Kaye i2020).

Table i4.4 Coping iStrategies iof iUrban iPoultry iEnterprise

<u>i</u> Coping iStrategies	Pre iCOVID-19		During iCOVID-19	
	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Freq.</u>	<u>%</u>
<u>Digital iMarketing i(Online iMarketing)</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>16.0</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>84.0</u>
<u>Reduction iin iProduction iRate.</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>33.3</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>66.7</u>
<u>Laying-off iof iworker ito imaximize iincome</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>12.0</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>88.0</u>
<u>Slashing isalaries iof iworkers</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>20.0</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>80.0</u>
<u>Virtual iMode iCommunication/ iKeeping iin itouch iwith iold iand inew icustomers</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2.7</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>97.3</u>
<u>Implementation iof ibiosecurity imeasures</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>36.0</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>64.0</u>
<u>Processing iof ipoultry iproducts ito ienhance istorage</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>21.3</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>78.7</u>

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Provision of efficient 3 4.0 72 96.0

marketing channel

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Source: Field survey, 2022.

4.5 Preventive Measures of COVID-19

The result of data reported in Table 4.5 reveals the level of compliance to the preventive measures taken by urban poultry farmers to prevent the spread of the virus, in line with government policies in the study area.

The preventive measures of COVID-19 taken by the respondents are use of nose mask (mean=3.76), social distancing (mean=3.17), good environmental and personal hygiene (mean=3.16), regular washing of the hand with soap and water (mean=2.83), use of hand sanitizer (mean=2.77), avoidance of social gathering (mean=2.51), avoiding contact with open surfaces (mean=1.59), constant checkup for COVID-19 symptom (mean=1.52) and vaccination (mean=1.19).

The high level of compliance to the preventive measures taken by urban poultry farmers to prevent the spread of the virus include: the use of nose mask (mean=3.76), social distancing (mean=3.17), good environmental and personal hygiene (mean=3.16), regular washing of the hand with soap and water (mean=2.83), use of hand sanitizer (mean=2.77) and avoidance of social gathering (mean=2.51). These preventive measures are considered high as their mean are above 2.5. The result implies that a majority of the farmers took preventive measures to prevent spread of COVID-19. While the low level of compliance to the preventive measures taken by

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urban poultry farmers to prevent the spread of the virus include: avoiding contact with open surfaces, constant checkup for COVID-19 symptom (mean=1.52) and vaccination (mean=1.19). These preventive measures are considered low as their mean are below 2.5.

Table 4.5: Preventive Measures of COVID-19

<u>Preventive Measures of Covid-19</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std. Dev</u>
<u>Social Distancing</u>	<u>3.17</u>	<u>0.51</u>
<u>Regular washing of the hand with soap and water</u>	<u>2.83</u>	<u>0.14</u>
<u>Use of Nose Mask</u>	<u>3.76</u>	<u>0.16</u>
<u>Use of Hand Sanitizer</u>	<u>2.77</u>	<u>0.27</u>
<u>Constant checkup for COVID-19 symptom</u>	<u>1.52</u>	<u>0.12</u>
<u>Avoid social gathering</u>	<u>2.51</u>	<u>0.27</u>
<u>Avoiding contact with open surfaces</u>	<u>1.59</u>	<u>0.19</u>
<u>Good environmental and personal hygiene</u>	<u>3.16</u>	<u>0.42</u>
<u>Vaccination</u>	<u>1.19</u>	<u>0.25</u>

Source: Field survey, 2022.

Mean > 2.5= high

4.6 Constraint iConfronting ithe iUrban iPoultry iEnterprise

The i4.6 shows iconstraint confronting iurban ipoultry ienterprise in terms of imarketing iand idistribution of itheir iproducts in ithe ipre iand iduring iCOVID-19 iera.

4.6.1 The iconstraint confronting ithe iurban ipoultry ienterprise in ithe ipre iCOVID-19 iera

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4.6.2 The constraint confronting the urban poultry enterprise in the during COVID-19 era

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The constraints confronting the urban poultry enterprise in terms of marketing and distribution of their products during the COVID-19 era in the study area during COVID-19 include: reduction in market supply/quantity (mean=3.88), price instability (mean=3.82), rumors (Misconception) (mean=3.77), shortage of marketers and distributors (mean=3.71), high cost of production (mean=3.69), drop in demand (mean=3.59), shortage of transportation (mean=3.16) and increase in the cost of marketing and distribution (mean=2.65). All the constraints are serious. They are considered serious as their means are above 2.5.

This finding imply that during the COVID-19, urban poultry farmers in the study area had so many problems that affected the marketing and distribution of their products but the most critical problem is reduction in market supply/quantity. Given that poultry are live animals, the requirement for daily care and routine management (feeding and watering, environmental hygiene, waste disposal and health care), means that poultry production relies heavily on the availability of manpower. Farm operations may be very difficult to navigate where employees are sick, quarantined or

insufficient. Inconsistencies in routine management may lead to reduction in body weights, feed intake, egg production, overall health and welfare of poultry resulting in production losses and shortages in poultry products (Butterworth 2018). However, the impacts of COVID-19 on animal protein (poultry products inclusive) demand and supply is yet to be fully ascertained (Roembke 2020).

Another constraint is shortage of transportation. Likewise, the imminent threat of the food crisis arising from health safety measures including border closures, self-quarantine, and disruptions to trade, also limits accessibility to food supplies (Harvey 2020). Delayed transportation and shortages of feed may also affect farmers' needs to attend to birds daily throughout the production cycle. Likewise, blockades to transportation hinder the timely supply of meat and eggs, especially for the fresh food supply chains, resulting in increased deterioration (Mack et al. 2014), wastages of poultry product and loss of income for farmers.

Another serious constraint is drop in demand. The shelf-life of poultry products is limited, for both fresh eggs (14 days at room temperature and 57 days at 4°C) (Feddern et al., 2017) and fresh meat (6 days at 4°C) (Kozacinski et al., 2012). With the uncertainties surrounding the current pandemic, wastages of food products looms either due to excess

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istockpiling or failure to purchase produced goods. Another serious constraint is price instability. The closure of markets limits access to foodstuffs and trading activities, as well as causing spikes in food prices resulting from prolonged market lockdown. This accrues to public health issues of malnutrition and starvation in relatively poor regions. Hikes in prices of meat and foodstuffs have been reported from countries such as South Africa, Rwanda, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Angola (Krippahl 2020; Mabuza 2020).

Table 4.6: Constraints confronting the urban poultry enterprise

	Pre-Covid 19		During Covid 19	
<u>Constraints</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std. Dev</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std. Dev</u>
<u>Shortage of transportation</u>	<u>1.15</u>	<u>0.18</u>	<u>3.16*</u>	<u>0.19</u>
<u>Reduction in market supply/quantity</u>	<u>2.27</u>	<u>0.43</u>	<u>3.88*</u>	<u>0.32</u>
<u>Increase in the cost of marketing and distribution</u>	<u>1.29</u>	<u>0.15</u>	<u>2.65*</u>	<u>0.26</u>
<u>Shortage of marketers and distributors</u>	<u>1.14</u>	<u>0.57</u>	<u>3.71*</u>	<u>0.52</u>
<u>High cost of production</u>	<u>2.51</u>	<u>0.44</u>	<u>3.69*</u>	<u>0.28</u>
<u>Price instability</u>	<u>3.28</u>	<u>0.21</u>	<u>3.82*</u>	<u>0.21</u>
<u>Drop in demand</u>	<u>1.73</u>	<u>0.51</u>	<u>3.59*</u>	<u>0.29</u>
<u>Rumors (Misconception)</u>	<u>2.22</u>	<u>0.15</u>	<u>3.77*</u>	<u>0.21</u>

Source: Field survey, 2022.

Mean > 2.50 = High

4.7 Hypothesis

4.7.1 Relationship between the Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Poultry Farmers and Effect of COVID-19 on Poultry Enterprise

Null Hypothesis testing: There is no significant relationship between the socio-economic characteristics of the poultry farmers and effect of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise.

The result reveals that household size, farm size, annual farm income and number of eggs collected daily is significant at 0.05 level. While age is not significant in determining the effects of COVID-19 lockdown on poultry enterprise.

The result shows that household size (3.385) was positive correlated and significant at 0.05 level. The result shows that an increase in household size of the farmer results in the increase in the effects of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise by 3.385 times (approximately 3.4). This implies that an increase in household size either due to new childbirths or the arrival of relatives, will result to an increase in the effects of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise. According to Olumayowa and Otunaiya (2011), household size influences the possible number of labour readily available to individual poultry farmer but at the same time it increases amount of food consumed by the household and then the cost of consumption.

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The result shows that farm size/stock size (3.417) was positive correlated and significant at 0.05 level. The result shows that an increase in farm size of the farmer results in the increase in the effects of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise by 3.417 times (approximately 3.4). That is, most of the urban farmers with large farm size/stock size suffered the effect of COVID-19 lockdown more compare to the urban farmer with smaller farm size.

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The result shows that annual farm income (-2.698) was negatively correlated and significant at 0.05 level. The result shows that a drop in annual farm income of the farmer results from an increase in the effects of COVID-19 lockdown on poultry enterprise by 2.698 times (approximately 2.7). This shows that farmers with smaller farm sizes made more profit than the farmers with large farm size, due to the ease of managing small farm size which incurred lesser cost compared to urban enterprise with large farm size.

The result shows that number of eggs collected daily (-3.533) was negatively correlated and significant at 0.05 level. The result shows that a drop in the number of eggs collected daily by the farmer results from an increase in the effects of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise by 3.533 times (approximately 3.5). Adoption of policies and measures to reduce the effect of COVID-19 will in turn increase the number of eggs collected daily, leading to a more improved productivity and return.

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The result also reveals the R-square of 0.3375 which indicates that household size, farm size, annual farm income and number of eggs collected daily have 33.75% influence on the effects of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise.

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We can therefore reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate hypothesis that there is a significant relationship between some of the socio-economic characteristics such as: education, sex, household size, source of labour and annual farm income of the poultry farmers and effect of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State.

Table 4.7.1: Multiple Regression Analysis showing the Relationships between Socio-Economic Characteristics and effects of COVID-19 Lockdown.

<u>i</u>	<u>Coefficients</u>	<u>Std. iErr</u>	<u>t-ratio</u>	<u>P-valu</u>
<u>Age i(years)</u>	<u>-0.418</u>	<u>0.313</u>	<u>-1.335</u>	<u>0:191</u>
<u>Household isize i</u>	<u>0.721</u>	<u>0.213</u>	<u>3.385*</u>	<u>0:042</u>
<u>Farm isize</u>	<u>0.410</u>	<u>0.120</u>	<u>3.417*</u>	<u>0:035</u>
<u>Annual ifarm iincome i(Naira) i</u>	<u>-0.518</u>	<u>0.192</u>	<u>-2.698*</u>	<u>0:050</u>
<u>Number iof ieggs icollected idaily i(Crate)</u>	<u>-0.318</u>	<u>0.090</u>	<u>-3.533*</u>	<u>0:028</u>

Source: iField iSurvey, i2022.
R= i0.581, iR-square i= i0.3375.
*Sign. iat i0.05 ilevel iof isignificance.

4.7.2 Hypothesis i2: iDifference iin ithe iPatronage iof iPoultry iProducts iin ithe itwo iEra iof iCOVID-19.

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Null iHypothesis itesting i2: iThere iis ino isignificant idifference iin ithe ipatronage iof ipoultry iproducts iin ithe itwo iera iof iCOVID-19.

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The iresult ishows ithat ipre iCOVID-19 iis isignificant iwhile iduring iCOVID-19 iis inot isignificant iin idetermining ithe ipatronage iof ipoultry iproducts.

The iresult ialso ishows ithat ipre iCOVID-19 i(3.55) iis ipositively icorrelated iand isignificant iat i0.05 ilevel. iThis iimplies ithat ithe ilevel iof ipatronage iof ipoultry iproducts iprior ito iCOVID-19 iis ihigher icompared ito iduring iCOVID-19. iThis imay ibe idue ito ithe ifact ithat irestaurants, ishops, ischools iand imarkets iwere iopened. iPublic igatherings ior isocial igatherings iwere inot ilimited. iThis iwill ilead ito iincreased idemand/patronage ifor ipoultry iproducts.

We ican itherefore ireject ithe inull ihypothesis iand iaccept ithe ialternate ihypothesis ithat ithere iis ia idifference iin ithe ipatronage iof ipoultry iproducts iin ithe itwo ieras iof iCOVID-19 iin iOvia iNorth-East iand iEgor iLocal iGovernment iArea, iEdo iState.

Table 4.7.2: Results of t-test showing the significance difference in the patronage of poultry products in pre and during Covid 19 era.

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std. Dev</u>	<u>Std. Err</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>p-value</u>
<u>Pre-Covid 19 (patronage)</u>	<u>39.719</u>	<u>8.518</u>	<u>0.461</u>	<u>3.55*</u>	<u>0.002</u>
<u>During Covid 19 (patronage)</u>	<u>11.932</u>	<u>2.172</u>	<u>0.836</u>	<u>-1.16</u>	<u>0.248</u>

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Source: Field Survey, 2022.

*Sign. at 0.05 level of significance.

4.7.3 Hypothesis 3: Difference in the income of the poultry farmers in the pre, and during COVID-19

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Null Hypothesis testing 3: There is no significant difference in the income of poultry farmers in the two era of COVID-19.

The result shows that pre COVID-19 is significant while during COVID-19 is not significant in determining the income of poultry farmers.

The result also shows that pre COVID-19 (6.159) is positively correlated and significant at 0.01 level. This implies that the level of income of poultry farmers prior to COVID-19 is higher compared to during COVID-19. This is due to the fact that production before the COVID-19/lockdown is increased since there was no restriction of movement. According to the result of this study in table 4.3, the result revealed that the income of the poultry farmers before COVID-19 is higher than their income during COVID-19. Increase in the income of customers before COVID-19 will increase their purchasing power which in turn increases the income of the farmers.

Islam and Babu, 2020; Rahman and Ruszczyk, 2020, reported that job losses or disruptions in the ability to do certain jobs during lockdown diminished many people's income.

We can therefore reject the null hypothesis and accept the alternate hypothesis that there is a difference in the income of the poultry farmers

in the two years of COVID-19 in Ovia North-East and Egor Local

Government Area, Edo State.

Table 4.7.3: Results of t-test on the differences in income in pre and during COVID-19 era.

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<u>i</u>	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Std. Dev</u>	<u>Std. Err</u>	<u>T-value</u>	<u>p-value</u>
<u>Pre-Covid 19 (Income)</u>	<u>979,497.35</u>	<u>160,351.66</u>	<u>11.58</u>	<u>6.159**</u>	<u>0.000</u>
<u>During Covid 19 (Income)</u>	<u>318,675.35</u>	<u>76,361.49</u>	<u>6.361</u>	<u>i</u>	<u>i</u>

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Source: Field Survey, 2022.

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**Sign. at 0.01 level of significance.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

This chapter presents the summary of the major findings of the study. The conclusion and recommendations were drawn from the results obtained from the data analyzed.

5.1 Summary of the study

The broad objective of the study will be to examine the effects of COVID-19 on the poultry enterprise among urban poultry farmers in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State.

The study examined the socioeconomic characteristics of urban poultry farmers, patronage of poultry products in the pre and during lockdown era of COVID-19, the income of respondents in the pre and during lockdown of the COVID-19 era, coping strategies of poultry enterprise in the pre and during lockdown era of COVID-19, urban poultry enterprise use of the preventive measure put in place to curb the spread of COVID-19 and the constraint confronting the urban poultry enterprise in terms of marketing and distribution of their products in the pre and during COVID-19 era in the study area.

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Based on the findings in the study, it can be depicted that majority of the respondents are male (77.3%) and females (22.70%) involved in poultry farming. The study showed that majority of the farmers engaged in poultry farming are married (73.3%). About half of the poultry farmers are between the ages 30-39 years (42.70%). The study further showed that most of the farmers engaged in poultry farming are educated and majority of the poultry farmers (60.0%) had their source of income from their personal savings and this agrees with Suranga Wadduwage (2020) who studied the drivers of urban farmers' land-use decision in Australia, that off-farm income is significant in measuring the income of farmers. Majority of them have household size of between 6-10 people, farm size of 101-200 birds and most of them uses hired labour. Few (34.7%) of the respondents belong to agricultural association.

Also, the study reveals that the level of patronage of poultry products was high (mean=2.77) prior the lockdown era of covid-19. This is considered high because the mean is above 2.5. The study also reveals that there is a drastic drop in the income of the urban poultry farmers during the lockdown. This finding shows that urban poultry farmers in the study area had various coping strategies during COVID-19 but the most employed was virtual mode of communication keeping in touch with old and new customers. The high level of compliance to the preventive measures taken by

urban poultry farmers to prevent the spread of the virus include: the use of nose mask (mean=3.76), social distancing (mean=3.17), good environmental and personal hygiene (mean=3.16), regular washing of the hand with soap and water (mean=2.83), use of hand sanitizer (mean=2.77) and avoidance of social gathering (mean=2.51). These preventive measures are considered high as their mean are above 2.5. The serious constraints that confronted the urban poultry enterprise in terms of marketing and distribution of their products prior the COVID-19 era in the study area include: price instability (mean=3.28) and high cost of production (mean=2.51). This finding also showed that during the COVID-19, urban poultry farmers in the study area had so many problems that affected the marketing and distribution of their products but the most critical problem was reduction in market supply/quantity.

5.2 Conclusion

The result reveals the R-square of 0.3375 which indicates that household size, farm size, annual farm income and number of eggs collected daily have 33.75% influence on the effects of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise. This indicates that there is a significant relationship between some of the socio-economic characteristics of the poultry farmers and effect of COVID-19 on poultry enterprise, there is a difference in the patronage of poultry products

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and income of urban poultry farming farmers in the two era of COVID-19 in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State.

In responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and emerging incidences, it is essential that African governments strive to promote, sustain and integrate public health measures (such as social distancing, coughing etiquette, good personal and communal hygiene practices), along with food security measures in the society.

5.3 Recommendation

1. An effective response towards COVID-19 underlying challenges to the poultry sector would be to ensure sustained production activities through ease of entry and exit of farm products and the production and improvement of other means of transportation such as the emphasis on the use of technology, as this enhance productivity and correct the challenges of supply chain such as the use of WhatsApp, Facebook and other social media platform, adherence to regulatory standards, restructuring of food systems that could ensure effective marketing and distribution of poultry product prior to the occurrence of any other pandemic and preventing disruption to supply-chain, without undermining the public's health and safety.

2. The development of strategies and policies that could help control price instability, which could result to food insecurity prior to the occurrence of

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future insurgencies should be put in place, putting in consideration the health and livelihoods of farmers, with the overall aim of improving production, distribution, processing, packaging and markets of poultry products which will in turn enhance economy development.

3. Policies targeted towards implementing biosecurity and bio-surveillance would assist poultry farmers, especially the ones with large farm size in mitigating the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with the inclusion of any future insurgency in poultry sector.

4. Finally, the government must be prepared to consistently disseminate public health information and develop strategies to prevent and counter the spread of misleading information and false news prior to any future pandemics. In the case of COVID-19, public information campaign should continue to promote the dietary value of consuming poultry products. i

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QUESTIONNAIRE

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND EXTENSION,
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN,
BENIN CITY, EDO STATE, NIGERIA.**

**QUESTIONNAIRE ON THE EFFECT OF COVID-19 ON URBAN
POULTRY ENTERPRISE IN OVI NORTH-EAST AND EGOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, EDO STATE, NIGERIA.**

Dear respondent,

I am a final year student of the above-named institution carrying out a research on the topic “Effect of COVID-19 on Urban Poultry Enterprise in Ovia North-East and Egor Local Government Area, Edo State, Nigeria”. I hereby solicit your assistance by responding to the questions accurately. All information given will be treated with strict confidentiality and only used for the purpose of this study.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,

Ajibare Miracle UNUSENAME

SECTION A: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

1. Sex: (a) Male [] (b) Female []

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2. Marital status: (a) Single (b) Married (c) Divorced/Separated
(d) Widow/Widower

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3. Household size..... (Number of persons eating from same
pot)

4. Highest level of education: (a) No formal education (b) Primary
education (c) Secondary education (d) Tertiary
education/Degree (e) Others (Please specify)

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5. Farm size ----- (No of birds).

..... (a) How many broilers -----

..... (b) How many layers -----

6. Product type: (a) Birds only (b) Layers (c) Broilers + Layers
(d)

7. Source of Labour: (a) Family (b) Hired labourers (c) Others-----
----- (specify)

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8. Annual farm income? (Please specify in Naira)

9. Source of finance (a) Personal savings (b) Co-operatives (c)
(d) Banks (e) Others (specify)-----

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10. Major occupation (a) Farming (b) Business (c) Civil

servant/paid workers (d) Artisans

11. Number of eggs collected daily-----.

12. Do you belong to any agricultural association? (a) Yes (b) No

SECTION B: LEVEL OF PATRONAGE

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>VERY HIGH</u>	<u>HIGH</u>	<u>LOW</u>	<u>VERY LOW</u>
<u>PRELOCKDOWN (COVID-19)</u>				
<u>DURING LOCKDOWN (COVID-19)</u>				

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PERIOD

VERY HIGH

HIGH

LOW

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SECTION C: INCOME PER PRODUCTION PERIOD

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>BROILER (₹)</u>	<u>OLD LAYERS (₹)</u>	<u>EGGS</u>
<u>PRELOCKDOWN (COVID-19)</u>			
<u>DURING LOCKDOWN (COVID-19)</u>			

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BROILER (₹)

OLD LAYERS (₹)

EGGS (₹)

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SECTION ID: COPING STRATEGIES OF URBAN POULTRY

ENTERPRISE

COPING STRATEGIES	PRE LOCKDOWN	DURING LOCKDOWN
<u>Digital marketing (online marketing)</u>		
<u>Reduction in production rate</u>		
<u>Laying-off of worker to maximize income</u>		
<u>Slashing salaries of workers</u>		
<u>Virtual mode communication/keeping in touch with old and new customers</u>		
<u>Implementation of biosecurity measures to prevent human contamination</u>		
<u>Processing of poultry products enhanced storage, marketing and distribution</u>		
<u>Provision of efficient marketing for easy accessibility with COVID-19 Prevention measures</u>		

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SECTION iE: iPREVENTIVE iMEASURES

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Which iof ithese ido iyou ipractice?

PREVENTIVE iMEASURE i	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	RARELY	NEVER
<u>Social iDistancing i</u>				
<u>Regular iwashing iof ithe ihand iwith isoap iand iwater i</u>				
<u>Use iof iNose imask</u>				
<u>Use iof iHand isanitizer</u>				
<u>Constant icheckup ifor iCOVID-19 isymptom i</u>				
<u>Avoid isocial igathering i</u>				
<u>Avoiding icontact iwith iopen isurfaces</u>				
<u>Good ienvironmental iand ipersonal ihygiene</u>				
<u>Vaccination i</u>				

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SECTION iF: iConstraint ifacing iUrban iPoultry iFarmers iin iterms iof iMarketing iand iDistribution iof itheir iproducts. i

PREVENTIVE MEASURES OF COVID-19

ALWAYS

SOMETIMES

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Where, iV.S i= iVERY iSERIOUS, iS i= iSERIOUS, iN.S i= iNOT iSERIOUS iand iN.A.A i= iNOT iAT iALL

Constraints	Pre Lockdown period				During lockdown			
	<u>V.S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>N.S</u>	<u>N.A.A</u>	<u>V.S</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>N.S</u>	<u>N.A.A</u>
<u>Movement Restrictions</u>								
<u>Shortage of Transportation</u>								
<u>Reduction in market supply quantity</u>								
<u>Increase in the cost of marketing and distribution</u>								
<u>Shortage of marketers and distributors</u>								
<u>High cost of production</u>								
<u>Price instability</u>								
<u>Drop in demand</u>								
<u>Rumors (Misconception)</u>								

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 CONSTRAINTS
 DURING LOCKDOWN

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