

DOUBLING FARMERS INCOME THROUGH ANIMAL HUSBANDRY



This book is a comprehensive presentation of various livestock interventions required now-a-days to enhance livestock income in shorter time period. It emphasizes on integrated farming system, livestock by-product management, utilization of renewable energy to have sustainable livestock farming along with adoption of traditional indigenous practices for livestock health care. The book also deals with latest technological advancements regarding animal reproduction, disease diagnosis, managerial practices and interactive communication. Importance of women in livestock sector, breeding strategies to enhance livestock productivity, importance of indigenous livestock breeds, sustainable economic models of livestock and poultry farming has also been dealt with keeping in mind their unavoidable importance in uplifting livestock sector. The book has been prepared with emphasis on updating knowledge and skills of various livestock stakeholders including farmers, animal husbandry practitioners, extension workers, policy makers, etc.

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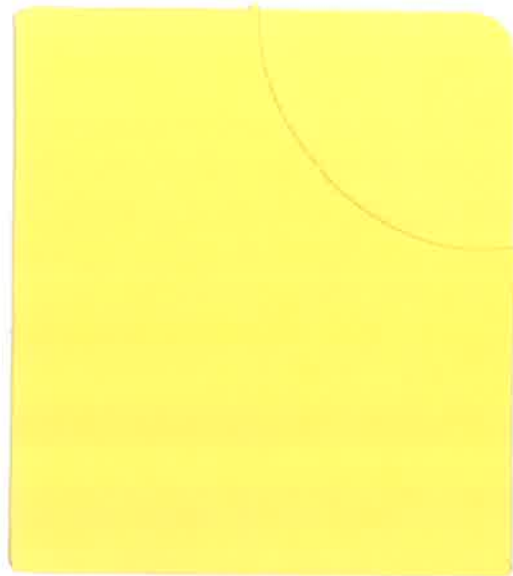


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Doubling Farmers Income Through Animal Husbandry

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Preface

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Indian farmers have remained a deprived community in the society, since times immemorial and poverty has come to be symbolized with Indian farming community. Although, farmers had been the force behind green-revolution, white-revolution, yellow-revolution, blue-revolution and several others, that had made the country not only self-sufficient but also nutritionally-secured. However, even after almost seventy years of independence, farmers are struggling to meet their both ends meet and ironically, still remain poor and deprived. They are dependent on the unpredictable weather, fluctuating market, lower minimum support price for their produce and many more unpredictable matters. They have to constantly worry about the re-payment of loans, education of children and even feeding their family. Looking at the plight of the farmers, Govt. of India has initiated certain farmers-friendly policies and undertook appropriate measures including scientific and technological interventions, assured market, assured minimum support price, e-marketing, etc. apart from assuring supply of quality seeds, fertilizers and addressing the soil-health issues. All the efforts are being directed towards "doubling the farmer's income" which in fact is a very challenging task.

Crop-science alone will not be sufficient to achieve the target set by Govt. of India. Our agricultural practices should be inclusive of animal husbandry, poultry, fish farming, bee-keeping and other agri-practices along with crop science and we also need to strengthen our value addition chain and evolve awareness and entrepreneurship amongst farming community. Farmers have to be educated in scientific and integrated farming, judicious use of resources on one hand to reduce their inputs, value addition and utilization of e-marketing for better returns. Accordingly, extension personnels and ground level-workers have to be educated and armed with newer and time-tested technologies to help out the farmers. It is an attempt of the authors to bring out the relevant information on different aspects of livestock keeping, dairy farming, poultry farming, hatchery establishment and maintenance, piggery, etc. to strengthen the animal husbandry practices in commonman's language. This book is also dealing with the role of women in Indian economy, especially livestock-keeping, who are half the population, and are equally involved in production yet largely ignored. Emphasis has been given on scientific methods of animal husbandry farming practices for sustainable

source of income for farmers through value addition and also using livestock by-products.

Based on the impact of cross-breeding programme in animal husbandry, especially cattle, we have also reviewed our animal breeding policy and today, we are convinced to stop cross-breeding programme in cattle. Efforts are being made on conservation and propagation of native breeds as our native-breeds, are climate-change resilient. The authors have also made efforts to focus on augmentation of assisted reproductive techniques as well as selection and breeding strategies along with emphasis on integrated farming system coupled with low-input managemental practices. We hope that this book will be of immense use to its readers and in fulfilling the aspiration of "Doubling the Farmers Income".

Editors

Contents

Preface	v
1. Role of ICT in Doubling Farmer's Income	1
<i>Jitendra Chauhan, Amit Singh and Sanjeev Kumar Singh</i>	
2. Role of Women in Livestock Sector	9
<i>Madhu Tiwari, Deepak Sharma and Avneesh Kumar</i>	
3. Integrated Farming System (IFS): An Innovative and Unique Approach for Upliftment of Livestock Owners	21
<i>Vijay Kumar and Sanjeev Kumar Singh</i>	
4. Perspective of Indigenous Livestock Breeds and its Importance	33
<i>Deepak Sharma, Satyendra Pal Singh and Madhu Tiwari</i>	
5. Role of Nutrients in Enhancing Livestock Productivity	65
<i>Vinod Kumar, Shalini Vaswani and Avinash Kumar</i>	
6. Manufacturing Cost Effective Homemade Feeding Materials of Livestock.....	81
<i>Muneendra Kumar, Shalini Vaswani and Avinash Kumar</i>	
7. Risk Management Strategies in Dairy Sector	89
<i>Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Amit Singh and Rashmi</i>	
8. Selection and Breeding Strategies of Livestock to Enhance Livestock Productivity	97
<i>Satyendra Pal Singh, Madhu Tiwari and Deepak Sharma</i>	
9. Promotion of Value Addition Techniques in Dairy Sector	109
<i>Vikas Pathak and S.K. Bharti</i>	

10.	Sustainable Economic Model For Enhancing Farmers Income Through Dairy Farming	117
	<i>Rajneesh Sirohi, Yajuvendra Singh and D.N.Singh</i>	
11.	Livestock By-product Management to Increase Farmers Income	133
	<i>D.N. Singh, R. Sirohi and Yajuvendra Singh</i>	
12.	Low Input Management Practices for Upliftment of Small, Poor and Landless Livestock Owners	141
	<i>Rajneesh Sirohi, Yajuvendra Singh and D.N. Singh</i>	
13.	Sustainable Economic Model of Goat Farming	151
	<i>A.K. Dixit</i>	
14.	Adoption of Traditional Indigenous Practice to Maintain Livestock Health	161
	<i>Rajesh Mandil and Atul Prakash</i>	
15.	Advances in Reproductive Management of Dairy Animals	177
	<i>Atul Saxena</i>	
16.	Augmenting Productivity Through Assisted Reproductive Technique in Dairy Animals	189
	<i>Anuj Kumar, Vikas Sachan and J.K. Agarwal</i>	
17.	Use of Ultrasonography in Management of Bovine Reproduction	199
	<i>Anuj Kumar, Vikas Sachan and J.K. Agarwal</i>	
18.	Renewable Energy - A New Ray of Hope in Minimizing Inputs and in Getting Higher Returns	209
	<i>Yajuvendra Singh, D.N. Singh and Rajneesh Sirohi</i>	
19.	Sustainable Economic Model of Poultry Farming	223
	<i>Amitav Bhattacharya and Pankaj Kumar Shukla</i>	
20.	Sustainable Economic Model for Backyard Poultry Farming	231
	<i>Amitav Bhattacharya and Pankaj Kumar Shukla</i>	

21.	Sustainable Economic Model for Quail Farming	237
	<i>Amitav Bhattacharya and P.K. Shukla</i>	
22.	Biochemical Markers for Prediction of Livestock Production Diseases	241
	<i>Shanker Kumar Singh</i>	
23.	Sustainable Economic Model of Pig Farming	255
	<i>D.N. Singh, Yajuvendra Singh & Rajneesh Sirohi</i>	
24.	Promotion of Value Addition Techniques in Poultry Sector	273
	<i>V.P. Singh</i>	