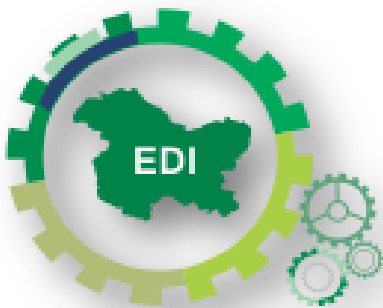


A Starter's Guide to
Poultry Layer Farming

Layer Poultry Farming

(Table Egg Production)



Introduction:

Poultry egg and meat are important sources of high quality proteins, minerals and vitamins to balance the human diet. Commercial layer strains are now available with traits of high egg production and high feed conversion efficiency. Superior germplasm of chicken have been developed by both public and private sectors which met the requirement of Indian Poultry Industry. Depending on the farm-size, layer (for eggs) farming can be main source of family income or can provide income and gainful employment throughout the year. Poultry manure has high manure value and can be used for increasing yield of all crops.

Market Potential

Kashmir imports 100% eggs from outside the state. There is great scope of establishing poultry layer farms as there is very little competition and the demand is ever increasing. Similarly, value added products utilizing poultry eggs, culled birds for human consumption have been developed. The introduction of hybrid birds ensures faster growth, good livability, excellent feed conversion, high egg production and profits to the rearers. High quality chicks, equipment, vaccines and medicines are now available through both public and private players. The industry has grown largely due to the initiative of private enterprises throughout India.

Do's & Don'ts

Do:

- Maintain proper sanitation of farm.
- Vaccinate birds at proper intervals.
- Follow culling schedule to maintain efficient egg production.
- Keep away rodents from the farm as they carry disease.

Don't:

- Buy weak, deformed and less immune Doc's.
- Buy DOCs as per your exact farm capacity as their mortality rate is 5%(Buy 1050)

Opportunities & Challenges

Opportunities

- Increased demand of eggs.
- Few Poultry Layer Farming units in the state.
- Increase in consumption of value added products utilizing poultry eggs.
- Favourable Government policy in terms of livestock insurance

Challenges

- Price Fluctuations
- Outbreak of diseases like bird flu.
- Parent stock or Day Old Chicks to be procured from outside state.

Financials

A. Cost of Establishing a layer Farm of 1000 Birds

1. Total Capital Cost	Rs 3.45
a) Land	Leased/owned
b) Building	Rs 3.00
c) Machinery/Equipments	Rs 0.45
2. Operational Cost	Rs 7.36
Grand Total	Rs 10.81

- Cost of DOC @ Rs 25/DOC
- Cost of construction of shed (Rs300 per sqft)
- Cost of grower equipment (Rs.20 per bird)
- Cost of cages for layers (Rs.25 per bird)
- Feed requirement upto laying i.e. 20 weeks
- Feed requirement during laying - 52 weeks laying
- Medicines, vaccines, labour and misc. charges (upto laying) - 20 weeks (Rs 12 per bird)
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B. Sales/Earnings

Total Returns/Earnings	Rs 8.46
Sale of Eggs	Rs 8.10
Sale of Culled birds	Rs 0.14
Sales of Manure	Rs 0.10
Sale of Gunny Bags	Rs 0.12

- Egg Laying Capacity/Bird @270 days/year
- Eggs @ Rs 2.5/egg
- Culling rate @20% after first year @ Rs.70/bird
- Gunny bags @15/bag
- Manure for the batch of 1000 birds @ 25 Kg/bird/year@ Rs 400/Tonne

Checklist

1. Land

- Area: 1/2 Kanal land
- Legal Documentation: Lease Deed from the landlord (if not owned)

2. Construction

- Construction of grower shed @ 1sft/bird
- Construction of layer shed@ 1sft/bird

3. Day Old Chicks

- Cost of Day Old Chicks @ Rs 25/DOC

4. Grower and Layer equipment

- Feeder
- Waterer
- Cages
- Feed grinder & Mixer
- Deep Freezer
- Vaccinator
- Debeaker

5. Feed Requirement:

- Grower Feed 7kg/bird @125 days
- Layers Feed 35kg/bird @ 365 days

6. Medicines

- Cost of medicines@ Rs 50/Bird/annum upto laying

7. Labour & Utilities:

- Skilled Labour 1
- Unskilled Labour 1
- Water, Fuel & Electricity

8. Money

- Check various financial schemes at JKEDI.

9. Suppliers

- Registered suppliers of DOC'S and equipments

10. Buyers

- Households
- Retailers and whole sellers
- Bakers and confectioners

Relevant Government Departments

- Department of Animal Husbandry, Kashmir
- Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology (SKUAST)
- Revenue department (Tehsildar, Local Body)
- J&K State Pollution Control Board(JKSPCB)- For NOC
- Power Development Department (PDD)- For Power Connection
- Public Health Engineering (PHE)- For Water Connection

Disclaimer: Users of this document should not solely rely on the information contained here and are advised to consult domain experts prior to the start of their venture based on the identified market opportunity.