



Fundamentals of Commercial Egg Farming

Practical training delivered by the International Egg Foundation

BACKGROUND

There is a growing demand in South Africa for professional training programmes in commercial egg production to expand local production and consumption of poultry products, create new jobs, and support disadvantaged individuals to become sustainable operators in the value chain.

SAPA & KZNPI PARTNERSHIP

Due to this demand, the South African Poultry Association (SAPA) and the KwaZulu-Natal Poultry Institute (KZNPI) have partnered up to provide training to emerging commercial egg producers.

IEF TRAINING PROGRAMME

In July 2022, to support with this scheme, the IEF delivered the first day's training of a 5-day Commercial Layer Management Course, organised by SAPA and KZNPI.

The IEF's tailored programme provided an introduction to the fundamentals of successful egg production, followed by knowledge-sharing of strategies to connect with South African consumers.

SESSION TOPICS



House design & managing the environment



Successful egg production & managing the environment



Strategies to market eggs in South Africa



ABOUT THE TRAINEES

Participants applied for 1 of the 30 places on the partially subsidized course through SAPA, and were chosen based on a set of criteria. Participants are encouraged from all experience levels and farm sizes, up to a maximum of 15,000 layers. Those on this course all had under 2,000 layers, selling their eggs locally through informal markets and neighbourhood spaza shops.

Such participants are recognised as the main suppliers of eggs in many rural South African communities, and therefore the delivery of this practical training plays a vital part of safeguarding the sustainable supply of high-quality egg protein in this context.

DELIVERY AND FEEDBACK

The training took place at KZNPI training facility in Pietermaritzburg SA, with the trainers joining virtually.



The presentations were very informative and educational, and the delegates gained a lot from this experience. We are thrilled to have been associated with the IEF for the first of hopefully many more courses.

Tessa de Carle, Director at KZNPI



Feedback from the attendees was very positive, with top ratings provided for clear explanation, presenters knowledge, and opportunity for questions.

Participants said they found the presentations "easy to understand" and "very educational", with some reporting that they came away from the session feeling inspired to continue to grow their businesses.

With thanks to SAPA and KZNPI for the opportunity to deliver this session.

MEET THE TRAINERS



Wilfred van der Kooij,
Consultant, Netherlands



Gerrit Ferreira, Poultry
Nutritionist, South Africa



Jonathan Wright,
CEVA, South Africa



Julian Madeley, World
Egg Organisation, UK



Opeyemi Agbato,
Animal Care Services
Konsult, Nigeria



Dr Mickey Rubin, Egg
Nutrition Centre, USA