



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

# RAISING INDIGENOUS CHICKENS

Produced By;

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# INTRODUCTION

Indigenous chickens are a vital part of many agricultural systems. They are well-suited to local conditions, often hardy, and can be a profitable addition to small-scale farming operations. This guide provides practical steps and tips for raising indigenous chickens for food and nutritional security.

## HOW TO START

- Provide suitable housing and adequate fowl run/grazing land (4m<sup>2</sup>/chicken), partitioned according to chicken ages and breeds if necessary.
- Provide fencing to control movement.
- One cock for every ten hens.
- Keep newly hatched chicks in a hay brooder for 3-4 weeks and feed accordingly.
- Provide enough brooding/heating equipment, water and feed containers.
- A proper vaccination program.



HOUSING SYSTEM



HAY BROODER

## FEEDING THE CHICKENS

### For chicks to grower stage

- Makhaya/Broiler Starter: 6 weeks fed adlibitum
- Supplement with Makhaya grower/Mixed fowl feed/Crushed maize until slaughter

**NOTE: FEED THE CHICKENS SUPPLEMENTARY COMMERCIAL FEED MORNING AND EVENING, ALLOW THE CHICKENS TO SCAVENGE AND GRAZE FOR GREENS IN THE FOWL RUN DURING THE DAY.**



## VACCINATION PROGRAM

AGE	DISEASE	TYPE OF VACCINE/DRUG	ADMINISTRATION ROUTE
2 weeks	New Castle Disease	NCD Vaccine	Drinking water
4 weeks	New Castle Disease	NCD Vaccine	Drinking water
8 weeks	Fowl Pox	Fowl Pox Vaccine	Wing web
Every 4 months	New Castle Disease Worms	NCD Vaccine Dewormer	Drinking water Drinking water/Feed
Once just before rains	Fowl Pox	Fowl Pox Vaccine	Wing web

*Note: After every 3 months, remove litter and dust*