

ABSTRACT

There is limited secondary information with respect to unit cost of producing pigs for the market in Trinidad. Pig farmers in Trinidad generally do not maintain adequate production and financial records. This study provides an overview of the industry and used the estimation of cost of production to procure information and evaluate the issues surrounding the production of pig products in Trinidad and Tobago. A sample size of 18 farmers was used to estimate the cost of producing pig products in Trinidad. This study provides information useful to individuals interested in entering and developing the industry either directly or indirectly.

The results demonstrate that the major pig products produced for consumption are Live Pigs (55%), Weaners (6%) and Fatteners and Slaughter making up the other percentage. The quantity products produced per farm was 218 pig products accounting for 33% of the quantity produced. The general revenue received ranged from \$100000-\$400000 per operation; the highest frequency was found in the range \$100000-\$125000.

The study concluded that the main problem identified by farmers was feed cost and Medication (39%). The shortage of available labour was prominent among sampled farmers and the major of the labour supply was provided by the owners with a few employing part-time workers.

It is hoped that the information in this research study provides a useful starting point for individuals interesting in exploring producing pig products opportunities in Trinidad.