Livestock and poultry in Indian tropical and subtropics play a critical role in agricultural economy by providing milk, wool, meat, eggs and draft power and provide flexible reserves during period of economic stress and buffer against crop failure. Rabbits are raised up off the ground and are one of the cleanest animals produced as meat and hence do not even need to be wormed. Rabbits are among the most productive of domestic livestock, making them efficient sources of food for an ever increasing population with diminishing resources. Up to 98.7% of the rabbits can be used for meat, fur, in laboratories, as fertilizers, in toys and novelties. The large demand for animal wool seems to be assured. Sheep rearing is the major source of livelihood to small and marginal farmers and landless laborers in hilly areas, arid and semi-arid region of India. Goat is a multi-functional animal and plays a significant role in the economy and nutrition of landless, small and marginal farmers in the country. It creates employment to the rural poor besides effectively utilizing unpaid family labor. There is ample scope for establishing cottage industries based on goat meat and milk products and value addition to skin and fiber. Fish is a good source of animal proteins; Man has realized its importance from the very inception of the evolution of the human race. It has been the sole diet for many island nations before the evolution of farming techniques. Poultry is one of the fastest growing segments of the agricultural sector in India today. The production of agricultural crops has been rising at a rate of 1.5 to 2 % per annum that of eggs and broilers has been rising at a rate of 8 to 10 % per annum. From a backyard hobby it has culminated into an industry. Among the various livestock species, piggery is most potential source of meat production and more efficient feed converters after the broiler. Apart from providing meat, it is also a source of bristles and manure. Pig farming will provide employment opportunities to seasonally employed rural farmers and supplementary income to improve their living standards. The contribution of pork products in terms of value works out to 0.80% of total livestock products and 4.32% of the meat and meat products.

This book basically deals with rabbit keeping, feeding systems, feed requirements and balanced rations, angora wool utilization in cottage industries, useful information for goat breeding measures of increasing potential of range land nutrients requirements of goats, conversion efficiency of indigenous breeds of goats, sources and functions of the nutrients in sheep, breeds of poultry, inheritance of plumage in turkeys, commercial poultry farming, nutrition of broiler type chickens, how to economise on poultry feed cost, principles of fish culture, culturable fish and shellfish, nutritional requirement and artificial shrimp feed preparation, types of antibiotics for pigs etc.

This book provides detailed information on the livestock and poultry farming and rearing technique with described process of feeding systems, feed requirements and balanced rations, harvesting commercial products from them. This book is an invaluable resource for the entrepreneurs, institutions and professionals.

Contents
Chapter 1
RABBIT KEEPING
BASIC INFORMATION
SLAUGHTERING AND SKINNING
Chapter 2
BREEDS OF ANGORA RABBITS
IMPORTANT BREEDS WITH SALIENT CHARACTERS
EXTERNAL PARTS OF ANGORA RABBIT
SELECTION OF BREEDING STOCK
Chapter 3
NUTRITION AND FEEDING
ANTATOMY OF DIGESTIVE TRACT
PHYSIOLOGY OF DIGESTION
NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
TYPES OF FEED AND BALANCED PELLETED RATION
FEEDING SYSTEMS, FEED REQUIREMENTS AND BALANCED RATIONS
Chapter 4
GENETICS AND BREEDING
GENETICS
GENETIC IMPROVEMENT
Chapter 5
WOOL PRODUCTION
HARVESTING OF WOOL
ANGORA WOOL QUALITY AND COMPOSITION
ANGORA WOOL AND INDUSTRIAL UTILIZATION
ANGORA WOOL UTILIZATION IN COTTAGE INDUSTRIES
Chapter 6
BREEDS AND BREEDING OF GOATS
ORIGIN AND CLASSIFICATION OF GOATS
MODIFIED SCORE CARD FOR MEAT TYPE GOATS
DESIRABLE FEATURES FOR SELECTION OF GOATS
CENTRES OF RESEARCH ON GOATS
CENTRAL REGION: (RAJASTHAN, M.P., GUJARAT AND NORTH MAHARASHTRA)
QUALITY OF INDIAN BREEDS OF GOAT
USEFUL INFORMATION FOR GOAT BREEDING
NUMBER OF CHROMOSOMES OF DIFFERENT ANIMALS
Chapter 7
FEEDS AND FEEDING OF GOATS
DIGESTION IN GOATS
DIGESTION IN GOATS/SHEEP
CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF KIDS
FEEDING SCHEDULE OF KIDS
SCIENTIFIC APPROACH OF FEEDING DAIRY GOATS
FEEDING OF GOATS: A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH
USEFUL INFORMATION FOR GOAT BREEDING
MEASURES OF INCREASING POTENTIAL OF RANGE LAND
NUTRIENTS REQUIREMENTS OF GOATS
CONVERSION EFFICIENCY OF INDIGENOUS BREEDS OF GOATS:
Chapter 8
HEALTH CARE FOR GOATS
CAUSES OF ILL HEALTH AND MORTALITY
CONTROL OF PARASITES
HEALTH MANAGEMENT
FEEDING SCHEDULE OF KIDS
Chapter 9
BREEDS AND BREEDING OF SHEEP
BREEDS OF SHEEP
CLASSIFICATION OF EXOTIC BREEDS OF SHEEP
IMPORTANT FEATURES OF REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS OF SHEEP
EXOTIC BREEDS OF SHEEP
DESIRABLE FEATURES FOR BREEDING RAMS
USEFUL INFORMATION FOR A.I. IN SHEEP
BREEDING SHEEP FOR WOOL, MUTTON AND MILK
SHEEP IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIES
Chapter 10
FEEDING OF SHEEP
NUTRIENTS
SOURCES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE NUTRIENTS IN SHEEP
PROTEINS
CARBOHYDRATES
NUTRIENTS IN FEEDS (PERCENT)
RECOMMENDED RATION FOR LAMBS UNDER INTENSIVE CONDITIONS 111
FEEDING LAMBS UPTO TWO WEEKS
DRINKING WATER FOR SHEEP
Chapter 11
HEALTH CARE OF SHEEP
COMMON AILMENTS AND DISEASES
GENERAL CONTROL MEASURE FOR PREVENTION OF CONTAGIOUS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES
Chapter 12
BREEDS OF POULTRY
PHYLOGENY OF POULTRY SPECIES
BREEDS OF CHICKEN
RHODE ISLAND
VARIETIES OF TURKEY
BREEDS OF DUCKS
Chapter 13
POULTRY BREEDING
GENETICS IN BRIEF
INHERITANCE OF PLUMAGE IN TURKEYS
INHERITANCE OF QUANTITATIVE CHARACTERS
SELECTION PRESSURE
SYSTEMS OF BREEDING IN POULTRY
SEXUAL MATURITY
BREEDING PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT OF TURKEYS
Chapter 14
POULTRY BROODING
LOCATION OF BROODER HOUSE
BROODER HOUSE SCHEDULE UPTO 4 WEEKS OF AGE
Chapter 15
COMMERCIAL POULTRY FARMING
Chapter 16
INCUBATION AND HATCHERY
EXTRA EMBRYONIC MEMBRANES
Chapter 17
HATCHING OF EGGS
TESTING OF INCUBATED EGGS
HATCHERY MANAGEMENT
Chapter 18
DIGESTIVE SYSTEM OF POULTRY
THE DIGESTIVE PROCESS
Chapter 19
NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS OF POULTRY
NUTRITION OF BROILER TYPE CHICKENS
Chapter 20
SALT AND TRACE MINERALS FOR POULTRY
TRACE MINERAL FOR POULTRY
Chapter 21
BREEDER FEEDS
Chapter 22
LAYER FEEDS
TPHASE FEEDING OF LAYING HENS
Chapter 23
BROILER FEEDS
Chapter 24
INCUBATION AND HATCHERY
POULTRY REPRODUCTION
EMBRYONIC DEVELOPMENT
EMBRYONIC NUTRITION
EMBRYONIC COMMUNICATION
EMBRYONNIC MORTALITY
HATCHERY SERVICES
Chapter 25
POULTRY FEEDING
METHODS OF FEEDING POULTRY
HOW TO ECONOMISE ON POULTRY FEED COSTT
Chapter 26
POULTRY NUTRITION
CARBOHYDRATES
ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE PROTEIN SUPPLEMENTS
Chapter 27
DISEASES AND PARASITES OF POULTRY
DISEASE PREVENTION
IMMUNOLOGY OF DISEASE CONTROL
POULTRY DISEASE CONTROL STRATEGYN
PROTOZOAN DISEASES
BACTERIAL DISEASES
VIRAL DISEASES
INTERNAL PARASITES
Chapter 28
CONSTRUCTION OF FISH FARMS
STRUCTURES OF FISH Ponds
Chapter 29
INDUCED BREEDING AND SEEDFISH PRODUCTION IN CARPS
INDUCED BREEDING IN INDIAN MAJOR CARPS
INJECTION OF PITUTARY EXTRACT IN INDIAN MAJOR CARPS 314
Chapter 30
CULTURE OF GIANT FRESH-WATER
PRAWAN, MACROBRACHIUM ROSENBERGII
Chapter 31
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