

## **Discover Hidden Treasure in Local Chicken**

Local chickens can provide a cheap source of food and easy cash to the family.

### **Local chickens**

- are readily available for most rural people.
- do well in most areas.
- do not cost much to keep.
- have tasty meat and eggs.

### **Local chickens do very well if they are:**

- given extra feed.
- housed well.
- kept in a disease-free environment



### **FEEDING**

Birds need enough feed to grow and lay eggs. Birds find their own feed if allowed to move freely. You should give extra feed in form of:

- kitchen leftovers including fruit and vegetable waste.
- cereal grains and by-products.
- green leaves.
- fish meal (Omena)
- tubers and roots.
- insects, termites and worms.
- brewers waste.

Provide adequate clean water. Feed the birds in a clean dry place.

### **HOUSING**

Proper chicken housing should:

- keep the birds, especially young chickens, secure from wild animals, hawks and theft.
- be spacious, well lit and airy.
- have perches.
- be easy to clean and maintain.

### **CONTROL OF DISEASES**

To stop birds from getting sick:

- clean the chicken house frequently to maintain hygiene.

- vaccinate chickens against Newcastle disease, fowl typhoid and fowl pox.
- deworm growers to control internal parasites.
- dust the birds to control external parasites.

## **BREEDING**

To improve your birds:

- use good cocks and hens for breeding.
- change breeding cocks at least once every year to avoid inbreeding.
- keep 1 cock for every 20 hens.

## **BENEFITS**

- They multiply faster
- Bird's body weight is increased
- Improved egg weight and taste
- More eggs for hatching, sale and consumption
- More income

Compiled by BM Mburu & HO Ondwasi

More Information can be obtained from

KARI Naivasha P. O Box 25 Naivasha

KARI Kakamega P. O Box 169 Kakamega