

Chapter 09

Production of Food from Animals

Selection of cattle breed:

Now selecting a good cattle is equally important for good yield. So let's look at the various selection procedure.

- Selection of high milk producing variety. Be it traditional or foreign.
- Observe the cattle for 2-3 days for average milk yield.
- Look at the number of young ones it produces.
- Look at the body size, capacity of eating fodder and its health.
- Ask the opinion of a veterinary doctor or an official of Director of animal husbandry before selecting a cattle.

Practices in livestock keeping:

Lets look at the practices in livestock keeping. So what are livestock: Its the animals that are used for milk and agriculture.

Case study:

As we know there are native varieties and hybrid varieties.

- How do the local breeders preserve their livestock?

Lets understand this by looking at a case study.

Komuraiah is from a village, and has been maintaining a local breed of bullock called Kangayam. This breed is suitable for droughtful conditions and is a strong and healthy local variety. They have small horn, with wider shoulder and larger hump. So, Komuraiah buys the calves of this variety and feed them so that they can become bull.

- One such bull is able to serve 20-30 cows reproduction in a month and the conceiving rate is more than 80%, which is great.
- People will bring their cows for mating to preserve the livestock.
- In Odisha, traditional livestock – Chilika buffaloes are reared. They take care to avoid cross breeding with Murra, because murra hybrids doesn't have the qualities of chilika buffaloes.
- In order to avoid cross breeding they are made to graze during night times in brackish water of Chilika lake and they return home in the morning give milk without any extra feed.
- This milk tastes a bit salty and kept up to 7 days without refrigeration.

Practices:**Livestock:**

It's the animals that are used for milk and agriculture are called Livestock.

- We have local varieties and hybrid varieties of livestock and the local varieties are depleting because of its low productivity.
- Cattle are part and parcel of our culture and is not just a source of income.
- They are often considered as a part of our family and we decorate on them during festivals.

Now **apart from milk, what else do we get from cattle?**

- We get manure after grinding the bones of animals.
- Leather, which is used for manufacturing many products.
- Then we get biogas, which is produced from the excreta of the animal and we also get meat.
- Meat processing from animals is another side of animal wealth. Production of meat in large scale takes place in slaughter houses or Kabela).
- We get beef from bulls and buffaloes, pork from pigs, mutton from sheep and goats in our state, Rearing of sheep and goats are more' in the districts of Mahbubnagar, Nalgonda and Warangal.

Poultry:

Our farmers rear cocks and hens in villages and Most of these are local varieties like Natukollu. Production and rearing of hens on a large scale is called poultry.

Through poultry, we get chicken and eggs.

- We get around 74% chicken and 64% of eggs from poultry farms.
- India has the 3rd position in poultry farming in the world and produces 90 million eggs per annum.
- India has 7th position in the production of meat which is about 3000-5000 million kgs per annum.

Types of poultry farming:

Generally, poultry farms are of two types.

Broiler poultry farming which is are reared for meat, where broiler is the chicken and layer poultry farming for the purpose of commercial egg production, where layer is the chicken.

- Why do we use broilers?

It's because Natural, wild varieties grow fully in 5 to 6 months. Whereas broilers grow fully in just 6 to 8 weeks. This is due to genetic modification in the hens.

Examples of foreign varieties are,

New Hampshire, white Plymouth, Rhode Island Red, white leghorn and Anoka. So we know hens reared for eggs. Some hens can lay up to 300 to 350 eggs in their life span. But, one has to follow proper management techniques up to 21 to 72 weeks for getting eggs. After sometime, the capacity of laying eggs decreases.

Due to this reason most of people are more interested in rearing broiler, which gives meat.

Now the Natural, country varieties like Aseel, Kadaknath, Chittagong, Longshan, Bursa are good for hatching purpose. But the rate of production of eggs is lower than varieties mentioned earlier.

So you might have seen cock fighting in movies right.



- Do you know which variety they are using?

The variety is called Aseel or Berisa kodi and they are used in fighting because of its high stamina and other characters like long legs and neck. You might have seen cock fight during some festival seasons also.

- Do you think it's a type of animal cruelty?

Local chicken breeders rear both varieties of hen and they use the equipment called incubators to produce chicken in large scale.



Instead of Incubators, our rural practitioners hatch eggs by placing them under broody hen.



During January to April, the prices of eggs become high. Because during this period,

- Rate of hatching is more so most of the eggs are used for hatching purpose.
- Hatchability of eggs is generally influenced by 37 to 38°C temperature.

Apart from egg and meat, hen wastes is used as nutritional manure in agriculture.



NECC or the (**National Egg Co-ordination Committee**) is an association of poultry farmers in India with its slogan is “Eat egg every day”, this is because egg is a good nutritious food, which is easily available for all.

Emu, a flight less bird.



- It is the second largest bird in the world after Ostrich.
- This amazing bird weights nearly 50 kg and run at 40 miles per hour.
- Emu farming is also a commercial practice like hen.
- Recently farmers of Adilabad, Medak, Nalgonda and some other districts of Telangana, started the emu farming.
- Meat, chicks, skin, leather, oil, feathers eggs are the main products in the emu culture.
- Its meat and eggs are costly. The emu market is not so good at present in our state.