

## 7. Business management

Flock plans are essential when raising poultry, including meat and egg chickens. The module will share advice on biosecurity, egg production and handling and meat poultry sales, as well as farming labor laws.

### Application Procedure

For information on the application procedure please visit our website: [www.mksu.ac.ke](http://www.mksu.ac.ke) or Registrar Academic and Student Affairs) Office. The following documents are required:

- i. A copy of National Identity Card or Passport

Tuition fees payable to any of the following bank accounts  
Kenya Commercial Bank: 1137145064  
Nation Bank of Kenya: 01020078499400  
Standard Chartered bank: 0152016845602

### Fees Structure for Dairy Management Short Course

Tuition fee :KShs. 35,000 - Residential

Tuition fee :KShs. 25,000 - Non Residential

### Mode of Study

The mode of study is flexible to accommodate all participants quarterly per year

Intake is quarterly per year in Feb, June, Oct and Dec

For further information on short courses and admissions, please contact the Department of Agricultural Education and Extension

P.O. Box 136-901100, Machakos

Email: [cod.agm@mksu.ac.ke](mailto:cod.agm@mksu.ac.ke)

Tel: 0780 651383



**MACHAKOS UNIVERSITY**  
ISO 9001:2015 Certified

### For more information

Call us on +254 723 805829

or Email us on [info@mksu.ac.ke](mailto:info@mksu.ac.ke)

or write to us on P.O. Box 136-90100  
Machakos, Kenya



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**SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL  
EDUCATION AND EXTENSION**

### PROGRAMME FOR

**Short Course in:**  
Poultry Management

### Vision

A preferred University of Scholarly Excellence Scholarship and Service delivery

### Mission

Provide Scholarly Education through Training Research and Innovation for Industrial and socio-economic transformation of our communities.

### Philosophy

Provide transformative leadership in Teaching, Training, Research, Innovation, Industrial and Technology transfer for wealth creation.

### About the Course:

Poultry keeping is one of the most important subsidiary occupations among farming communities in Kenya. Poultry farming is a remunerative business both in rural and urban areas due to the requirement of small space, low capital investment and quick return throughout the year. It has a significant role in the eradication of malnutrition and poverty as well as eliminating unemployment among the rural populations. However, due to lack of modern and updated method of farming, farmers are still practicing traditional poultry farming which has been found to be low on returns to investments.

### Purpose:

- to provide practicing and potential poultry producers with sufficient information, skills and knowledge on poultry farming as business in a “*learning by doing*” approach.

### Objectives:

The main objective of the course is to:

- Develop and strengthen Human Resource by imparting knowledge and skills in poultry farming through *learning by doing*;
- Impart basic knowledge and technical proficiency in poultry breeding, nutrition, housing and management; and.
- Create awareness about the opportunities for employment and livelihood in poultry sector

### Course outcomes:

At the end of the course, learners should be able to:

- a) Have an understanding of all aspects of poultry production and management such as genetics, nutrition, reproduction, animal health, farm economics,
- b) Apply routine management practices – housing, deworming, hoof trimming, clean milk handling and bio-safety in their poultry farms.

**Eligibility** – The course on Poultry Management is useful to those who are working in the poultry industry or who want to build their career as entrepreneurs along the poultry value chain including youth and women, farmer groups, individuals as well as development partners

**Mode of delivery:** a team of experienced trainers have been prepared to guide the learners through all aspects of poultry production and management. The course will be delivered in a “*learning by doing*” approach and supported by 'hands on' practical work, visual demonstrations and a manual that will have diagrams, photographs and illustrations for ease of imparting skills.

### Course overview

The programme is intended to provide basic knowledge and technical skills in the areas of Poultry Breeds, Feeding, Housing, Management and Health Care. The course also aims to develop human resource in the area of poultry farming. The knowledge imparted shall facilitate better management of poultry in scientific lines which in turn will improve their productivity. The course will specifically discuss the common breeds of poultry, different body systems and functions, different breeding systems involved in poultry farming and culling and judging of poultry.

### OUTLINE OF THE COURSE SYLLABUS:

#### 1. Introduction

From commercial to small backyard and urban poultry flocks, Machakos University - School of Agricultural Sciences offers education to learners on the production and management of your flock regardless of the size

#### 2. Genetics and reproduction

Learners will be exposed to the science of egg incubation, chickens and reproduction and poultry breeds and varieties, including an incubation chart. Find advice on the modern meat chicken industry and brooding of domestic fowl.

#### 3. Nutrition and feeding

Information and tools to assist with feed requirements, feeding and estimating water needs for raising small flocks of laying chickens, broilers or multi-purpose traditional chicken; and tips on prevention and treatment of cannibalism will be discussed.

#### 4. Health and care

The module will discuss information on laying and meat chickens production and flock plans, feed management and poultry health and diseases, including avian influenza as well as tips on small-scale egg production.

#### 5. Facilities and technology

The module focuses on managing incubation, biosecurity, air distribution and farm lighting for egg and meat chicken industries. Tips on proper handling of eggs and small-scale poultry housing and ammonia monitoring will be shared.

#### 6. Product quality

Learners will be exposed to data and information on managing chicken, egg quality and egg handling from hen to consumption. Instructions on meat quality, laying chickens, meeting HACCP standards and maintaining consumer confidence

#### 7. Manure and nutrient management

In this module, learners will discuss the use of vegetative buffers to maintain environmental quality and also share tips on manure storage and application, in addition to managing methane emissions.

#### 8. Personal safety

This module will guide learners on measure to stay safe and protect those around you while handling poultry, using biosecurity best practices and confined space manure storage safety tips. Follow animal handling suggestions and monitor ammonia levels in barns