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Chapter - 1

An Introduction to Animal Husbandry

Rana Ranjeet Singh

Taxonomic Classification of Common Livestock Species

A series of terms (kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, species etc) is used to denote the member of a kingdom and each division of the hierarchy contains one or more groups from the next lower division like subphyla, subclasses, suborders, subfamilies, or subgenera etc if required. Further, species may be subdivided into varieties, breeds, or strains. Domestic farm animals belong to either class Mammalia or Aves. The scientific name of an animal comprise of its genus and species names. The first letter of genus name is written in capital letter but not the species name. While writing the scientific name of an animal the genus and species names are underlined when handwritten and always italicized when printed. General characteristics and taxonomic arrangements of common domestic animals have been given below.

Kingdom: Animalia

Members of kingdom Animalia are multicellular, eukaryotic heterotrophs. Adult animals develop from embryos. Most animals ingest and digest their food in some kind of internal cavity.



Principles and Practices

READERSHIP: Meant for students of B. V. Sc. & A. H., animal science, dairy science but will also act as an adjunct to the wisdom of teachers, farm managers, extension and dairy workers, farmers etc in the subject of livestock production and management.

Livestock rearing is an integral part of socio-economic framework of India since time immemorial. Livestock sub-sector being a vital component of agriculture sector, plays a multidimensional role and acts as a tool in achieving nutritional security, employment generation and socio-economic development of rural sector, particularly among the landless, small, marginal farmers and women.

India possesses huge livestock population of varying production potentials, distributed across different agro-ecological zones under different operational and livestock holding size. Hence, it requires different package of practices for their management. Further, factors like drivers of development change and climate change pose many challenges to this sector. Farm animal management encompasses integrated and precise application of basic scientific principles of breeding, feeding, heeding and weeding in general as well as in times of specific need. Therefore, an attempt has been made in this book to cover all these basic and applied aspects of livestock management in detail. In the perspective of reorganization of the syllabus of veterinary science and animal husbandry programme. This book is appropriately divided into fifteen chapters covering almost each and every aspect of livestock production management.

2014, 583 pages, figs., col.plts., tables., 25 cm

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