Phenotypic Characterization and Distribution of SenSi-1 Agrinak Chicken

(Karakterisasi Fenotipik dan Penyebaran Ayam SenSi-1 Agrinak)

Sofjan Iskandar

Indonesia Research Institute for Animal Production (IRIAP), PO Box 221, Bogor 16720 Indonesia
sofjanskandar@yahoo.com


ABSTRACT

The utilization of local chicken genetic resources in Indonesia is increasing after the government program to achieve food sovereignty including livestock products. In the year of 2017, the Indonesian Research Institute for Animal Production (IRIAP) released SenSi-1 Agrinak chicken breed to be used as commercial meat type of local chicken in Indonesia. This paper describes development and distribution of the SenSi-1 Agrinak. This breed was selected from the native breed of Sentul chicken, originated from Ciamis District of West Java Province. The Sentul male was selected to achieve average live weight of 1 kg/bird at 10 weeks of age, with grey (G) and black spotted white (BSW) plumage color and pea-comb type. After six generations of selection, SenSi-1 Agrinak was released as an improved local meat-type chicken breed. License to private local chicken breeders is expected to increase SenSi-1 Agrinak population and distribution. Collaboration with several Assessment Institutes for Agricultural Technology (AIAT) and implementation of BEKERJA-Ministry of Agriculture program can accelerate population and distribution of SenSi-1 Agrinak chicken to farmers throughout Indonesia.

Key words: SenSi-1 Agrinak chicken, selection, production, distribution

ABSTRAK

Pemanfaatan sumber daya genetik ayam lokal di Indonesia meningkat setelah adanya program pemerintah untuk mencapai kedaulatan pangan termasuk produk ternak. Pada tahun 2017 Balai Penelitian Ternak (Balitnak) telah melepas galur ayam SenSi-1 Agrinak sebagai salah satu galur unggul ayam pedaging lokal. Tujuan dari makalah ini adalah untuk menginformasikan pengembangan dan penyebaran ayam SenSi-1 Agrinak kepada masyarakat. Galur ayam SenSi-1 Agrinak dihasilkan dari proses seleksi selama enam generasi dan dilepas sebagai galur unggul ayam lokal pedaging unggul. Pemberian lisensi kepada perusahaan bisa dibantu dengan program Bekerja melalui program BEKERJA-Ministry of Agriculture program dapat mempercepat peningkatan populasi dan distribusi ayam SenSi-1 Agrinak ke seluruh peternak pengguna di Indonesia.

Kata kunci: Ayam SenSi-1 Agrinak, seleksi, produksi, distribusi

INTRODUCTION

In the middle of an era of commercial chicken industry in Indonesia, which is dominated by imported grand parent or parent stocks, the local chicken industry has also been lifted. The name of kampung chicken in Indonesia has been popular as a commercial icon, although in the recent days, the name of kampung chicken seemed to be criticized after recognizing that the name kampung chicken is taken from the name of one of the native breeds existing in Indonesia (Sartika & Iskandar 2007). There are more than 30 local-breeds claimed in Indonesia, which several of them have been genetically improved for the commercial commodity in Indonesian chicken industry (Sartika et al. 2017). Local chicken however, has been contributing to national meat production of about 8.50% or about 284.9 thousand tons or about 12.86% contribution to the whole national chicken meat production (Dirjen PKH 2017).

Sentul-chicken is one of the Indonesian native chicken breeds and has been known in Eastern of West Java Province. It is a specific kind of local chicken as egg and meat type. Hidayat & Sopiyana (2010) recognized that Sentul chicken, which is an Indonesian animal-genetic resource, had a promising potential resource to be a commercial commodity.

Inspiring by FAO’s the state of the world animal genetic resources for food and agriculture (FAO 2007) and excellent suggestion in implementing of action for animal genetic resources by Hoffmann & Scherf (2010), the Indonesian Agency for Agricultural
Research and Development (IAARD) through the Indonesian Research Institute for Animal Production (IRIAP) has taken an action to explore local chickens in Indonesia. Eventually, the Sentul chicken was chosen as local breeds to be preserved and improved to support the national local-chicken industry.

The IRIAP has initiated selection for a uniform breed of local chicken. The breed of SenSi-I Agrinak chicken was the second breed of two breeds that were selected for meat type. The Sentul breed was then chosen to be selected for improved live weight (an average of 1 kg/bird) at 10 weeks old as preferred by market (Wibowo & Sartika 2011; Sejati & Saptana 2013; Rasyid & Kasim 2014). In addition to the specific mark of the breed, the uniform plumage color and the comb type of males were taken into consideration.

The aim of the paper is to inform how the SenSi-I Agrinak breed was developed and efforts to disseminate and to distribute the breed to the users.

**THE ORIGIN OF SENTUL CHICKEN**

Ciamis is an autonomy district in West Java Province. Ciamis area is in the Eastern-South of West Java area (Figure 1). The community in Ciamis area mostly inhabited with Sundanese ethnic, keeping Sentul chicken for their own home purposes. The community recognizes the chicken as kulawu (grey plumage) chicken, which is different from kampung chicken, which varies in plumage color, comb type, shank color, and body shape (Sulandari et al. 2007; Hidayat & Sopiyana 2010).

![Figure 1. The location of Ciamis District, West Java Province (inside the circle)](https://www.google.com/maps/@-6.8246595,107.5256883,8z)

**CHARACTERISTIC OF SENTUL CHICKEN**

**Original plumage**

Sentul chicken has specific plumage of grey color, covering the body surface and/or underneath the prime feather (Sulandari et al. 2007). Although to some extent, the plumage of body surface appears yellow, red or light grey, especially the roosters; they have more colorful plumage than the females do. The body shape of the rooster is more like a medium fighting cock with pea type of comb.

The appearance of adult Sentul chicken which was observed from their limited habitat area in Ciamis District (Hidayat & Sopiyana 2010), with varying in plumage color are presented in Figure 2 (the modified photograph from another version collected by Iskandar). Its variation has a name, taken from the color of the plumage, i.e. dark-grey, light-grey, grey, golden, red, and brown plumage. There were six plumage colors identified, but there were no data explaining how much population in each plumage color.

Sartika et al. (2010) reported that the frequency of gen controlling the phenotype characteristics of Sentul chicken, which were raised in the IRIAP facilities (Table 1), revealed that the bird phenotype based on external genetic is not categorized in plumage pattern according to Nishida et al. (1982), as it has genotype ii (colored) of 100%. The basic plumage color of Sentul chicken quite varies from dark to brownish.

Feather sparkling and barring, shank color and comb type vary as it were found in general local chicken. Gen frequency of feather silverish sparkling,
non-barred with black or grey shank color of Sentul chicken were high, whilst comb type of pea and single types was in about 50:50. Recently, Hirst (2017) mentioned that although the history of the chickens (*Gallus domesticus*) was first domesticated from red jungle fowl (*G. gallus*), this bird was most likely hybridized with grey jungle fowl (*G. sonnerattii*). So, this can be used the indication in the Sentul chicken by having the variation in their plumage color. Even today, we still cannot clearly see if the Sentul came from the single ancestor, as it was recognized by Morejohn (1968) that they could not
differentiate whether it had monophyletic origin from one of the wild species or polyphyletic origin from two or more of the living four species (G. gallus, G. lafayetii, G. sonneratii, and G. varius).

However, villagers in Ciamis preferred plumage having dark-grey Sentul (Figure 3) more than the other plumage color variations. Selection which was done by villagers in Ciamis District would eventually change little bit appearance of nowadays Sentul chicken to be more homogenous.

**Shank color of Sentul chicken**

Shank color of Sentul chicken was found out to consist of five types, which were white, yellow, green, and grey or black (Figure 4). In comparative to other countries’ native-chickens, Sarker et al. (2014) reported that one of Bangladesh Desy chicken had four types of shank colors were most frequently observed, i.e. white (39.87%), yellow (37.22%), black (20.04%), and mixed (2.87%). Dana et al. (2010) reported that there were three colors of shank of Ethiopian natives chicken. Jin et al. (2016) stated that the shank-skin color traits had been used to reveal their origin of domestication or genetic relationship in chickens.

Furthermore they stated that the genetic basis of shank skin color could have significant impacts on basic skin color biology and domestic processes. In addition, the shank-skin color could often have economic values when used as an indicator for native-chicken-breed recognition since most of native-chicken had pigmented shank color. However, chickens which had their shank with light color such white and yellow would generally have their skin with light color (white or yellow) and vice versa for dark colors, but there were seemed no superiority reported in body growth of the chicken which had specific color of shank.

**The genetic distance of Sentul chicken**

It could be the first study of Indonesian local chicken, Nishida et al. (1988) who reported that Indonesian local chicken held about 50% local genes on the average. This can be interpreted that other 50% genes came from outside of Indonesian archipelago, either from Asia or Europe. However, it might be applied to Sentul chicken from Ciamis District as reported by Sartika et al. (2004), based on the unweighted pair-group method with arithmetic means (UPGMA) method, showed that in Sentul chicken together with Kampung, Black Kedu, and Pelung chicken did not have specific allele, which differentiated one to another breed. Furthermore, Sulandari et al. (2008) reported based on counting genetic distance using DnaSP program, that Sentul chicken paired wisely with other local chickens (Cemani, Kampung, Pelung, Black Kedu, White Kedu, and Gaok), had a close genetic distance (0.014-0.071), showed that they were from the same source of ancestor.

**IMPROVING THE SENTUL CHICKEN**

**Background of the program**

As it was driven by the increasing demand of local chicken as mentioned by Purba (2016) who also reported why the local chicken had prospectus business. Their reasons were: (1) Demand for kampung chicken meat was increasing, due to the increase of middle society in Indonesia; (2) The government had a plan to increase people animal protein consumption, through increasing local chicken production; (3) People awareness of healthy food consumption as they know that local-chicken meat was much healthier than exotic-chickens; and (4) The selling price of local-chicken was much higher and stable, motivating the farmers to raise more local-chickens. The purpose of selection of Sentul chicken was aimed to some extent fulfilling the demands.

In addition, improving the productivity of local chicken must be considered carefully as it will change the quality of the meat. Several changes in meat quality have been recently reported because of the intense selection process for performance traits in broiler breeding programs (Gaya et al. 2011; de Paiva et al.
FAO (2009) reported that exotic poultry and cooled chicken meat have a bad image because people believe that they contain preservatives, antibiotics, and chemicals. However, these preservatives and growth promoters issue can be overcome by reduction of those chemicals in the feed. In addition, Jaturasitha et al. (2002) and Sarsenbek et al. (2013) mentioned that the quality of meat of native chicken was better than that of modern broilers chicken. Umaya (2014) also reported that native breeds possessed certain distinctive qualities that included high immunocompetence and better meat quality compared to commercial broiler chickens. Furthermore, by having native breeds of chicken, Indonesian consumers will have many choices for their preferences; it is not only depended on imported chicken.

**Research and development strategy in selecting Sentul chicken**

As it was reported by Sartika et al. (2010), that dark-grey color of the plumage seemed to dominate plumage color of the Sentul-chicken breed. The research was then continued at the station, based on this variation by selecting dark-grey and grey Sentul chicken as recognition of the population for further selection program without concerning the shank color. Although the shank-skin color could often have economic values when used as an indicator for local-chicken-breed recognition since most of local-chicken had pigmented shank color (Dana et al. 2010), this matter may be the next character that should be included in the breeding program.

Research and development strategy, which has been developed in the IRIAP is presented in Figure 5. IRIAP as a government research institute for animal production planned short-term program for selecting Sentul chicken for meat type. Based on all information, selection program was started with about 164 females grey and 54 males Sentul chicken of dark grey, grey and light grey plumage color (Iskandar et al. 2012).

The program was then initiated with mating the birds within the same plumage color of Sentul chicken resulted in the first generation with various plumage colors revealed. Iskandar et al. (2012) reported that plumage color variation of males of the first offspring consisted of 45.40% dark-grey, 38.55% black-spotted white, 8.43% black, and 3.61% brown. Whilst the females consisted of 45.19% dark grey, 35.54% black-spotted white, 10.58% black, and 7.69% brown. Comb type of most male chicken dominated by pea type (73.21%) and the rest was single comb type of 26.79%. Therefore, based on the variation of the above phenotypes, the following selection was based on the criteria of the dark-grey Sentul chicken and black-spotted white Sentul chicken, combined with pea type comb for both males of both strains (Figure 6).

According to characteristics of the first offspring reported by Iskandar et al. (2012), the selection criteria were then established to the population by selecting the top 25% live body weight at 10 weeks old of either grey or black spotted white plumage of male population with a pea comb. Whilst the females were selected for only plumage color of grey and black spotted white. The selected populations were two groups, which were grey males-female chicken, and male-female black-spotted white. Each group was mated _interse_ and the selection was carried out up to about six years to establish products called grey (G) SenSi-1 Agrinak and black spotted white (BSW)
SenSi-1 Agrinak (Figure 7 and 8). The selection was then continued for six years period by applying the same selection criteria both to G and BSW type of selected Sentul.

Characteristics of SenSi-1 Agrinak

After six generation of selection the IRIAP named the product as SenSi-1 Agrinak breed. The breed was then officially registered at the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Indonesia with the registration Number of 39/kpts/pk.020/1/2017, dated of January the 20th 2017.

Qualitative and quantitative characteristics of SenSi-1 Agrinak were reported by Hasnelly et al. (2017). Performance of SenSi-1 Agrinak chicken was relatively better than their parents. Commercially expected body weight at 10 weeks of age was achieved, whilst their plumages, which were specifically differentiated from other commercial local chicken, makes clear recognition by ordinary chicken consumers.

Hasnelly et al. (2017) reported that when G type SenSi-1 Agrinak was mated inter-se the offspring had:
1. Grey feather color of 55.51% in males and 60.77% in females;
2. Yellow shank color of 52.51% in males and 33.33% in females;
3. Pea type comb of 90.98% in males and 89.23% in females; and
4. Ten weeks live weight were 886.38±142.93 g/bird in males and 739.17±118.87 in females. Inter-se mating of BSW type SenSi-1 Agrinak had their offspring of:
1. BSW feather color of 75.65% in males and 83.30% in females;
2. Yellow shank color of 51.91% in males and 36.59% in females;
3. Pea type comb of 91.55% in males and 92.28% in females; and
4. Ten weeks live weight were 908.76±130.98 g/bird in males and 750.53±110.56 g/bird in females.

Hasnelly et al. (2017) further reported that the shank color distribution of SenSi-1 Agrinak was found to be five colors. The number of color or the frequency (%), in general was dominated by yellow in the two types of Sensi-1 Agrinak chicken. Black shank was dominated by G type both male and female. Yin et al. (2001) reported that light color of the shank was
completely dominant to dark shank color, although according to Liu & Niu (1994) who stated that the phenotype of chicken shank become more and more complex and the relevant research results differ from each other. However, the variation of the shank color would offer the breeders to further selection based on the preference of the consumers.

Body weight and size of mature males and females SenSi-1 Agrinak both types are presented in Table 2 (Hasnelly et al. 2017). The difference between the two types of SenSi-1 Agrinak was not significant, as expected due to the same selection criteria were applied to both types. The measurement was taken when the birds were assumed to be in the steady phase of growth.

The analysis of the selection response on body live weight of 10 weeks old was reported by Iskandar & Sartika (2015) who found that the average predicted the response of selection based on differential selection for the G and BSW type SenSi-1 Agrinak males were respectively 25.55 and 30.23 g/generation, respectively. While their predicted response based on intensity were 37.41 and 40.94 g/generation, respectively. The response of both types SenSi-1 Agrinak, based on actual response was 43.50 and 38.50 g/generation, respectively. Whilst predicted selection response based on realized response were 55.33 and 55.33 g/generation, respectively for G and BSW type SenSi-1 Agrinak.

### DELIVERY STRATEGY OF SENSI-1 AGRINAK

The SenSi-1 Agrinak was promoted to private local chicken breeders, to be able to distribute directly to farmer users, throughout Indonesia. The licensing system was applied to the private breeders to overcome insufficient facilities in IRIAP to multiply the chickens. Table 3 shows the list of licensors and their memorandum of understandings in collaboration with IRIAP. The progress of those collaborations was somehow maintained to fulfill the demands of the national local chicken industry. According to Naryanto (2018, Pers. Com.), who is the owner of PT Sumber Unggas Indonesia, unofficially reported that about 5 million of final stock DOC (a hybrid of SenSi-1 Agrinak and KUB-1 chicken) has been prepared to deliver in 2018.

In addition, the West Java Province Livestock Services has also established the local chicken breeding unit in Majalengka District of West Java Province to preserve and multiply the Sentul chicken (Alam 2005). Recently, the efforts have also been carried out by the Ciamis DAHS by applying long term development program as reported by Isyanto et al. (2017) to Sentul increase the use of Sentul chicken, including possibility the use of SenSi-1 Agrinak by: (1) Making the Sentul chicken production center to anticipate any conflict of interest about land using between Sentul farming and

### Table 2. Body live weight and size of 12 months old SenSi-1 Agrinak chicken

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Grey (G) SenSi-1 Agrinak</th>
<th>Black spotted white (BSW) SenSi-1 Agrinak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Males</td>
<td>Females</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body live weight (g)</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>CV (%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beak length (cm)</td>
<td>28.01</td>
<td>18.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beak width (cm)</td>
<td>12.82</td>
<td>14.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head length (cm)</td>
<td>48.26</td>
<td>11.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head width (cm)</td>
<td>32.91</td>
<td>9.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neck length (cm)</td>
<td>16.04</td>
<td>9.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of back bone (cm)</td>
<td>24.19</td>
<td>11.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chest circumference (cm)</td>
<td>38.92</td>
<td>6.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of sternum (cm)</td>
<td>14.76</td>
<td>10.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of upper thigh (cm)</td>
<td>12.56</td>
<td>7.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of lower thigh (cm)</td>
<td>14.34</td>
<td>8.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length shank (cm)</td>
<td>10.68</td>
<td>9.64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Hasnelly et al. (2017)
Table 3. List of IRIAP’s cooperators and agreement letters of non-exclusive for license of multiplying SenSi-1 Agrinak

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private-sector cooperators</th>
<th>Memorandum of Understanding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PT Sumber Unggas Indonesia of Bogor West Java</td>
<td>663/HM.230/H.5.2/04/2016, on 25/04/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedi farm of Sukabumi, West Java</td>
<td>610/HM.230/H.5.2/04/2016, on 19/04/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT ISFIN (Integrated Socio Farming Indonesia) of Gunung Kidul, Yogyakarta</td>
<td>757/HM.230/H.5.2/05/2016, on 27/05/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Badan Usaha Milik Tiyuh (BUMT) of Tulang Bawang Barat, Lampung</td>
<td>570/HM.230/H.5.2/04/2016, on 12/04/2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: IRIAP Public Services Division (2017)

CONCLUSION

SenSi-1 Agrinak chicken is one of the IRIAP research products, which was selected from the native Sentul breed from Ciamis District, West Java Province. The Sentul male was selected for 10 weeks body live weight combined with the phenotypic appearance of plumage color and comb type. The criteria were applied in the selection to have specific breed easily recognized by the users. After six generations of selection, the name SenSi-1 Agrinak was given as an improved local chicken breed for meat production in Indonesia.

Licensing system to private local chicken breeders was created to accelerate the production and distribution to the farmer local chicken meat producers. Whilst collaboration with AIATs was pursued by running the strata program and BEKERJA program to increase and distribute the population throughout Indonesia.

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