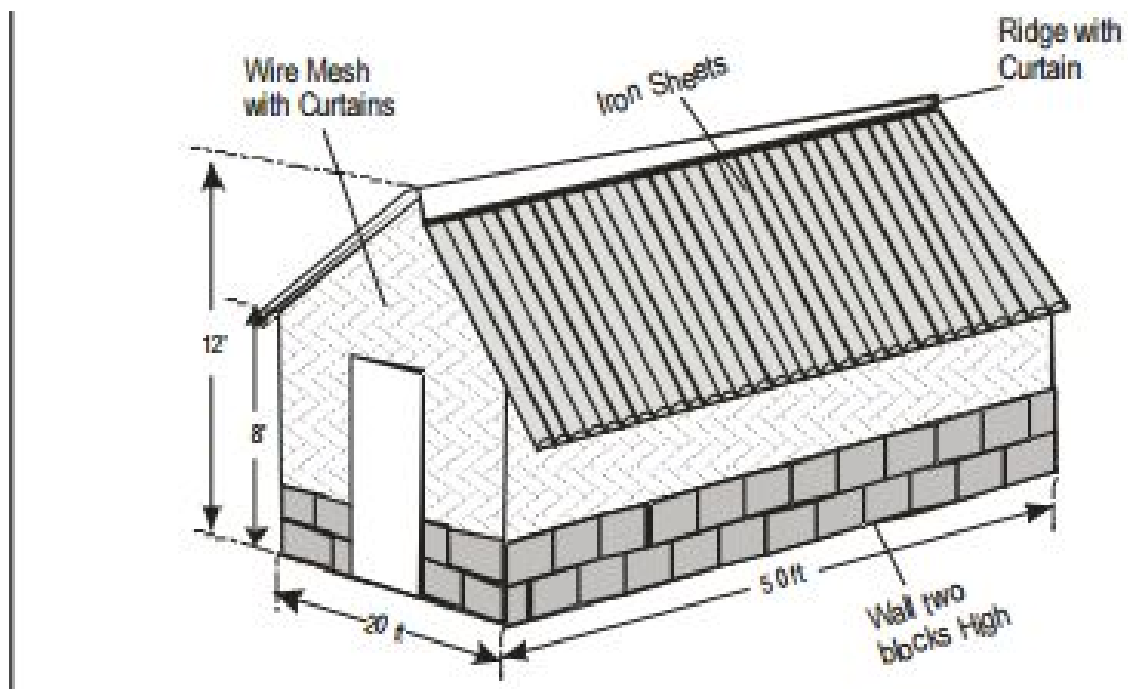


INDIGENOUS CHICKEN FARMING

1) Housing

- Each bird requires a floor space of 2 ft. by 1 ft. so a space of 30 ft. by 10 ft. can hold 150 birds. The house should have the lower 3 ft. made of blocks/bricks /mud or mabati while the top 5 ft. is made of chicken wire reinforced with a wire mesh.
- Ensure there are curtains over the wire mesh, which you can pull up or down to regulate temperatures.
- The floor should be easy to clean and is made of cement. It can also be made of earthen floor.
- Always have wood shavings on the floor to absorb moisture and any faecal material. Replace the litter after every 2 weeks to prevent disease build up.



2) Sourcing

- Get improved kienyeji birds e.g. sasso, kenbro from Kenchic, contact them on 0703056000 or Kari kienyeji from KALRO Naivasha, contact them on 0708620095 They sell day old chicks and have a countrywide distribution network.

- The chicks shall also have been vaccinated against Marek's, Newcastle Disease and Infectious bronchitis (NCD+IB).
- There are also other known Kienyeji birds such as Rainbow roosters from KUKUCHIC, Kuroiler birds from Uganda, etc.

3) Arrival at the farm

- a) Give the birds water to drink. The water should contain a solution of Liquid paraffin, Vitamins e.g. AMILYTE from Ultravetis and glucose. The glucose provides energy, vitamins help to counter stress from transport and change of climate while also boosting immunity. The liquid paraffin helps to open up the digestive system in readiness for the chick and duckling mash and also ease passage of faeces.
- b) Ensure the light is evenly spread in the house and use round brooder rings to prevent overcrowding in an area. Use charcoal jikos or infrared bulbs if there is no electricity to provide warmth.
- c) When the birds are feeling cold, they huddle together especially under the brooder, pass watery intestinal and cecal contents leading to watery / wet droppings hence wet pasted vents.
- d) When there is too much heat, they lie prostrate with their heads and necks stretched out on the floor, they pant, increase water consumption leading to distension of the crop and intestines by the extra water, they move away from the heat source and seek cooler parts of the house and sometimes crowd around the drinkers.

4) Vaccination

Day 1: NCD+IB and Marek's at the hatchery (Newcastle Disease-NCD. IB Infectious bronchitis)

Day 7 & 16: gumboro

Day 10, Week 6 & 16: Newcastle disease. Repeat after every 3 months.

6th & 12th week: Fowl typhoid

8th week: Fowl pox

9th week: Deworm using Askarex from Cosmos or Levacide poultry from Norbrook.

5) Feeding

Day 0-8 weeks: Feed on Chick mash e.g. FUGO CHICK AND DUCKLING MASH (20-35 grams per chick per day) from Unga Farm Care Limited.

8th week to 18 weeks: Feed on growers mash e.g. FUGO GROWERS MASH (80-100 g/bird/day) from Unga Farm care.

LAYERS: Feed the layers on layers mash e.g. FUGO LAYERS MASH (120-140 g/bird/day) from Unga Farm care.

- Use 1 feeder and 1 drinker for every 50 birds.
- Always supplement your birds feed with greens to remain healthy.
- To cut on costs supplement with grains and cereals e.g. maize, millet and sorghum.
- Add DCP salts e.g. POTAFOS DCP from ultravetis to the ration to enhance the calcium and phosphorus levels for more egg production.
- Let them free range especially during the late afternoon.

NB:

- A. Always give vitamins (AMILYTE) whenever there is change in weather, feeding programme, vaccinations or disease outbreak.
- B. Always identify your market before the birds are ready for sale and ensure you keep proper records.
- C. Monitor the flock of birds for any disease outbreak and call your vet for immediate action.
- D. Always ensure 1 cock to ten birds for maximum hatching rate.
- E. Call iShamba on 0711082606 for any queries.

