

## Production and expansion of "Ligor Chicken"

Production and expansion of “Ligor chicken” rearing to create career security. It is an integrated project that consists of teaching, research, and academic services in the form of social engagement. The objective is to allow farmers in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province to use Ligor chickens as a tool to create a career and increase income for households. The project brings knowledge and innovation to solve problems or needs of the community. Therefore, this project has cooperation with various networks and related agencies, including the School of Agricultural Technology and Food Industry, Akkhararatchakumari Veterinary College, Walailak University, National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and Department of Livestock Development, in participating in the production of Ligor chicks to promote raising them for farmers.

Ligor chickens are native crossbred chickens that are classified as slow growth broilers. At present, the world has turned more attention to raising this type of chicken. The chicken breeder companies such as Aviagen and Cobb have also developed slow-growing chicken breeds such as Rowan Range, Spacialty Hales and Sasso in response to farmers' desire to raise them in a semi-caged and free-range manner. In addition, native crossbred chickens have many advantages over broiler chickens, especially the taste of the chicken meat is more delicious. It has higher nutritional benefits and lower cholesterol than broiler chicken meat. Native crossbred chickens are suitable to be used as a tool to create jobs for farmers because native chickens are generally highly resistant to disease and adapts well to various environments and can be raised at many styles, both in housing, semi-caged, free caged style, which is the traditional way of raising chickens that farmers are familiar with low investment in building construction and suitable for the current economic situation. Previous study, at 84 day of age is suitable period for rearing Ligor chickens, with an average final weight of 1.55 kilograms, the amount of feed intake is 3.76 kilograms, the FCR is 2.51, the average cost per kilogram of chicken is 72.8 baht (100% commercial feed), the average selling price of fattening chickens is 77.5 baht (on farm), farmers get net profit about 4.7 baht per kilogram. Therefore, we have promoted the raising of Ligor chickens to increase income.

In this year, this project sold 47,781 Ligor chicks to 74 farmers. 24 farmers from 74 farmers were selected to be a part of the Ligor chicken network which were farmers who had continuously

raised Ligor chicken, had a good attitude toward to this project, provided information and allowed to inspect the farm. Furthermore, the project also promotes the raising of Ligor chickens in Central Prisons for use as food and as a guide for prisoners' future careers as well. From the performance data, it was found that Ligor chickens can be used as tools for create career in the upper of southern region. In one year, farmers would be able to raised and sold a total of 9 crops. Therefore, farmers should raise 300 Ligor chicken/crop or more for 84 days and have a final weight at 1.6 kilograms, resulting in farmers having a net income of approximately 80,654 – 188,697 bath/year. However, it depends on the type of farming, feeding program and price in each year. In addition, farmers should increase their knowledge both in the form of reskill and upskill to become entrepreneurs and increase competitiveness.

Production and expansion of “Ligor chicken” rearing to create career security project was helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the areas of

- **No Poverty:** This project provided the knowledge of raising Ligor chicken, which a tool to create a career and increase income for households.
- **Zero Hunger:** This project focus on ensuring that every household has sufficient quality protein food for consumption.
- **PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS:** This project integrated work on community enterprise and University.
  - National agencies
  - Community agencies
  - Local enterprise