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Background

Africa gradually moves towards market orientated production

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The African continent is not in a prominent position on the world poultry map. Yet a number of countries are slowly moving towards higher domestic production, both in meat and eggs. Market orientated commercial production methods are gradually gaining importance.

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By Dr. Hans-Wilhelm Windhorst , University of Vechta, Germany

Compared to its population, Africa is only playing a minor role in the global poultry industry. In 2009, Africa shared about 14% of the global population but contributed only 4.5% to global chicken meat and 4.1% to egg production. So it is not surprising that African countries had a high negative balance of trade with chicken meat. In 2008, 666,000 tonnes had to be imported to meet the domestic demand. The import volume for shell eggs for consumption was much smaller. Only about 32,000 tonnes had to be imported. The main reasons for the comparatively low production volume are the lack of know-how, capital and high-quality feed as well as the political instability in many countries.



Regional meat dynamics

Between 1990 and 2009 the production volume of chicken meat almost doubled ([Table 1](#)). The highest absolute and relative growth rates were in northern African countries, followed by southern African. The lowest production increase was to be found in middle African countries which together produced only about 71,000 tonnes of poultry meat. A very low income, high poverty rates and an overall low development status are the main steering factors. [Figure 1](#) shows that the continuous upward trend reflects the dynamic development in northern and western Africa. In southern Africa, the increase in the production volume came to a halt in 2002.

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A closer look at the situation per country reveals that the regional concentration of chicken meat production is quite high ([Table 2](#)). The ten leading countries shared 82% of the overall production volume in 2009. South Africa was in a leading position with a contribution of 26.9% to African chicken meat production, followed by Egypt and Morocco. It is worth mentioning that five northern African countries ranked among the top ten chicken meat

producing countries. A comparatively high per capita consumption, a result of the taboo on pig meat, and a higher development status are the main reasons for the concentration of the chicken meat industry in northern Africa.

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African content can not come on the map of world poultry map, due to droughts, which affect the production of soya beans and maize which are the raw materials that are required for the production of feed, that is required for feeding broilers, or layers. political instability is key factor affecting most african countries, no investor can put his money or investment where there is political polarisation. Money does not need noise. Many african counties have a high rate of unenployment this will affect consumers in terms of buying power, they can not afford to buy chickens as source of protein. Dumping of imported chickens from Brazil, Argentina is also affecting growth of the poultry industry.

Tarusenga Munyanyi at 08-11-2011 08:17

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