LEAPGROW

PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE SERIES

01

Thinking of Starting an Animal Farm?

Beginner Decision Guide

What you need to know before you start

Animal farming can be a source of food, income, steady cash flow and employment. But before buying animals or building structures, take time to think through the key decisions that shape success from the beginning.

Think clearly. Start wisely. Grow steadily.







Choose your enterprise

Plan housing and feeding

Understand your market

Build a profitable future

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> *Good decisions at the beginning save time, money and many headaches later on.*

Key Things to Consider

01

Choose the Right Enterprise

Compare poultry, dairy, goats, pigs, rabbits, fish or other livestock. Choose what fits your land, capital, labour, climate and market.

02

Understand the Production System

Intensive, semi-intensive, free-range or pasture-based systems all have different needs. Pick a system that matches your space, budget and management ability.

03

Plan the Housing and Space

Good housing improves comfort, hygiene and security. Consider ventilation, stocking density, drainage, waste handling and room to expand.

04

Plan for Feed and Water

Feed and water shape daily performance and costs. Know your feed sources, storage options and how you will maintain reliable clean water.

05

Choose Breeds Carefully

Different breeds suit different goals such as milk, meat, eggs or fast growth. Use reliable breeders and choose animals adapted to your conditions.

06

Learn the Production Cycle

Understand the journey from young stock to income. Brooding, growth, breeding, laying, milking or finishing stages each need different care.

07

Understand Animal Health & Biosecurity

Prevention is cheaper than treatment. Learn basic hygiene, vaccination, quarantine and parasite-control practices before problems arise.

08

Know Your Equipment and Technology Needs

Plan for feeders, drinkers, brooders, milking tools, fencing or record systems early so the farm runs smoothly.

09

Build a Reliable Support Network

Know your vets, input suppliers, extension officers and experienced farmers. Good advice can save money and reduce mistakes.

10

Find the Market Before You Produce

Know who will buy your milk, eggs, meat, live animals or other outputs. Understand quality expectations, prices and how you will reach buyers.

Quick Check: Are You Ready?

- ☐ Am I clear on which animals I want to keep?
- ☐ Do I know the housing and feed needs?
- ☐ Have I identified reliable veterinary support?
- ☐ Do I understand my costs?
- ☐ Have I researched my market?
- ☐ Am I starting at a manageable scale?

