



Innovations in Local Chicken Production for Food Security: Nutrition, Management Practices, Pure-Line Breeding, Obstacles, and Challenges

Duration: 5 Days

Language: en

Course Code: IND10-113

Objective

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the role of local chicken production in enhancing household and national food security.
- Recognize the nutritional requirements of local chicken breeds across different production stages.
- Apply effective management practices to improve flock health, productivity, and welfare.

- Explore the principles and techniques of pure-line breeding for indigenous chicken genetics.
- Assess the major obstacles and challenges limiting local chicken production systems.
- Identify innovative, sustainable solutions to overcome production constraints.
- Evaluate strategies to scale up local chicken enterprises for improved livelihoods and food security.

Audience

This course is designed for anyone involved in poultry production, agricultural development, or food security initiatives. It would be most beneficial for:

- Poultry Farmers and Smallholder Producers
- Agricultural Extension Officers
- Animal Nutritionists
- Livestock Development Officers
- Breeding Program Specialists
- NGO and Food Security Program Coordinators
- Agricultural Researchers and Academics
- Policy Makers in Agriculture and Rural Development

Training Methodology

This course uses a variety of adult learning styles to aid full understanding and comprehension. Participants will review real-world case studies of local chicken production systems to highlight effective nutrition strategies, management techniques, and breeding programs. Participants will be granted ample opportunities to fully develop their knowledge and skills related to the course content through various methods, including presentations, group discussions, practical demonstrations, and individual activities. Through their practical activities, participants will also be able to receive constructive feedback from the instructors and their peers to aid in future development.

Summary

Local chicken production plays a vital role in strengthening food security, particularly within rural and smallholder farming communities. These indigenous breeds are valued for their resilience, adaptability, and cultural significance, yet their productivity is often hindered by inadequate nutrition, poor management practices, and limited access to structured breeding programs.

This course explores innovative approaches to improving local chicken production, with a strong focus on nutrition, health management, and pure-line breeding techniques that preserve genetic diversity while enhancing productivity. Participants will also examine the common obstacles and challenges faced by producers—ranging from disease susceptibility and market access to climate variability—and develop practical strategies to address these issues sustainably.

By the end of the course, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to implement innovative production practices that contribute to improved livelihoods, enhanced nutrition security, and sustainable poultry development.

Course Content & Outline

Section 1: Fundamentals of Local Chicken Production and Food Security

- Understanding the role of local chicken breeds in food security and rural livelihoods.
- Comparing indigenous chicken breeds with commercial breeds in terms of adaptability and productivity.
- Assessing the socio-economic and cultural significance of local chicken production.
- Identifying key stakeholders across the local chicken value chain.

Section 2: Nutrition for Local Chicken Production

- Exploring the nutritional requirements of local chickens at different growth and production stages.
- Formulating cost-effective, locally available feed rations.
- Addressing seasonal feed scarcity through sustainable feeding strategies.
- Evaluating the impact of nutrition on growth rate, egg production, and disease resistance.

Section 3: Management Practices for Improved Productivity

- Implementing effective housing, biosecurity, and disease prevention measures.
- Establishing best practices for brooding, rearing, and flock management.

- Monitoring flock health and identifying early signs of common poultry diseases.
- Applying record-keeping and performance monitoring systems to track productivity.

Section 4: Pure-Line Breeding and Genetic Improvement

- Introducing the principles of pure-line breeding and genetic conservation.
- Designing selective breeding programs to enhance desirable traits.
- Balancing productivity improvement with the preservation of genetic diversity.
- Exploring community-based breeding models for sustainable improvement.

Section 5: Obstacles, Challenges, and Innovative Solutions

- Identifying key production constraints, including disease outbreaks, predation, and market access.
- Assessing the impact of climate variability on local chicken production systems.
- Exploring innovative, low-cost technologies and practices to overcome production barriers.
- Developing strategies for scaling up local chicken enterprises to strengthen food security.

Certificate Description

Upon successful completion of this training course, delegates will be awarded a Holistique Training Certificate of Completion. For those who attend and complete the online training course, a Holistique Training e-Certificate will be provided.

Holistique Training Certificates are accredited by the British Assessment Council (BAC) and The CPD Certification Service (CPD), and are certified under ISO 9001, ISO 21001, and ISO 29993 standards.

CPD credits for this course are granted by our Certificates and will be reflected on the Holistique Training Certificate of Completion. In accordance with the standards of The CPD Certification Service, one CPD credit is awarded per hour of course attendance. A maximum of 50 CPD credits can be claimed for any single course we currently offer.

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