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## Comparative study of Giriraja and Desi birds under backyard system of rearing in farmers field

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**Abstract :** Giriraja is a dual purpose bird suitable for backyard rearing and intensive system of management. Because of its sturdy and resistant nature, it can easily acclimatize itself to any region and weather. A field level study was undertaken to evaluate efficiency of production performance of Giriraja and Desi birds in 32 households each 20 birds under backyard system of rearing in Thanjavur district of Tamil Nadu state with respect to age at sexual maturity, average weight at first egg, average live weight at 28th week and hen day egg production at 52 weeks of age. The average live weight gain of Giriraja birds after 6 months was 2.127 kg which was higher than that of Desi birds (1.100kg). Age at sexual maturity was ranged between 155.00-157.02 days in Giriraja birds whereas the age at sexual maturity in Desi birds was 181.17-182.25. The mean weight at first egg was 45g in Giriraja whereas 38g in Desi birds. The egg production up to 52 wks of age was ranged from 202.56-206.12 in Giriraja and 91.78-93.61 in Desi birds. Moreover, the average weight of chicks of Giriraja and Desi birds at day old age observed was 50.2g and 41.8g, respectively.

**Key words:** Giriraja, Desi birds, Backyard system, Rearing

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