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**MATRIC NUMBER: 18/ENG06/004**

**COLLEGE: ENGINEERING**

**DEPARTMENT: MECHANICAL**

**COURSE CODE: AFE 202**

**COURSE TITLE: FOOD PRODUCTION AND HEALTH AWARENESS**

**BUSINEES PLAN: ANIMAL HUSBANDRY**

**ANIMAL HUSBANDRY Animal husbandry** is the branch of agriculture concerned with animals that are raised for meat, fibre, milk,eggs, or other products. It includes day to day care, selective breeding and the raising of livestock. Husbandry has a long history, starting with the Neolithic revolution when animals where first domesticated, from around 13,000 BC onwards, antedating farming of the first crops. By the time of early civilization such as ancient Egypt, cattle, sheep, goats and pigs were being raised on farms. Agricultural Revolution of the 18th century, when livestock breeds like the Dishley Longhorn cattle and Lincoln Longwool sheep were rapidly improved by agriculturalists such as Robert Bakewell to yield more meat, milk and wool. Mordern animal husbandry relies on production systems adapted to the type of land available. Subsistence farming is being superseded by intensive animal farming in the more developed parts of the world, where for example beef cattle are kept in high density feedlots, and thousands of chickens may be raised in broiler houses or batteries.

**PROCESSES INVOLVED IN ANIMAL HUSBANDRY** **A.** **FEEDING** Animals used as livestock are predominantly herbivorous, the main exceptions being pigs and chickens which are omnivorous. The herbivores can be divided into “concentrate selectors” are provided with seeds, fruits and highly nutritious foliage, “grazers” are provided with grass, and “intermediate feeders” are provided with a whole range of available plant material from which they will be given at intervals.

 **B. BREEDING** A lot of things are considered when breeding like: Fertility, Docility, Fast growing rates, Low feed consumption per unit growth, Better body portions, higher yields etc. But undesirable traits such as undesired health such as health defects and aggressiveness are selected against. Due to the selective breeding was introduced to increase productivity. **C. ANIMAL HEALTH** Good husbandry, proper feeding, and hygiene are the main contributors to animals health on the farm, bringing economic benefits through maximized production. But despite these precautions animals still get sick, so they are treated with veterinary medicines. When the conditions is serious such animals will not be imported or exported and will be quarantined to further prevent the spread pf such diseases. **D. PRODUCTS** Alongside feeding animals, breeding animals, and keeping them healthy there are also a wide range of products gotten from animals. Products like: meat, wool, milk, eggs etc. In addition to this there are other more specialized products we can obtain form livestock for example, vaccines and antiserum (containing antibodies) for medical use are gotten form livestock.

**BRANCHES OF ANIMALS FOUND ON THE FARM A. DAIRY** These are animals that are known to produce milk. Although all mammals produce milk to nourish their young, the cow is predominantly used throughout the world to produce milk and milk products. **B. MEAT** These are animals that are reared for the meat and this is a major source of dietary protein around the world, averaging about 8% of man’s energy intake. The animals preferred for this are cattle, sheep, goats, pigs. Cattle generally produce a single offspring annually which takes more than a year to mature, sheep and goats often have twins and these are ready for slaughter in less than a year, pigs are more prolific, producing more than one litter of up to about 11 piglets each year. **C. POULTRY** These set of birds are kept for their eggs and meat and these animals include: chickens, turkeys, geese and ducks. **D. AQUACULTURE** This is known as the farming of aquatic organisms. The aquatic organisms gotten from this process includes: fish, mollusks, crustaceans and aquatic plants. **BENEFITS OF ANIMAL HUSBANDDRY 1. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT** Animal husbandry has a significant impact on the world environment. It is responsible for somewhere between 20 and 33% of the fresh water usage in the world, and livestock, and the production of feed for them. Livestock production is a contributing factor in species extinction, desertification, and habitat destruction. **2. ANIMAL WELFARE** Animal husbandry also helps to ensure that various animals are given the best life free from disease and immunosuppression. Standards and laws for animal welfare have been created worldwide, broadly in line with the most widely held position in the western world, a form of utilitarianism. **3. PROFIT GENERATION** Processes like cross breeding helps to improve the yield of breeds of animals and this increase the production of various food products which is a source of revenue for the individual undergoing the task.

**HOUSING SYSTEM FOR LIVESTOCK A. SHEEP** The type of housing given to a sheep depends on what kind of production system that is used. In “farm flock” production system the sheep are given access to pasture during the day and keep his sheep in a barn at night. In “range flock” system the sheep are allowed to run free throughout the year as they graze. The process is also used on goats. **B. CATTLE** When housing beef cattle’s one needs to consider the season. There are normally allowed to graze free but when the temperature around the farm is too cold they are kept indoors. But when housing dairy cattle’s are mostly kept indoors. **C. BROILERS AND COCKERELS** They are poultry reared for meat and they and moved from one from to the other until they grow to market size before they are off to the market. **D. LAYERS** These are poultry reared for the eggs they produce. At first they spend at lot of time in a cage until they are 17 weeks old then they are moved to the laying house where they begin laying eggs. 

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