
DAY 1 GENERAL VIEW OF POULTRY FARM

Schedule

- Visit a poultry farm with at least 500 to 1,000 birds.
- You will be guided by any person of the farm who will explain a brief history of the farm along with working schedule.
- Note down the following:
 - i) Location of the farm – Distance between the buildings, wind flow direction (Whether adult to young or young to adult stock), source of water, distribution system of water, location of feed storage and its distribution pattern etc.
 - ii) The different buildings – Identify different sheds for different types of birds like broilers, chicks, growers, layers etc., and note down its location.
 - iii) Type of birds maintained - Strain of broiler, breed/strain of layers maintained. Also note down breed/species of any other poultry.
 - iv) System of management – Note down the system of management like extensive/semi-extensive/intensive (Deep litter/Cages etc.)
 - v) Different managerial activities – Like brooding, feeding, deworming, judging, culling, vaccination, medication, post-mortem etc.
- Study the sources of different inputs of the farm – Chicks, feed, equipment, medicines, vaccines etc.
- Note down the various records maintained in the farm like livestock, feed, sales, medicines and vaccines, ledgers, journals, cash books etc.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a blueprint of the farm.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm and give your opinion or suggestions.

DAY 2 VISIT TO BROILER FARM

Schedule

Visit a broiler unit in the farm.

- Note down its design, dimensions, develop a cross-section and floor diagram of the building.
- Observe for rat proof arrangement and wild bird proofing, if available.
- Identify the type of roofing and flooring.
- Note down the distance between broiler unit with other units.
- Measure the dimensions of the broiler shed and calculate the floor space, feeder and drinker space given and give your opinion about it.
- Observe the condition of the litter and the litter management routine.
- Note down the feeding schedule and feed allocations at different ages of broilers.
- Note down the watering arrangement and routine medications followed.
- Record different vaccination schedules followed.
- Note down various diseases encountered in the broilers.

You must take care of the routine activities in the broiler farm like feeding, vaccination, medication, sales, post-mortem examination etc., as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of broiler management at your farm.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm and give your opinion or suggestions.

Schedule

Visit a layer unit in the farm.

- Note down its design, dimensions, develop a cross-section and floor diagram of the building.
- Observe for rat proof arrangement and wild bird proofing, if available.
- Identify the type of roofing and flooring.
- Carry out handling of birds comfortably without much stress.
- Further, identify the different body parts of the birds for subsequent activities.
- Identify the system of management of layers.
- If it is cage system, measure the dimension of the cages and develop a schematic representation of cages.
- Record the number of birds in each cage and location of drinker channel/nipple and feeding channels.
- If it is deep litter system, locate for the position of the nest and number of nests and develop a schematic representation of the nest.
- Note down the condition of the litter and the litter management routine.
- Record the lighting arrangement – height at which the bulbs are fixed and distance between them, reflectors, cleanliness of bulbs and reflectors and lighting program.
- Calculate different space allowances like floor, feeder and drinker.
- Note down the feeding schedule and feed allocations per day.
- Note down the watering arrangement and routine medications followed.
- Record the different vaccination schedules followed.
- Note down the egg collection timings and how they are transported and stored.
- Observe the characteristics of a good layer – combs, vent, distance between cubic bones, distance between pubic bone and breast bone etc.
- Note down various diseases encountered in the layer farm.

You must take care of the routine activities in the layer farm like feeding, vaccination, medication, sales of eggs/culled birds, post-mortem examination etc., as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of layer management at your farm.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm and give your opinion or suggestions.

DAY 4 VISIT TO BROODER HOUSE

Schedule

Visit a brooding shed with laying type chicks.

- Normally, egg type chickens are reared as starters in brooder house from 0-8 weeks of age.
- Note down its design, dimensions, develop a cross-section and floor diagram of the building.
- Observe for rat proof arrangement and wild bird proofing, if available.
- Identify the type of roofing and flooring.
- Note down the distance between brooder house with other units.
- Measure the dimensions of the brooder house and calculate the floor space, feeder and drinker space given and give your opinion.
- Note down the method of brooding employed.
- Record the condition of the litter and the litter management routine.
- Note down the feeding schedule and feed allocations at different ages of chicks.
- Note down the watering arrangement and routine medications followed.
- Record the different vaccination schedules followed.
- Note down various diseases encountered in the brooding shed.

You must take care of the routine activities in the brooder house like feeding, vaccination, medication, post-mortem examination etc., as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of brooder management at your farm.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm and give your opinion or suggestions.

DAY 5 VISIT TO GROWER HOUSE

Schedule

Visit a grower house.

- In grower house, the egg type chickens are reared from 9-20 weeks of age.
- Note down its design, dimensions, develop a cross-section and floor diagram of the building.
- Observe for rat proof arrangement and wild bird proofing, if available.
- Identify the type of roofing and flooring.
- Record the distance between grower house with other units.
- Measure the dimensions of the grower house and calculate the floor space, feeder and drinker space given and give your opinion.
- Note down the type of feed restriction or weekly feeding schedule followed.
- Observe the condition of the litter and the litter management routine and note it down.
- Note down the watering arrangement and routine medications especially deworming schedule followed.
- Perform debeaking of the birds as per the instructions of the supervisor.
- Record different vaccination schedules followed.
- Note down various diseases encountered in the growers.

You must take care of the routine activities in the grower house like feeding, vaccination, medication, post-mortem examination etc., as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of grower management at your farm.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm and give your opinion or suggestions.

DAY 6 VISIT TO HATCHERY

Schedule

Visit a hatchery.

- Note down its design, dimensions and develop a cross-section and floor diagram of the building.
- Observe for rat proof arrangement and wild bird proofing, if available.
- Identify the type of roofing and flooring and note it down.
- Record the distance between hatchery with other units.
- Measure the dimensions of the hatchery. Write an internal design of the hatchery showing location of egg storage room, candling room, egg setting room, chick delivery room etc., and give your opinion.
- Measure the dimensions of the cooling room, temperature and humidity and give your opinion.
- Note down the dimensions of the candling room.
- Observe the method of cooling as demonstrated by the staff of the hatchery.
- Record the internal dimensions of the setter, its capacity, temperature, humidity and number of turnings per day.
- Record the internal dimensions of the hatcher, its capacity, temperature and humidity.
- Note down the method of sanitation and disinfection employed in the hatcher.
- Observe the techniques of safe removal of newborn chicks in the hatchery.

You must take care of the routine activities in the hatchery like selection of eggs, candling, setting and pulling out the hatch, as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of hatchery operations at your farm.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm and give your opinion or suggestions.

Schedule

Visit a feed mixing unit.

- Note down its design, dimensions, develop a cross-section and floor diagram of the buildings.
- Observe for rat proof arrangement and wild bird proofing, if available.
- Identify the type of roofing and flooring.
- Record the distance between feed mixing plant with other units.
- Write an internal design of the feed mixing plant showing location of different units like feed godown, compounded feed storage, and actual feed mixing plant and give your opinion.
- Identify the equipment in the feed mixing plant and schematically locate them.
- Find out the capacity of each equipment.
- Identify the different feed ingredients used and various formulae used for preparing different rations.
- Find out the way in which minor ingredients like vitamin and mineral premixes, antibiotics, anti-coccidials and others are mixed in the feed.
- Record the method of storage of feed ingredients/compounded feed with specific references to duration.
- Note down whether regular analysis of the feed ingredients is carried out, if so, obtain the details.

You must take care of the routine activities in the feed mixing unit as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of feed mixing unit at your farm.
- Record the deficiencies and give your opinion or suggestions.

DAY 8 BIO-SECURITY MEASURES

Schedule

Record the bio-security measures employed in the farm with special reference to the following:

- Fencing of the farm.
- Control of traffic - men and materials.
- Disinfection of vehicles entering the farm.
- Provision of shower and disinfectant spray for all working in the farm.
- Provision of gloves, mask and cap for all workers.
- Provision of foot bath in front of every building.
- Allocation of attendants to different buildings. Whether separate attendant is available for different age groups?
- Movement of personnel within the farm from one building to another.
- Vaccination schedule, precautions and care during vaccination.
- Post-mortem examination and record keeping.
- Disposal of sick and dead birds.
- Disposal of manure and waste.
- Rodent and pest control.

You must take care of the routine activities in the farm with respect to bio-security measures like cleaning, disinfection, vaccination, post-mortem examination, disposal of wastes etc., as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of bio-security measures at your own farm.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm with respect to bio-security measures and give your opinion or suggestions.

Schedule

More practically, besides the chickens, ducks, guinea fowls, quails and turkeys are also being reared by different commercial operators or poultry farmers in their farms. The farming may be separate one or even in combined form.

Visit a farm rearing species other than chickens.

- Note down the different species being reared.
- Record the distinctive features, sex-wise of all the species.
- Record the type of building, system of rearing used for different species.
- Note down its design, dimensions, develop a cross-section and floor diagram of the building.
- Observe for rat proof arrangement and wild bird proofing, if available.
- Identify the type of roofing and flooring.
- Record the floor space, feeder and drinker space given for each species and give your opinion.
- Observe for the condition of the litter and the litter management routine.
- Note down the feeding schedule and feed allocations for different species.
- Note down the watering arrangement and routine medications followed.
- Record different vaccination schedules followed.
- Note down various diseases encountered in different species.
- Observe and record the characteristic of eggs of different species.

You must take care of the routine activities in the farm like feeding, vaccination, medication, sales, post-mortem examination etc., as the case may be.

Evaluation

- Based on the above observations, develop a few acceptable tips of farms of other than chickens, if you own.
- Record the deficiencies in the farm and give your opinion or suggestions.

DAY 10 DISCUSSION AND REPORTING

Schedule

- You know that the 10th day is the last day of the practical training assigned on various aspects of poultry farming.
- This is very essential to evaluate how much learning you acquired by visiting the different units of poultry farm and how much you do remember for your future guidelines.
- Yes, it can be done when you are asked to present your observations through different modes of expression. With this idea, the following steps would be required:
 - If you are asked by your supervisor to narrate the activities in writing form, you should do that.
 - If any sketch is to be drawn for a feeder or waterer or cages or egg tray, you should not hesitate in attempting so, though you may not be a perfect artist or sketcher but expressing your views by line drawing will not be bad.

Evaluation

- Presentation of observations and experiences by the candidates for the activities carried out during 10 days training.
- Group discussion on a topic allotted by the supervisor concerning the farm visits.
- Submission of report of the activities by the candidates.
- Final remarks by the supervisor.