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Med lab sci

## BUSINESS PLAN ON LIVESTOCK FARMING

Livestock are domesticated animals raised in an agricultural setting to produce commodities such as food, fibre, and labour. The term is often used to refer solely to those raised for food, and sometimes only farmed ruminants, such as cattle and goats. In recent years, some organisations have also raised livestock to promote the survival of rare breeds. The breeding, maintenance, and slaughter of these animals, known as animal husbandry, is a component of modern agriculture that has been practised in many cultures since humanity's transition to farming from hunter-gatherer lifestyles. No universally accepted criteria exist to separate "livestock" from pets or "companion animals", defined as animals kept primarily for companionship. There are attributes that are common with livestock farming. These are:

The first attribute is commitment.

For any venture in life to be successful, livestock farming inclusive, the visionary must be very committed to his/her vision. A successful livestock farmer has to be hardworking.

It can be a back-breaking work, and laziness will not be okay. It takes a lot of efforts to care of animals from day one till they grow up to reproduce, you will see that it is not a cheap work, though you could employ some helping hands to assist in the managing of the farm.

Pro-activeness and a thirst for knowledge.

One person does not know it all, and for a farmer to be successful, he cannot rely absolutely on his own knowledge alone. There are constantly evolving scientific and business information on how to make livestock farming more profitable and better, such that a livestock farmer worth his salt will seek to learn the latest techniques and methods.

Discipline, Doggedness and Goal-mindedness.:

Discipline is required in very business, otherwise a little mistake could wipe out the whole business at once. Therefore every businessman turns out to be dogged and target minded. If target is not achieved, he may make losses.

1. Fish Farming Business:

This is about the most common and perhaps most hyped form of livestock farming in Nigeria at the present. It is estimated that five out of every ten Nigerians consume catfish on a weekly basis, meaning that at the very least 75 million catfish are bought and consumed every week in Nigeria alone.

That makes the demand for the product very high. The potentials of catfish farming in Nigeria are endless, and established fish farmers say that it is possible to recoup investment outlay in 12 months.

For this business, you will need:

A piece of land to construct Fish ponds. You will need to procure the services of a pond construction expert for this

Borehole and overhead tank: This will serve as the water reservoir for the fishes.

Fingerlings: Make sure to buy fast growing and disease resistant breeds.

At this point certain decisions are necessary on, the size of the business, estimate on level of demand, cost of fixed assets involved and Direct Cost of production estimates.

You can contact us if you'll like a cost analyses and fish farming business plan.

Other factors to consider are, estimate of market share expected considering your competitors.

2. Pig Farming: Pig farming has began to become popular among livestock farmers in Nigeria in the recent time.

Pork, the by-product of the farm, is said to be fetching huge billions of Naira annual revenue in Nigeria. Smart investors and entrepreneurs are taking advantage of the huge demand for pork, and since pigs reproduce in large numbers and grow very fast, the sky is the limit.

A single pig can have a litter of as much as 8/10 piglets at a time, making it one of the fastest reproducing livestock in the world.

For a start you will need:

A piece of land for breeding: It is advisable to secure a piece of land in the rural areas. Land is cheaper there, and the pigs can root around in the fields once in a while.

Standard pens: To house the pigs. This must have proper drainage to eliminate bad odour and diseases.

Water pool: While this is optional, it is important to note that pigs like swimming and being able to keep cool is necessary for their well beings because pigs are not sweating animals.

Healthy pig farming business you have to take care of the following:

**Veterinary doctor:** Secure the services of vet doctor for regular check-up and vaccination as well as feeding and nutrition advice.

**Employ workers:** You will need some workers for assistance, as pig farming can be labour intensive.

**Feeding:** Pigs eat a wide variety of food, but they need a balanced diet like humans do. Their diet should contain fibre, energy, protein, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals in order for them to thrive.

### 3. Poultry farming:

Poultry farming business is part of the animal husbandry which is as old as mankind itself.

This is good money within the shortest period of time possible. This is made possible due to the quick maturity of chickens and turkeys. Livestock farming presents one of the finest opportunity for entrepreneurs to make money. There is also that overwhelming demand for eggs on a daily basis.

A farmer might start poultry farming either for the meat of the chicken and turkey, or for the eggs that the chicken can lay.

For a start you need:

A piece of land to construct the Pens (chicken's houses): Housing is very important for chicken rearing and effective keeping and management. Poultry housing are classified according to the scale and the management system.

Day old chicks and other accessories such as Feeders, Drinkers, Perches, Nests, Crates, Lighting system, Waste disposal system, Incubator, Heaters or brooders, Egg tray, Cages and coops and Feed.

### 4. Rabbit farming:

Rabbit rearing is a business that requires less space and can therefore be done anywhere. The capital investment is relatively low. You will however need to have an in-depth knowledge of how to raise the animals, and do extensive market research to determine who your customers are.

Every single part of the rabbit is useful; from the skin which is used to leather production, to its furs which is used for clothes manufacturing and meat for consumption.

Before you start your rabbit farming business in Nigeria, you will need:

Cages or hutches: These should be able to protect the rabbits from heat and humidity.

Feed: This may be processed feed or edible vegetable and leaves, elephant grass, potatoes and different kinds of herbs.

5. Goat farming is part of livestock farming:

Goat farming is gaining popularity in Nigeria every day. The meat is alleged to be the best kind of animal meat for the following reasons: it tastes good, and traditionally has a lower fat content than chicken does, and a higher protein content than beef does.

It also has a lot of by-products such as cheese, yogurt, ice cream, and butter. These are the reasons goat farming is considered by wise farmers as a lucrative venture and it is increasingly becoming very popular among modern farmers in Nigeria.

Before starting your own goat farming business in Nigeria, you will need:

A piece of land for pasture:

Acquire a good grazing ground that grows plenty of grass varieties. Goats need a large expanse of land, because they move around a lot while grazing.

Appropriate fencing – Construct short perimeter fence round your pasture or barbwire fence.

Housing: Goats like to stay indoors when the weather is not conducive e.g too hot or raining.

Species: There are a large number of goat breeds suitable for different purposes of rearing. Some are very good for milk production while some are good for the meat. Choose what is appropriate for your commercial purposes. Once decided, buy healthy kids.

Veterinarians – You will need to have appointment with a veterinary Doctors near you for periodic check-up and vaccination.

6. Cattle rearing Farmer:

Cattle farming is the process and practice of raising and nurturing cattle from birth until the point at which they provide meat or milk for consumption. The reasons why cattle farming is lucrative in Nigeria are not hard to imagine.

One, we are a nation of beef consumers. And two, although cattle are raised primarily for beef or milk production, there is no part of the cow that is not useful. Other 'by-products' include dairy products, cow hide, cow horns, bones, hooves and stearic acid.

Cattle farmers basically raise cattle either to sell as a whole or sell their products.

For cattle rearing business in Nigeria, you will need:

Farmland: A very large piece of land.

Farm equipment:

Cow sheds

Feeding and watering equipment

Healthy calves

Then you have to consider the following:

Cattle business model: Most farmers either go for Dairy Operation Business Model or Beef Production Business Model. Dairy Operation Business Model is raising cattle primarily to sell their dairy products – especially milk. Beef Production Business Model is raising cattle primarily for beef consumption.

Whichever model you decide on plays a key role in determining the farm equipment you will go for.

Climate: Be sure that rainfall, relative humidity, temperature, are all favourable to your cattle breed