Chicken production has an important economic, social and cultural benefit and plays a significant role in family nutrition in developing countries. Chicken contributes to improved human nutrition and food security by being a leading source of high-quality protein in form of eggs and meat. It acts as a key supplement to revenue from crops and other livestock enterprises, thus avoiding overdependence on traditional commodities with inconsistent prices. It has a high potential to generate foreign exchange earnings through the export of chicken products to neighboring countries.

Thus, the textbook is intended to provide adequate information on the knowledge and skill to implement chicken production activities that enable to identify and select chicken breeds for production, plan for chicken house construction and facilities, undertake routine chicken management activities, formulate ration for different classes of chicken, implement a chicken breeding program, perform hatchery operations, identify and prevent common chicken diseases, and keeping chicken farm records.

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Chicken Production

A Reference Book For Under Graduate Students



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Zemedkun Diffe

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Editors:

Dr. Seyedmousa Hosseini, Dr. Kassa Shawle and Mr. Cheru Tesfaye







Chicken Production: A Reference Book for Under Graduate Students

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PREFACE

This textbook is written by Zemedkun D. and Tesfa K. staff members of the Animal Science Department currently working at Mekdela Amba University. The book has been given to the Academic vice president, college dean, and professionals working in similar and related fields of study for further comments and review. Through all these efforts we believed that we have produced our best.

The book is mainly intended to be used as a textbook on chicken production for university and college students. But it can also serve as a reference to chicken producers. The contents of this book cover relevant information necessary for chicken production and mainly focus on practical-oriented concepts on chicken production. This book covers nine chapters on the application of knowledge, skill, and attitude required for the implementation of chicken production activities. It includes Chicken production systems and their requirements, Chicken breed for production, chicken house construction, and facilities, Routine Chicken management activities, formulate ration for different classes of chicken and perform hatchery operations, Common chicken diseases, and chicken farm record keeping.

STATEMENT OF THE AUTHORS

All the ideas that you find in this part of the book are not necessarily our own. But they are collected out of different relevant materials used as a reference for the preparation of this material. The lists of these reference materials are given at the end of each chapter contained in the textbook.

Our main task in the preparation of this textbook was the collection and organization of different relevant ideas from the various references and rewriting them in a logical order according to the harmonized Curriculum for Animal science BSC students. The intended users, therefore and thereof, are believed to be university students, keeping in mind that many more other readers can also find it useful.

With the help of our experiences, as instructors inside the university, we have tried our level best in selecting and collecting only relevant materials for university students and in simplifying ideas, therein, in terms of context and the language used. We hope the book will serve its intended service to current students and many more generations to come. The authors give great appreciation to Mekdela Amba University for providing equipment.

The Authors