**GIDADO JENNIFER BUSAYO**

**18/MHSO1/166**

**NURSING**

**AFE 202**

Prepare a business plan on a chosen agricultural enterprise following the guideline in the note.

A BUSINESS PLAN FOR COMMERCIAL POULTRY FARMING

Chapter 1: executive summary and brief description of the project

Chapter 2: introduction, Management and Technical Partners

Chapter3: Market and Sales

Chapter 4: Technical Feasibility, Project Engineering, Resources and Environment

Chapter 5: Government support

 and regulatory policies

Chapter6: Project Implementation Timelines

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE PROJECT

Currently, Nigeria is facing an acute shortage of all types of food including poultry meat despite the fact that the Nigerian government is spending huge foreign exchange on importation of various brands of poultry products. Poultry meat has been one of the earliest diets for human beings. Its protein represents one of the most important sources of essential amino acid for human beings (Akinwumiet al., 2009). Over the years, meat consumption is on the decline in Nigeria. The declining production and increasing demand has led to importation of this important protein source. However, it is not all the citizens that can afford the cost of purchasing the imported frozen chicken, thus causing the prevalence of various forms of animal protein and caloric malnutrition diseases such as kwashiorkor and irreversible brain damage leading to intellectual dwarfism which is common among vulnerable groups such as pre-school age (Feltwell and Fox, 1998). Demand for livestock products, including poultry, is expanding in West Africa as a result of population growth and increased urbanization. Trade liberalization has had differing effects on poultry markets in the region, with some countries experiencing large import flows of frozen poultry from the European Union and others receiving very little. This report provides an overview of poultry market trends in Nigeria in comparison with trends in the wider West African region. The West African poultry sector faces high production costs, safety concerns due to lack of sanitary controls, and technical constraints in processing and marketing. Production costs are higher in Africa due to the lack of an integrated and automated industrial poultry sector. Farmers lack reliable access to inputs, including chicks and feed, and face high costs for veterinary services.1 African livestock markets are also limited by global concerns about product safety. The persistence of animal disease outbreaks continues to limit domestic and export production potential.3 In addition to biological issues, the lack of breeders, marketing, and processing technology present technical constraints to poultry sector growth (Saunders 1998). Poultry products provide the greatest potential for bridging the protein availability gap because of the short generation intervals. This also gives poultry the quickest and highest turnover rates when compared to other livestock. Traditionally, the chickens are kept under extensive system characterized by scavenging in the village surroundings with little or no inputs. The poultry industry also plays important roles in the development of Nigerian economy. It is a major source of eggs and meat which have a high nutritional value particularly in the supply of protein. Eggs are also important in the preparation of confectionary and vaccines. The poultry industry further provides employment opportunities for the populace, thereby serving as a source of income to the people. However, the poultry industry in Nigeria, as well as other developing countries of Africa, is continually characterized by low production levels (Sainsbury and Sainsbury, 1998).This is largely associated with lack or limited finance (credit facilities) for the procurement of basic poultry equipment and materials. Feed ingredients are also expensive. This makes it difficult for the farmers to produce and supply sufficient and good quality feeds to the poultry birds (Reid et al., 1998). The objective of this study therefore was to examine the extent of micro financing in small scale poultry and the implications for poultry industry in Itu Local Government Area, Akwa –Ibom State, Southern Nigeria. The research findings will guide International policy makers and bankers in designing and implementing appropriate strategies required to improve the level of micro financing in the poultry industry.

To increase the chances of effectively improving biosecurity, it is necessary to:

• work at different level and with different actors;

• show the advantages for producers, who require direct benefits;

• involve consumers in order to constrain producers to improve their products; and

• implement information, training and awareness campaigns.

This report also highlights:

• widespread misuse of antibiotics and the direct threat to human health;

• highly unsafe processing points in the LBMs where birds are slaughtered; and

• a discrepancy between observed biosecurity practices and disruption of the cycle of

disease in the country.

INTRODUCTION, MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL PARTNERS

Poultry is defined as any domestic bird raised specifically for meat and egg consumption. This definition can include chickens, turkeys, ducks, quail and others. Poultry is the second most-consumed meat in the world, next to pork. Poultry farming is the form of animal husbandry which raises domesticated birds such as chickens, ducks, turkeys and geese to produce meat or eggs for food. Poultry – mostly chickens – are farmed in great numbers. More than 60 billion chickens are killed for consumption annually. Chickens raised for eggs are known as layers, while chickens raised for meat are called broilers.

Commercial poultry feeding is a highly perfected science that ensures a maximum intake of energy for growth and fat production. High-quality and well-balanced protein sources produce a maximum amount of muscle, organ, skin, and feather growth. The essential minerals produce bones and eggs, with about 3 to 4 percent of the live bird being composed of minerals and 10 percent of the egg. Calcium, phosphorus, sodium, chlorine, potassium, sulfur, manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, magnesium, and zinc are all required. Vitamins A, C, D, E, and K and all of the B vitamins are also required. Antibiotics are widely used to stimulate appetite, control harmful bacteria, and prevent disease. For chickens, modern rations produce about 0.5 kg (1 pound) of broiler on about 0.9 kg (2 pounds) of feed and a dozen eggs from 2 kg (4.5 pounds) of feed

MANAGEMENT

A carefully controlled environment that avoids crowding, chilling, overheating, or frightening is almost universal in poultry farming. Cannibalism, which expresses itself as toe picking, feather picking, and tail picking, is controlled by debeaking at one day of age and by other management practices. The feeding, watering, egg gathering, and cleaning operations are highly mechanized. Birds are usually housed in wire cages with two or three animals per cage, depending on the species and breed, and three or four tiers of cages superposed to save space. Cages for egg-laying birds have been found to increase production, lower mortality, reduce cannibalism, lower feeding requirements, reduce diseases and parasites, improve culling, and reduce both space and labour requirements. Intensive nutritional research and application, highly improved breeding stock, intelligent management, and scientific disease control have gone into the effort to give a modern broiler (meat chicken) of uniformly high quality produced at ever-lower cost.

TECHNICAL PARTNERS

Farmers sometimes work in partnership with some companies. Farmers are paid under contract with a chicken company based on their performance in raising the healthiest chickens, which would be clearly outlined in the farmers’ contract. This performance-based or incentive structure is sometimes referred to as the “tournament system.” Farmers are paid according to both the quality and quantity of their flock, as well as how efficiently the chickens are raised. This does not, and never will, include the use of added hormones and steroids to get there. In fact, federal regulations prohibit the use of added hormones and steroids in all poultry. You can learn more about that in our Farm to Table section.This structure—based on the most fundamental elements of any business atmosphere—is the best way to ensure that chicken farmers are rewarded for producing quality chickens in a sustainable way. It also ensures that the welfare of the birds is the farmers’ top priority.While all contract farmers are provided the same quality of chicks, the same feed, and access to veterinary care, farmers who invest in more advanced facilities and farmers who put the most effort in to the best management practices will likely produce higher quality chickens more efficiently.

MARKET AND SALES

Marketing process of various types of poultry products is very easy as they have a huge demand globally. So you don’t have to worry about marketing your products. You can easily sell your farm products in your nearest local market or big supermarkets.

No matter how efficient poultry processing may be, the ultimate aim of poultry producers is not simply to process chicken, but to successfully sell it. Poultry meat must be properly marketed, and there are numerous strategies followed in other industries that could be applied to the chicken industry

Income level was a common determinant of egg production and consumption in the area. Egg distribution was negatively affected by cost of transportation. It was recommended that, for every household to consume adequate quantity of poultry eggs at affordable price, productivity in poultry egg production has to be improved through the use of quality feeds and chicks and efficient management practices. Poultry farmers and households consuming poultry eggs need to be enlightened on how to diversify their economic activities to boost their level of income for improving the production and consumption of poultry eggs. The egg traders should identify short distance markets for the distribution of their product, in order to cut down the transportation cost.

By way of preamble, it is important to note that all components of the Nigerian poultry market

chain have a well-defined role in the overall objective of supplying consumers with poultry

products, notwithstanding differences in quantity of demand and products in different periods

of the year.

A large percentage of exotic improved breeds in Nigeria are layers and they provide the

large majority of commercial eggs. Exact numbers are not available but it is estimated that

70-80 percent of exotic breeds are layers and the rest are broilers. Normally, spent layers

together with local poultry and, to a less extent, spent parent stocks, supply the largest

portion of poultry meat. During festive occasions (Christmas, New Year, Easter, end of

Ramadan and Tabasky), there is a peak in demand for poultry meat and this is mostly

provided by broilers.

Production is concentrated in different locations and there are differences in producers’

profiles:

(i) Indigenous poultry: mostly produced in the north of the country by rural producers.

(ii) Grandparent stock: concentrated in the south-west and generally brought from Europe.

(iii) Parent stocks and DOCs: mostly produced in the south-west by big industries.

(iv) Eggs: produced everywhere, but mainly around the major urban centres, by big and

small farms.

(v) Broilers: scattered all over the country and principally produced in the backyard sector

and partially by farms.

The Nigerian poultry sector, despite many problems such as a rise in the price of feed, avian

influenza, the global financial crisis and inadequate credit, is still in expansion. This will lead

to an increase in backyard and small-scale producers, particularly in urban and peri-urban

zones, increasing the concentration of poultry and raising concern about human and poultry

health. In the daily markets, the poultry sector is active as long as there is daylight, and all year round. Retailers are mainly the small merchants seen in the weekly markets and almost always organized into associations. The level of dynamism of the associations is very variable, with those which are most active holding regular meetings. Their main tasks are to regulate the number of retailers and the flow of birds to the markets, to share information and to provide basic rules of behaviour. The majority of retailers in the daily markets operate as individuals on the selling side but may buy collectively, with a few members buying birds for a group or one member delegating another member to buy. The various marketers’ associations are normally independent, with no links to the others. the daily markets, a single batch of birds may remain between 2-5 days before being sold. Overnight, unsold birds stay in the market, locked up into some provisional structure or left in their cages with a guardian. A regular policy of "all in, all out" is not adopted.

The West African poultry sector faces high production costs, safety concerns due to lack of sanitary controls, and technical constraints in processing and marketing. Production costs are higher in Africa due to the lack of an integrated and automated industrial poultry sector. Farmers lack reliable access to inputs, including chicks and feed, and face high costs for veterinary services. African livestock markets are also limited by global concerns about product safety. The persistence of animal disease outbreaks continues to limit domestic and export production potential. In addition to biological issues, the lack of breeders, marketing, and processing technology present technical constraints to poultry sector growth. The introduction of the Common External Tariff (CET) in West Africa reduced the tariff rate applied in most countries, facilitating an influx of cheap poultry imports from Europe and decreasing the ability of the regional sector to compete with imported products. Under the CET, import tariffs on final consumer goods (including poultry) are set at 20 percent Economic Community of West African States, Nigeria complies with most CET measures. The country adopted a ban on poultry imports in 2002 to reduce competition from foreign producers. However, illegal imports continue to enter via land borders.The primary sources for this analysis are the 2006 FAOEmergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) poultry sector review and the Pro-Poor Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Risk Reduction group’s 2008 review of Nigeria

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY, PROJECT ENGINEERING, RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY

Mechanization is practically non-existent on all farms, primarily because labour is cheap and the supply of electricity is quite inconsistent. Climate control is almost zero, ventilation is strictly natural, and lighting is, sometimes, partially artificial (when electricity is available). Most farmers rely on commercial feed, but the biggest may also produce for themselves and for selling, and the small-scale and backyard farmers may add a few home residues. Feed is generally distributed in feeders; for caged layer these are typically placed in front of the chickens, while for broilers and others birds reared on the ground these may be hung from the ceiling and/or placed in linear feeders. For birds in small-scale and backyard farms, feed may be placed in a bowl or a wooden home-made linear feeder, but this can lead to food loss and contamination by animals walking and defecating on the feed. The quality of commercial feed is probably not very good and could be improved; this observation is based on the fact that the production of layers is generally lower than 80 percent and this can only be partially explained by the presence of simply natural illumination and is difficult to explain for broilers, which are often reared for longer periods than normal (up to 11 weeks), possibly indicating a weak growth rate, although it is true that the Nigerian market demands big birds. The mission did report one very big egg producer (with up to 260.000 layers) who had a contract with two different producers to prepare a special feed (at the same price as normal feed) and, according to him, the contract stipulated that the feed producers would be held responsible if the layers had any feed-related problems. Generally speaking, the hygienic conditions of feed storage need to be improved. Depending on local availability, farms rely on tap, underground, superficial or rain water. Given the general sanitary situation of the country, chemical and bacteriological pollution is probable, particularly on farms with surface water supply. One backyard producer reported boiling water before giving it to the chickens. Water delivery is most often effected manually with bell drinkers, although on bigger farms or where tap water is available, some form of automatic drinker may be found. Water spillage may be a source of gastrointestinal pathologies, and this is indirectly confirmed by the widespread habit of giving birds antibiotics on a weekly basis and not following a normal medication schedule. The Implications of this practice for human health may be very important and should be investigated further.

PROJECT ENGINEERING

In the southern part of the country, layers are often kept in cages, while in the north they are mainly kept on the ground on sawdust litter. Material for litter is sometimes bought for as much as N 100 for a 25 kg sack (around € 0.60), but in some cases it is obtained at no cost. Old litter is generally packed in old feed sacks and sold as fertilizer (N 100-120 per 25 kg sac, around € 0.60-0.75). It should be noted that one sack of sawdust yields around two sacks of old litter. All producers rely on veterinary advice and Photo 5 Litter packing services and usually comply with scheduled prophylactic plans. On smallscale and backyard farms, these prophylactic plans may be quite reduced, but farmers also seek the advice of veterinarians. Prophylactic plans are quite standardized, with small local modifications according to veterinary advice. Vaccination for Newcastle disease (NCD) and Gumboro are always implemented for both layers and broilers. The vaccines against fowl cholera and fowl pox are administered mainly in layers. On request, it is possible to obtain DOCs vaccinated for Marek's and NCD from hatcheries. Other prophylactic treatments such as antibiotics, anticoccidial, de-worming and vitamins are also scheduled. Therapeutic treatment is used if necessary, usually following veterinary advice1 . The utilization of (sub)therapeutic quantities of antibiotics as prophylaxis is extremely common, more common than that normally scheduled in similar conditions, and respect of withdrawal time is not constant. Sick birds are habitually removed from flocks and placed in quarantine. Regrettably, most of the time, the quality of quarantine space is completely unsatisfactory, either in terms of location or the quality of the separation from the breeding room; often it is simply a cage very close to or inside the breeding room separated by a grid, with no barrier to the exchange of dust and germs. The mission observed that veterinary advice to farmers needs to be improved, as regards both the location and the management of quarantine facilities. At the end of a batch production cycle, all animals are sold to one or more traders. According to producers, traders do not enter breeding rooms but have access to farm yards which lack disinfection facilities. The same is true for egg traders; sometimes, the bigger producers may have specific selling points in town, while the smaller producers may sell directly to the market or at the entrance of their house. Because of this practice, the "live in - dead out" policy is not always respected. One backyard producer (200 broilers) who sold to the market

RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Because birds of different breeds and ages are often reared in the same compound, the sanitary gap between production cycles is only possible for a single breeding room at a time, not for the whole structure; during the sanitary gap, the room is cleaned, disinfected and left empty for a few weeks or so. However, in general, hygienic conditions are not excellent. The mission found breeding rooms with dust and spiders’ webs on walls and ceilings, and stores, yards and farm surroundings were usually very unclean. Internal disinfection, in periods other than sanitary gaps, was not carried out. Recently, the veterinary services received sprayers and disinfectants from the AICP for a programme of disinfection in markets and outbreak areas (see later in the market section); this material is sometimes also used for farm disinfection but not on a regular basis and only a few farms are covered. Many farms, including farms with only a few hundred birds, employ permanent workers, and these workers often rear their own birds at home; many small-scale and backyard farms are associated with traditional rearing. This implies frequent indirect contact between different flocks. Theoretically, visitors are not allowed to enter farms but, whenever the mission asked to see breeding conditions, the gates were opened. There is, however, awareness that visitors can introduce pathogens and spread disease. Possibly the fact that the mission was often accompanied by public and private veterinarians facilitated entry.

Other means of avoiding the introduction of pathogens, such as changing of clothes and shoes, disinfection of clothes, workers showering before and after entering, and washing hands before and after handling birds, are not applied. Sometimes disinfected footbaths are used either with water or with impregnated rope bags. On one small-scale farm close to a footbath, the mission observed plastic shoes meant to be worn and disinfected before entering the rearing room. Only recently have footbaths been introduced as a result of awareness-raising campaigns following outbreaks of AI. Other rules such as “first work in the clean, then in the dirty areas” are not implemented, and clean and dirty areas are generally not separated Farmers reported that they generally have their own materials and do not share equipment, including egg crates and collector cages; this is a new habit, acquired mainly as a result of the awareness campaigns. However, cleaning and disinfection of working materials is not carried out regularly. Before the AI outbreaks and the subsequent information campaigns, it was normal practice to throw the carcasses of dead birds into fields. Today, according to all those interviewed, dead birds are buried or placed in garbage containers (when available). In one case, a farmer with 13.000 layers burned dead chickens and fed them to dogs. The intentions were good, but the practice not to be recommended.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AND REGULATORY POLICIES

Government intervention affects agricultural industries both in the prices received for products and the prices paid for inputs. This paper attempts to demonstrate that analysis of the impact of government intervention on these industries should consider both sets of distortions.

Nigeria’s poultry industry has its root in the initiatives of regional governments from the 1960s when, for example the Western Regional Government entered into joint pilot poultry production schemes with some foreign partners, notably the Israeli government. The entry of private investors into poultry production in the late 1960s to early 1970s marked the onset of indigenous commercial poultry industry which then spread from the west to the eastern region and parts of the Northern region. The first decade or so of this period witnessed a tremendous growth in the industry, especially in the West. The size of the industry grew from less than 1million in the mid 1960s to over 40 million by the early parts of the 1980s. All along, the growth of the industry had been propped on government initiatives and incentives especially in terms of training, technological support, input support services, and others. Thus for example, many of the poultry technical staff were products of government subsidized training programmes, while inputs like vaccines and diagnostic services were subsidized by government or even free initially. Meanwhile the national economic climate was enjoying a boost from the newly advancing petroleum sector and this visibly helped to propel national investment sector, including poultry, rapidly forwards. As from this time, the poultry industry had started to be self-supporting, viable and attractive to financial institutions. However towards the end of the 1980s, government introduced policies, like the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP), including floating foreign exchange market which were intended to diversify the economy and stimulate the nation’s agricultural and industrial sectors. These policies however resulted in some unintended counter productive effects on some sub-sectors like the poultry industry. The fate of the industry in the scenario was dictated by its conspicuous dependence on imported inputs like GPS and PS, grains, feed stuff, drugs, vaccines and others. The new policies had placed a ban on the importation or restriction on the importation of many of these inputs which were the lifelines to the industry. The devaluation of the national currency obviously heightened the predicament of the import dependent poultry industry. Under this policy environment, the poultry industry collapsed rapidly. Only about 20 percent of the more than 5,000 commercial poultry farmers existing pre-SAP survived by the mid 1990s. The resulting decline in national commercial poultry stock to an all time low of about 9 million with the attendant deficit in animal protein supply, became a source of grievous concern to the government and the country. Quite naturally the indigenous (rural) poultry sector was not seriously affected by these policies, because of its low inputs demand structure. Indeed, available information claimed that the indigenous (rural) poultry grew by over 16% in the period. These negative development in commercial poultry challenged successive governments between the late 1990s to date. The governments realized there is the need to rejuvenate the poultry industry and redress situation through policy incentives and other similar programmes. With the intensification of such programmes in recent times, the poultry sector, has through its innate responsiveness started to rediscover its feet The real turning point in this regard has been the FGN policies which placed a ban on the importation of commercial DOCs , eggs and frozen chickens. – a policy which has had the effect of boosting internal production and sufficiency in these items.

REGULATORY POLICIES

The Animal Diseases (Control) Decree.

The control of the diseases of all animals in Nigeria are regulated by rules and laws set out

in decree No10 which was gazetted in February, 1988, pages A477 to 501. The decree

contains the definitions and rules guiding the importation and exportation of animal and

poultry products; surveillance and notification of their diseases; compensation policy; duties

of Veterinary Officers, Law enforcement agents and the powers of the Minister in the

determination of contraventions, etc. The major aspects in relation to this report are as

follows:

 The importation or exportation of animals, poultry and their products including; hatching

eggs and biologics is prohibited, except under a permit granted by the Director. It

provides for manned control and monitoring posts, listed in a schedule and stipulates

sanctions for contraventions

 The decree defines the rules for the establishment of a hatchery or a poultry farm of up to

250 birds under licence, demands that such operations must be registered annually (fee

N50) and managed hygienically with compliance on vaccination programmes.

 It empowers the Minister to make regulations on the importation, exportation and the

management of any disease outbreak of national economic importance by control or

eradication measures.

 At the state level, the decree empowers the Directors /CVOs to adopt and apply disease

control and related measures , subject to the approval of the Minister or Commissioner.

 Schedule 1 of the decree contains a list of 80 Animal Diseases including 20 poultry

diseases, viz:

No 8 Avian Encephalomyelitis No 9 Avian Infectius bronchitis

No 10 Avian Leukosis Complex No11 Infectious Laryngotracheitis

No 22 Coccidiosis No 27 Chronic Respiratory Disease

No 30 Duck Plaque No 31 Duck virus hepatitis

No 43 Fowl Cholera No44 Fowl Plaque

No 45 Fowl Typhoid No 47 Gumboro disease

No 52 Infectious coryza No 53 Influenza and Parainfluenza

No.57 Marek’s disease No 62 Newcastle disease

No 64 Pox diseases of all spp. No 65 psittacosis and Ornithosis

No 70Salmonella infections (…S.pullorum)No 79 Tuberculosis (Bovine and Avian)

There are well-articulated provisions for compensation with regards to animals slaughtered

for disease control purposes. However, the relevance of the provisions to poultry is less

obvious or subsumed under generalised frameworks for animals, hides and skin

PROJECT IMPLIMENTATION TIMELINES

An embedded poultry farm is a poultry farm which has a reliable system that is capable of automatically regulating the variables that affect the wellbeing of a poultry farm. Such variables include climatic conditions, water supply system, lighting system, etc. The bid to ease labour and increase productivity in poultry farm has given rise to the emergence of automated poultry farms. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), chickens are the largely domesticated birds and their meat represent in the region of 88% of global poultry meat output . This work is focused on broiler chicks in particular. Bird wellbeing depends largely on several environmental or climatic parameters that affect the revenue and the performance of the production such as laying time, egg weight, and average broiler weight. The henhouse (chicks’ house) should be able to not only measure and monitor but should control the temperature, humidity, moisture, water intake and period of illumination. When the environmental readings do not meet the standard levels, respiratory, digestive, and behavioural disorders probably take place. This leads to reduction in the food intake and eventually increases the mortality rate and chances of diseases.

Many poultry farmers are performing diverse operations manually. Therefore, they experience huge financial loss as a result of erroneous weather forecasts and unsuccessful methods employed in traditional farming. This, therefore, leads to new technological approaches required to continuously and effectively improves the productivity, profitability and sustainability of major farming systems. An embedded poultry farm is, therefore, one that is fully automated with the purpose of improving productivity and environmental or climatic conditions in the poultry farm, making it conducive for the broilers (chicks). The work proposes a very convenient solution for maintaining an optimum environmental condition by measuring, monitoring and controlling these environmental parameters in order to achieve a relaxing and standard environment for the chicks. The farmhouse automation system based on the Arduino microcontroller technology is designed to manage temperature, relative humidity, automatic lighting and water supply control. There is no comparison between the proposed embedded farmhouse and the conventional method utilised over the years. The performance superiority of the system should be enough to motivate poultry farmers to adopt this technology in their poultry farms. The aim of this paper is to design and implement an embedded poultry farm. The specific sub-objectives are to determine the optimum temperature, humidity and other environmental conditions for broiler chicks. It also includes the development of an embedded system hardware for the system and the use of an assembly language to design the software for the overall functionality of the system. And to implement an automatic water supply control for chicks and control the environmental parameters of the poultry farm in real time using a microcontroller.

FINANCIAL EVALUATION- PROJECT COST AND REVENUE ESTIMATES

The operational overheads of a poultry farm project are the ongoing costs of staying in business.

* maintenance

The challenges faced by poultry farmers is huge and cut across all farmers in Nigeria. It is important that as farmers we also have a clue to what this problems are, damages already cost and those being affected from past till date. This will not only help us find a collective solution but prepare us psychologically knowing that we face a common problem and that we are not alone.In the midst of all these challenges however, lies a few who are still making mega profits. I am not even talking about the big players in the industry but small farmers like you and I. Surely there must be something they are doing that you or me aren't.

Recurring costs:

Acquire A Land

To start a poultry business, you must acquire a land. As long as it is not close to a residential area, any land is okay. It is highly necessary you acquire a land of your own and most importantly you acquire a land in a rural area. I mean areas that are just developing where you can buy a plot of land

Construct A Poultry House

Poultry house is where the birds are kept. Constructing a poultry house for your birds means you have to contract laborers to clear the land and contract a carpenter to construct a house on the land. The materials needed to construct a house are

A. wire net 4 bundles

B. Different sizes of nail

C. Building Planks will

D. Zinc 10 bundles

Once a carpenter has completed his work on the land, a bricklayer needs to work on the land as well. A brick layer’s work on the land is to dig the deep litters, smooth-en the floor with cement and to set bricks round the pen house.

Deep litters: is the gutter run in the pen that leads into a sock away. It is where the birds litter drop into day by day. It is important you drill a borehole on the land because water is very essential in poultry business.

Get Battery Cage

There are different places to buy wired cages, the number of birds you want to start with will determine the units of cages to buy. Start with 1,500 birds, one unit of cage with automatic drinker will serve 90 birds. That means you will buy 17 units of cages with automatic drinkers. Seventeen units of cage with automatic drinkers will be set in just 3 days.

Buy The Birds

Since the pen house is made ready, you can now buy the birds. Make sure you buy your birds from good and reliable sources like Zartech and Chi. Buy point of lay i.e age of birds between 16 weeks old to 20 weeks old. The color comes in brown or black any color you prefer is okay. 1 point of lay costs $7 and so 1,500 birds costs $10500.

Bird Feed

200 birds will consume 25 kg of feed in a day and so 1,500 birds will consume 187.5kg in a day, kg of growers feed cost. That means in a day you will feed 1,500 birds with. In a week it costs

Medication

Buy medication like Vitamin, Antibiotics and Dewormer.

Vitamin: Buy vitaminotrace; one litre will cost $15. Vitamin revitalizes the internal system of the birds especially when the birds have undergone stress. This medication is usually repeated weekly.

Antibiotics: Enrofloxercine is a type of antibiotics used in flushing the internal system of the birds. It comes in 100mls, It costs $5, and it will be administered for one week and usually repeated after 6 weeks.

DEWORMER: A good name in dewormer is Kepromeg. It comes in powdery form and it is usually administered after 2 days and would be repeated once you notice lice(tiny worm) on the birds. A kepromeg costs $5.

CONCLUSIONS

The key conclusions arising from the study are presented as follows.

1. The four sector classification of poultry enterprises which emphasises the level of biosecurity is not entirely applicable to the Nigerian environment especially as it relates to

sector 4: Backyard or village poultry. At the moment the range of poultry being kept at

backyard in Nigeria varies from completely free-range subsistence poultry with a flock

size up to 30 to intensive, housed and totally restricted commercial-oriented poultry with

a flock size varying from 50 to 500.

2. The poultry industry in Nigeria is currently dominated by the large-scale integrated farms

in terms of strategic position in the industry, product range and volume of operations

3. The commercial poultry in Nigeria is largely private sector driven. The government only

provides policy support.

4. Household poultry flock size appears to be larger on the average than in the previous

decade probably because of some elements of commercial poultry being introduced into

it.

5. There appears not to be a clear-cut definition of what constitute household poultry and

flock. The grey areas include the definition of the term household

6. There is no recent well structured study yielding information on the Nigeria poultry subsector

7. Contribution of poultry to household food security is very significant if local production

is taken as an indicator of consumption.

8. The contribution of the commercial poultry to household food security is far greater than

that of subsistence poultry given the different productivities and off take rates.

9. There is a decline in poultry products imports in last few years.

10. The total value of the poultry sub-sector is very significant

11. The introduction of fast foods outlets into the marketing system in recent years has

facilitated access to well-processed and better culinary presentations of poultry products

thereby enhancing poultry products consumption.

12. There is currently no monitoring and certification of poultry meat processing and there

are no quality criteria in place.

13. There are no effective hatchery monitoring and certification protocols in place.

14. There is a good number of old and recent Federal Government policies and programmes

in place but most of them are ineffectively implemented with respect to the poultry subsector

15. There are signs of active response to and management of HPAI epidemic in Nigeria but

the control options (eradication versus vaccination) need to be re-evaluated for more

comprehension and lasting benefit