Abstract

The potential and restrictions of poultry production supports promoted by the Strategic Food Security Program (Programa Estratégico para la Seguridad Alimentaria, PESA) were analyzed, in regions of high marginalization in Guerrero, México. In the year 2010, 107 Family Poultry Production Units (Unidades Avícolas de Producción Familiar, UAPF) with at least one year of operation were surveyed, from a registry of 2268 projects. The results showed that after 18 and 30 months of operation, only 6% of the UAPFs ceased to operate, although close to 47% decreased significantly and continued functioning because PESA granted additional supports of up to three years if they did not abandon the activity. Later, in 2012, information was collected from 51 of these UAPFs. It was found that after 48 months of operation, 39% of the UAPFs had stopped poultry production, 32% had decreased, and only 29% of these showed viability. These results suggest avoiding massive public policies for food production under backyard conditions, and considering the restrictions which families face to guarantee the sustainability of the projects.

Keywords

Family agriculture, backyard poultry, development of abilities, rural poverty, public policies.