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Government allows soymeal import, to ease prices.

By Dr. Sushanth B.Rai, President, KPFBA

The government of India has approved the import of around 0.55 million metric tonnes (mmt) of genetically-modified (GM) soymeal, a key ingredient in poultry feed. The Department of Consumer Affairs has stated that these shipments of soymeal have to be imported before September 30, 2022. In the recent past, the poultry sector has been facing a crisis due to short supply of soyameal and rising prices.

Last year, in August, the government allowed import of 1.2 mmt of GM soymeal, mostly from Argentina, to avert another poultry feed crisis. However, the trade could import only 0.6mmt due to time constraints, leaving a gap.

The poultry sector in general and our association in particular has been bringing this to the notice of the government on a regular basis.

and the poultry sector had sought import of soymeal to tide over the rising cost of animal nutrition. The treasurer of the Poultry Federation of India, Ricky Thaper had said import of soymeal was essential to keep raw material prices in check.

SOPA opposes import

However, there has been opposition by the Soybean Processor Association of India (SOPA) which felt that import of soymeal would be 'counter-productive' and would pull down domestic price of soyabean. The SOPA Executive Secretary, D.N.Pathak had told Financial Express that "India has sufficient stock of soymeal and import would adversely impact crushing of soyabean crop which is expected to begin from October,2022 after the harvest of kharif crop." Presently, soybean is sold at about Rs 6,800 a quintal against a minimum support price (MSP) of Rs 3,950 a quintal.

In a communication to Atul Chaturvedi, secretary, ministry of animal husbandry, SOPA stated that at the end of the current season that ends in September 2022, the country will have a carry-forward stock of 2 mt of uncrushed soybean before new kharif crops arrives.

Out of the total production of soybean in the country, 81% is used as soymeal while 18% is extracted as oil and the rest is considered processing losses. The domestic prices of soymeal is around Rs 68,000 a tonne, while imported prices at present is around Rs 58,000 a tonne, which includes 16% import duties.



13.12 mmt soybean production expected

The ministry of agriculture has estimated the country's soybean production in the 2021-22 crop year (July-June) at 13.12 mt. Three states - Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan contribute over 90% of India's soybean production.

The government has also scrapped customs duty and agriculture infrastructure development cess on the import of crude soyabean oil and crude sunflower oil for 20 lakh metric tonnes each per year to ease local prices.

The duty-free import of 20 lakh MT per year will be applicable for two fiscals, 2022-23 and 2023-24, for crude soyabean oil and crude sunflower oil, according to a notification by the Finance Ministry.

This would mean till March 31, 2024, a total of 80 lakh MT on crude soyabean oil and crude sunflower oil could be imported duty free. The exemption will help cool domestic prices and control inflation.

Person of the Month: Ashok Kumar Karikala Sadashiva – An Inspirational Agripreneur

K.S.Ashok Kumar, Managing Director of MAA Integrators, is a fountain of knowledge, particularly when it comes to the poultry sector. He is not only a wealth of information, but also an entrepreneur who is setting trends, who is motivational and who has a keen sense of business.

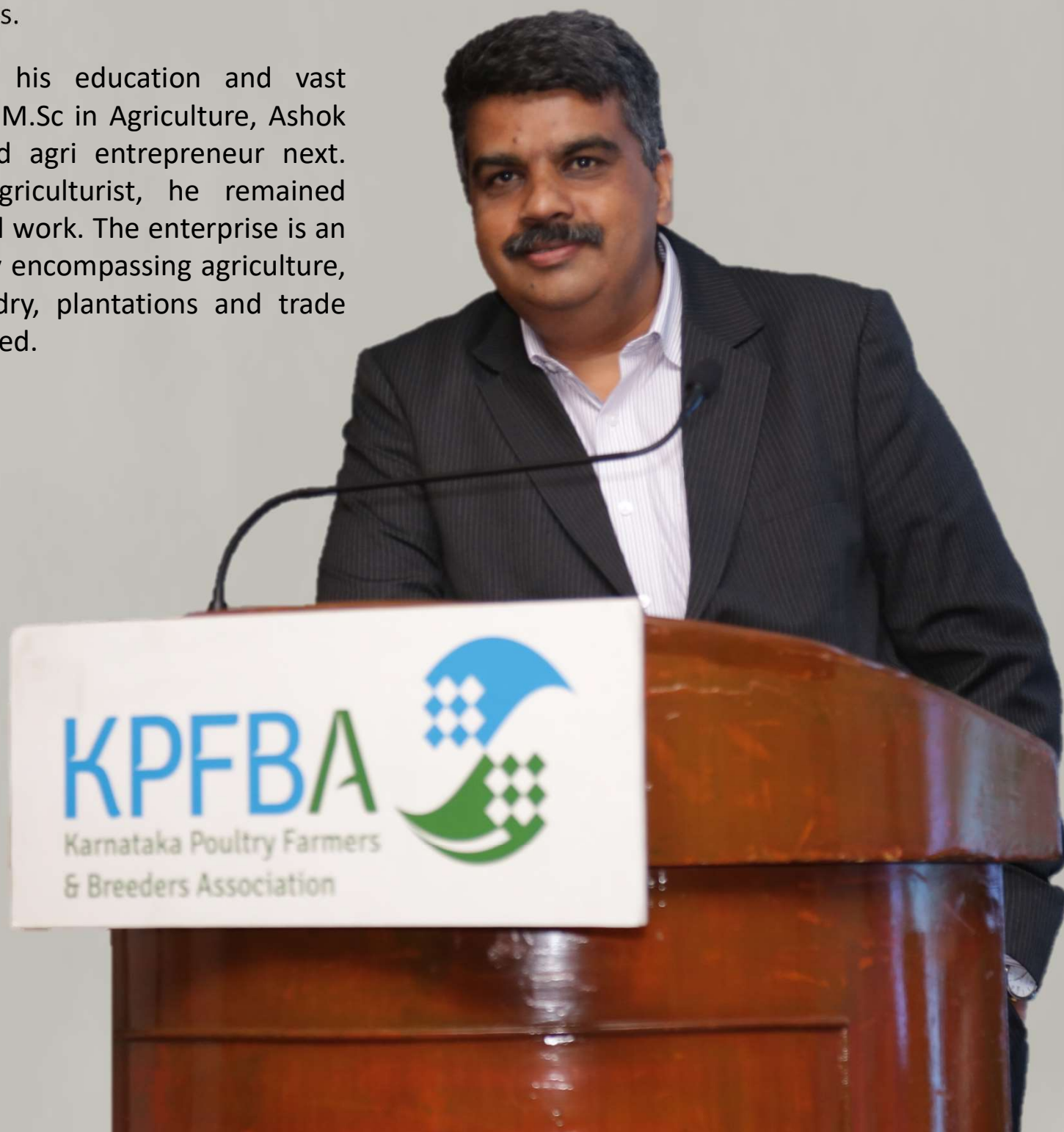
Spearheading Maa Integrators, Mr. Ashok Kumar has given it a pride of place in the poultry sector as one of the best breeding companies in the country, having all the necessary infrastructure to scale it up.

An articulate entrepreneur, he makes his point in a very lucid manner, making things easier for those working in the company or in the sector. He has led the Karnataka Poultry Farmers and Breeders Association (KPFBA) to greater heights during his tenure as President from 2015-2017. These years were critical for the growth of the sector in general and the KPFBA in particular which was becoming a sector body to reckon with. The collaborations he brought about with the Pan India Broiler Coordination Committee and associations from neighbouring states has had positive impact on the sector and the KPFBA, per se.

His depth of knowledge led to him being nominated to the Board of Management of Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFSU), Bidar in 2016, during which period his expertise was highly appreciated. His reliance on data and information have helped him make considered decisions not only in the company but also in the poultry sector. He firmly believes in data and uses it to forecast market trends and that not only has helped the company but organisations where he has a say, KPFBA being one of them. He collects valuable data and prepares an annual forecast wheel every year depicting broiler market scenarios and a seasonal impact chart. Many in the sector look out for this data which is popularly named 'Ashoka Chakra'. He is actively involved in the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), focusing on agriculture and allied activities.

His expertise comes from his education and vast experience. Having done his M.Sc in Agriculture, Ashok Kumar is a farmer first and agri entrepreneur next. Beginning young as an agriculturist, he remained persistent with his dream and work. The enterprise is an integrated agriculture activity encompassing agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, plantations and trade and manufacture of animal feed.

Having knowledge on his side, he is persistent when pushing an idea and this we have seen in the many debates he has taken part in several television channels. In 2017, when there was a bird flu outbreak in Karnataka, he took part in TV debates and convinced viewers that the outbreak was not what was made of it. There was a media trial of the poultry sector due to the outbreak but he managed the crisis with his convincing arguments. He stands tall in the poultry sector for the yeomen service he has rendered.



KPFBA appraises Union Minister of State for Agriculture on issues affecting poultry sector

The Karnataka Poultry Farmers and Breeders Association (KPFBA) met the Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, Smt. Shobha Karandlaje and appraised her with the issues faced by the poultry sector, primarily to do with availability of animal feed such as maize and soya at reasonable prices.



L-R: Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE, & Director General, ICAR, Dr. Raghavendra Bhatta, Director – NIANP, Mr. Inayath Ulla Khan, Executive Secretary, KPFBA, Dr. Sushanth Rai. B, President – KPFBA, & Smt. Shobha Karandlaje, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmer Welfare - GoI

The Minister interacted with the KPFBA office bearers, led by President, Dr. Sushanth Rai. B, and assured them that she would look into the matter. She asked KPFBA to send a detailed letter on the challenges faced by the poultry sector and that she would use her good offices to resolve some of the problems.

The Minister was in Bangalore to inaugurate the Farmers Training cum Students Hostel & Community Hall in the presence of Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra, Secretary, DARE, & Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research and Dr. Raghavendra Bhatta, Director, ICAR – National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore.

Feed Ingredients: What Goes Up, Won't Come Down !

IVPI seminar highlights farm efficiency

Experts talk about cutting down wastage on farms, waste to wealth



The Institution of Veterinarians of Poultry Industry (IVPI) recently organized a timely seminar on feed ingredients and how it was impacting the poultry industry. The seminar was aptly titled "Feed Ingredients: What Goes Up, Won't Come Down" and experts from the industry give different perspectives how to manage in such situations.

Setting the tone for the seminar was veteran and highly respected Dr. G. Devegowda, President of IVPI who talked about how feed prices were going up phenomenally while price of broiler was increasing marginally, leaving very little for the poultry farmer / breeder / company.

Prof. Devegowda mentioned how there was severe shortage of soyabean meal due to various factors, including the ongoing Ukraine-Russia war and how the sector had to minimize usage of soyabean meal for broilers and layers. Talking about the steep hike in feed prices, he mentioned that in 1981 the price of feed for broilers was Rs. 2200 per quintal and in 2021 it had shot up to Rs. 38,000, while the price of a broiler had increased marginally from Rs. 14 to Rs. 19 from 1981 to 2021. “How are we surviving?”, he asked and answered by stating that the poultry sector was using technology, information and efficient practices to improve feed conversion ratio (FCR). “Forty years ago the FCR was 2.4 or 2.5, now it is 1.5 or 1.6 and there are all probabilities of it going down to 1.3, thanks to the research efforts and improved efficiencies on farms.

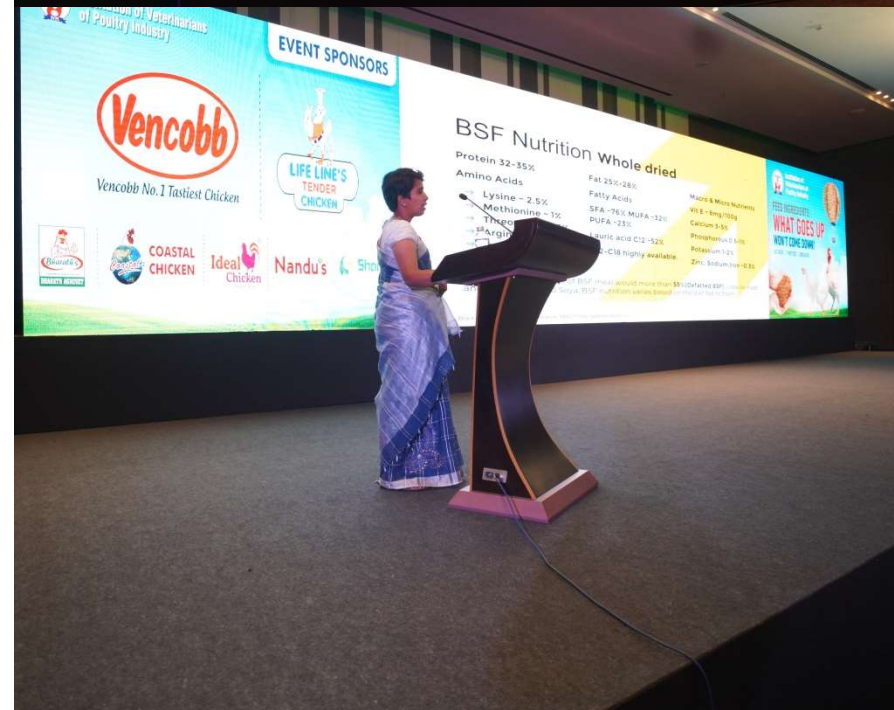
Prof. Devegowda said there are close to 10 million birds and if the FCR improves that would translate to huge savings on feed. “Our intention should be to reduce the cost of production.” There is considerable research that is going on in the country what is good for the country in terms of poultry. The present day genetic bird is able to convert food intake into protein. However, he cautioned the poultry sector not to look for cheap alternatives and mentioned how the maize from Bihar was of inferior quality, while that grown in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Telangana had higher protein content and aminoacids. .

Prof. Devegowda also talked about alternate meals such as insect meal. Much of silkworm pupae, he said, is going as waste, besides becoming an environmental hazard. This could be converted into nutritious meal and there were technologies to convert the same.

The Managing Director of Lifeline Feeds, Mr. Kishore Kumar Hegde underscored the importance of overcoming challenges and one of the factors that could help is earning the goodwill of employees, suppliers, and bankers. He said that maize and soyabean prices are going up all over the world, but we should be able to grab opportunities, find ways and means of improving efficiencies to negate the rising cost at least to certain extent. He said while companies needed to stay focused on their core competency, they need to be highly innovative. A 360 degree approach is required and all quality certifications have to be religiously followed.

Mr. B.V.Srinivas, Managing Director of Aspartika talked about how the company had developed a sustainable model for creating a zero-waste discharge and a sustainable green technology to produce high-value nutraceuticals from the waste generated.

Wealth from waste being the core philosophy of the company, he mentioned how agricultural waste material had been converted for use by humans and animals. He stated that wet silkworm pupae can be easily converted to omega 3 fatty acids that could be used by the poultry sector. The company is coming up with a new facility in Gauribidanur where it can process 5 metric tonnes of silkworm pupae every day. Presently, only 200 kg of 1000 kg of cocoon got converted into raw silk, while 80% went as waste which was also an environmental hazard. Converting this waste into feed is the best solution as India is deficient of Omega 3 acids.





Similarly, Dr. Abhilash, Managing Director of Natani Recycles India Ltd, has embarked upon a project of collecting chicken waste from retail vends in Bengaluru city and converting it into value additions for the pet food sector. The company has signed an Memorandum of Understanding with the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike for 10 years to collect chicken waste from 8 zones in BBMP limits. Nearly 2,300 retail vends have been allotted to the company to collect chicken waste and process the same. On an average the company is collecting 20 tonnes of chicken waste daily and on holidays it is much more.

Mr. K.S.Ashok Kumar, Founder of Maa Integrators, made a presentation on ‘Present and Future of the Life Cycle Costing in Broiler Integration’. He said data is going to play a huge role in the poultry sector. “Once we have data and able to analyze and use it, we can do wonders.” Data helps in forecasting trends, costing and other aspects. While stating that ‘what goes up, does not come down’, he said that while the input cost is not in our hands, it was for the sector to improve efficiencies by using technologies and data. “In the last 10 years, we have seen FCR vastly improving.” For the sector to be profitable, it was necessary to use data and also have demand-based pricing.



Dr. N.C.Manju, Chief Nutritionist, JAPFA Comfeed, Pune spoke on ‘Impact of raw materials on feed prices’ and Ms. Anupa Velusamy, Founder of KovaiBSF, Coimbatore, made a presentation on ‘Role of sustainable insect protein in poultry feeds’. Dr. Anjan Goswami, co-founder in ‘Utpan’ app General Secretary of KPFBA and Ankita Parihar talked about the app which is like ‘Indiamart’ of the poultry sector, which facilitates quick trade and financial assistance.

On the occasion, IVPI honoured Dr. Jayant Deshpande with the Dr. Arvind Bhat Memorial Award. Dr. Deshpande who was honoured with the title of ‘Poultry Veterinarian of 2022’ thanked IVPI and said the honour would inspire him to work further in the sector.



Encouraging soy cultivation; Starting with seeds distribution

Lifeline Feeds has taken an initiative to encourage soy bean cultivation among farmers in and around Chikmagalur district. In an effort to ease out the recent situations arising out of soy bean meal crisis, it felt that local production of soy beans is one of the significant measures, said Mr. Kishore Kumar Hegde, MD, Lifeline Feeds (India) Pvt Ltd.. Though, soil and climate conditions in and around Chikmagaluru are suitable for soy bean cultivation, farmers have not taken up this crop, because of the absence of local buying support. Now, Lifeline feeds has planned to buy the soy beans produced locally, at a market price. Also, in an initiative to encourage cultivation, it has planned to distribute soy seeds to eligible small and medium holding farmers free of cost as a sample. Lifeline feeds also provides some basic and essential technical support to these beginners. Towards these initiatives, Lifeline Feeds plans to invest about ₹ 40 L in the beginning, said Mr. Hegde.

At present, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and a few other places have been the principal source of soy bean meal (oil extracted). Producing soy beans locally will provide a good option or alternative to our farmers for the cash crops. Soy beans can be produced in the fields where maize, green gram, red gram (tur), millets or such crops are cultivated.

When Lifeline Feeds buy the locally produced soy beans, the farmers will have less hassles of searching the market for their harvest and looking for reasonable prices. Thus Lifeline Feeds is creating a win : win situation.

Towards this goal, Lifeline Feeds has also invested in a state of the art soy bean processing plant to separate crude soy oil and soy oil meal, in the nearby village, Lakya, said Mr. Hegde.

The soy seeds distribution program is organised on 26th June 2022, at Kanaka Bhavan grounds in the town. In this programme, more than a thousand small and medium holding farmers are expected to take part. The program will have the presence of legislatures, Mr. CT Ravi and Mr. Belli Prakash, Chikmagalur DC Mr. KN Ramesh, SP Mr. MH Akshay, Zilla Panchayat CEO Mr. J Prabhu and Joint Director (Agri) Mr. Tirumalesh and other good hearted dignitaries.

Mr. Hegde sincerely wishes these initiatives will have a good acceptance, support local agri-economy and sustainable cropping practices.

KPFBA
Karnataka Poultry Farmers
& Breeders Association

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DAY OF
YOGA**
21ST JUNE 2022

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With Best Compliments from:
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RECIPE

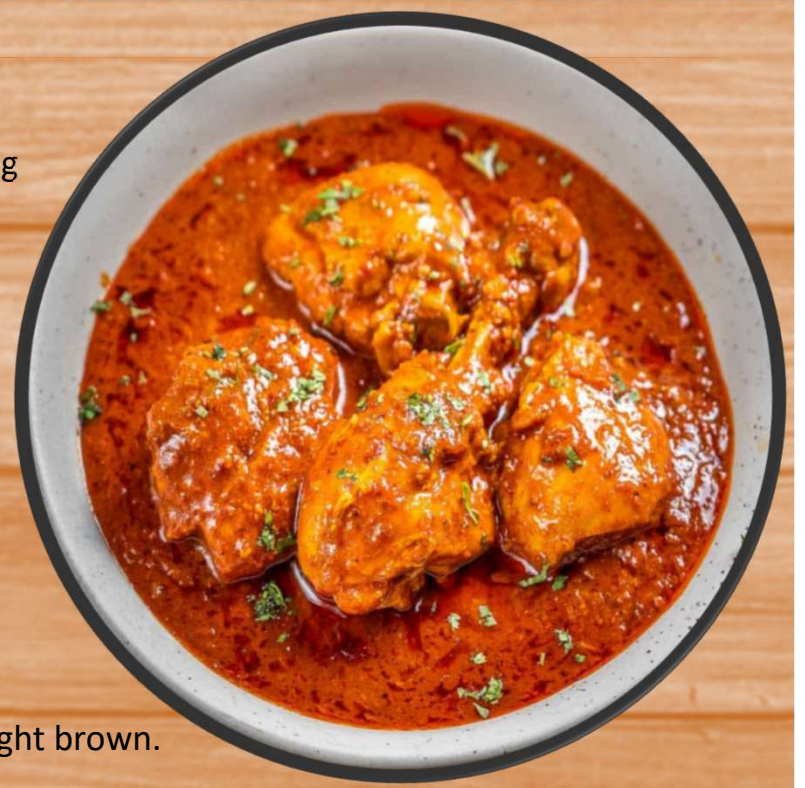
CHICKEN VINDALOO RECIPE

A Goan hot, spicy & flavorful dish made by marinating and simmering chicken in a spice paste. Serve chicken vindaloo with rice or naan.

Preparation How to make chicken vindaloo

1. Deseed red chilies and soak them in 3 tbsps vinegar and 3 tbsps hot water. Set aside.
2. Add coriander seeds, cumin, pepper corn, mustard, cinnamon, cloves and cardamoms to a blender jar.
3. Make a fine powder. Then add ginger garlic and soaked red chilies.
4. Add the vinegar water mixture and make a smooth paste.
5. Next add this to the cleaned chicken along with turmeric and salt.
6. Marinate and rest aside for at least an hour to overnight in refrigerator to absorb the flavors.

1. Heat oil in a deep pot and saute the onions (optional) until golden to light brown.
2. Add 1 tbsp vinegar & 1 tsp sugar to the onions.
3. Then add the marinated chicken and saute for 3 to 5 mins on a medium heat.
4. Pour the tomato puree (optional) and continue to saute for another 3 to 4 mins.
5. If your chicken lets out lots of moisture, do not add water. Mine did not so I poured half cup hot water. If you prefer a dry curry then skip adding water. The chicken will cook in its own moisture.
6. Cover and simmer until the chicken cooked through & fork tender.
7. To check if the meat is done, prick it with a fork. The meat should fall off the bone easily.
8. Simmer until the gravy reaches a thick & semi dry stage. Taste and add more salt if needed.
9. Serve chicken vindaloo with plain rice or naan



CHICKEN TRIVIA



If chickens listen to classical music, they can lay bigger and heavier eggs



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The longest recorded flight by a chicken lasted for 13 seconds at a total distance of 301 feet

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