

MANAGEMENT OF BROILERS



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INTRODUCTION

- Broiler meat is the cheapest source of proteins.
- The high price of red meat has increased demand for chicken.
- Raising broilers needs skills and planning.

INTRO...

- It is important to adhere to proper management.
- A broiler may reach a body weight of 2.2kg in 35-42 days.

Broiler Breeds

- Four broiler breeds:
- ✓ Ross
- ✓ Cobb
- ✓ Abre Arcer
- ✓ Hubbard

2. Feed

- A large proportion of yellow maize grown in RSA is used in poultry feeds.
- Proper nutrition is needed with a balanced diet.
- Use the right feed for a particular type (broiler/layer).
- Always keep feed in a cool dry place.

- Three commonly used phase types of feed are:**
 - a) Starter, grower and finisher.
 - b) Starter and grower/finisher.
 - c) Starter, grower, finisher and post-finisher.

- The feed may be provided in three forms mainly: mash, crumbles and pelleted feed.

“Together we move Bokone Bophirima forward”.

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Figure 1 : Mash feed

“Together we move Bokone Bophirima forward”.

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Figure 2 : Crumbled feed

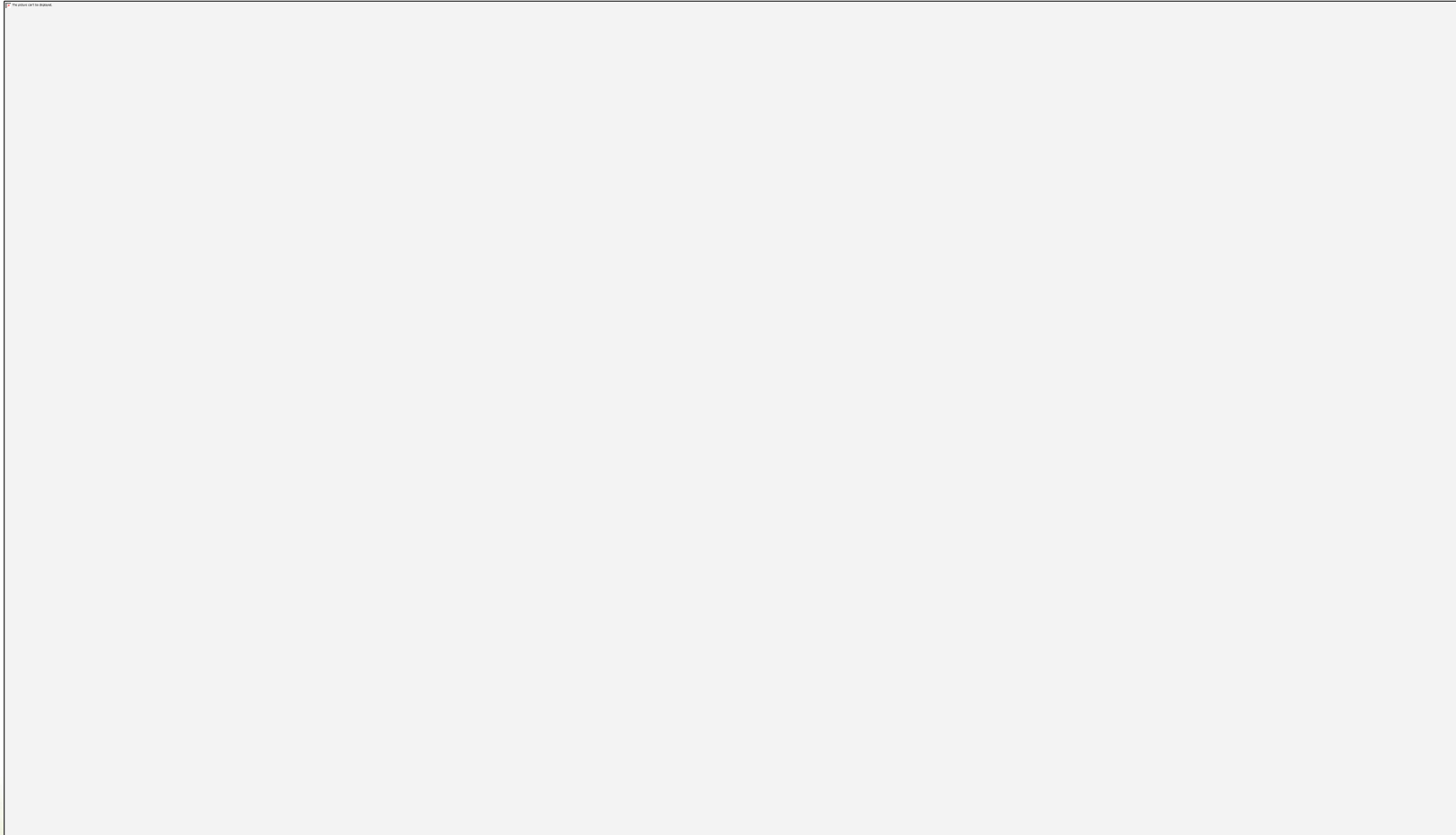


Figure 3 : Pelleted feed

3. Housing

- The house should face east direction.
- It should be designed to protect rodents and rain.
- Corrugated iron sheets is used for housing and be insulated.

Housing...

- It is advisable to put 20 chicks/m².
- The broilers should not be mixed with other domestic birds.
- The poultry houses should be secured to prevent stock theft.

3.1 Housing systems

a) Free-range (Extensive) System

- Birds can find feed in the form of herbage, seeds and insects
- The broilers carcass contains low cholesterol.

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Figure 4:Free-Range

b) Intensive (Conventional) System

- The chicks are kept on sawdust, wood-shaving litter floors.
- Brooding is done by electricity, gas heaters, infra-red, etc.
- Environmental control is facilitated by means of extractor fans.
- The house equipped with a tube feeders and chicken fountain drinkers/nipples.
- The house has concrete floors to allow easy cleaning.



Figure: 5 Intensive (Conventional) System

4. Record Keeping

- Record keeping helps with the indication of the economic progress.
- Helps to monitor health, growth and management practices.
- The simpler the records are, the better.
- Manual records are often easier & simpler than computerised records.

Financial records e.g.

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Month

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 4	Week 5	Total
Income							
Sales							
Other income							
Total							
Expenditure							
Chicks							
Feed							
Fuel							
Medications							
Transport							
Wages							
Electricity							
Tel							
Water							
Stationary							
Other exp.							
Total							
Profit/loss							
Total income							
Minus							
Total exp.							
Profit/loss							

5. Health and Disease prevention

- Its important to practice all-in-all-out system.
- Work from small chicks to older ones.
- Avoid visitors to the broiler houses.
- Bio-security should be in place.

- Vaccination methods of broilers:
- ✓ Eye-drop method.
- ✓ Spray method.
- ✓ Drinking water method.
- ✓ Needle through the wing-web method.
- ✓ Injection method.

5.1 Vaccination Progr. of the broilers

Age	Disease	Vaccine	Method of application
Day old	Newcastle Disease Infectious Bronchitis	Hitchner B1 H120	Spray Eyedrop or spay
Day 10-12	Newcastle Disease	La Sota	Spray/ drinking water
Day 14	Gumboro	Mild strain	Drinking water
Day 18	Newcastle Disease	La Sota	Spray/ drinking water
Day 21	Gumboro	Mild strain	Drinking water

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