

Challenges Faced by Small Scale Broiler Farmers

Small scale broiler farming comes with a set of challenges that can impact the livelihoods of farmers. Issues such as limited access to quality inputs, a lack of government and institutional support, market access barriers, and disease outbreaks are some of the pressing concerns faced by farmers.



by MAPHATE ROSINA RAKOMA



Access to Quality Inputs

1 High-Quality Feed

Securing consistent access to nutrient-rich and affordable feed is vital for the health and growth of broiler chickens.

2 Veterinary Services

Access to veterinary services and vaccines is essential for preventing and managing disease outbreaks in flocks.

3 Quality Breeder Stock

Obtaining high-quality chicks from reputable breeders ensures the development of robust and productive broiler chickens.





Lack of Support and Resources

Limited Education

Many small scale farmers lack the educational resources and training necessary to improve their farming practices and business management.

Financial Assistance

Access to affordable credit, grants, and subsidies can significantly ease the financial burden faced by farmers.

Technical Assistance

Providing farmers with technological know-how and support can enhance their efficiency and productivity.

Market Access Challenges

Limited Market Information

- 1 Farmers often lack crucial data and insights into market demands and pricing trends, hampering their ability to make informed business decisions.

Transportation Issues

- 2 Difficulties in transporting perishable goods to market centers can lead to significant losses for small scale broiler farmers.

Market Linkages

- 3 Establishing direct connections with buyers and distributors can help farmers secure competitive prices and consistent sales opportunities.



Impact of Disease Outbreaks

70%

Loss of Livestock

Disease outbreaks can lead to devastating losses, resulting in decreased income for small scale farmers.

3

Increased Mortality Rates

High mortality rates among broiler chickens can significantly affect the overall production and profitability of farms.

Resilience and Solutions

Resilience

Small scale broiler farmers display incredible resilience and dedication to their craft despite the challenging circumstances they face daily.

Solutions

Community-based initiatives, government interventions, and technological innovations are emerging as potential solutions to alleviate the struggles of small scale farmers.

Collaborative Support Systems

Farmer Cooperatives

Collaborative groups can provide collective bargaining power and shared resources.

Extension Services

Government extension programs can offer valuable technical advice and support to small scale farmers.

Fostering a Sustainable Future

1 **Education and Training**

Focusing on educating and training farmers on sustainable practices can lead to improved agricultural outcomes.

2 **Technology Integration**

Utilizing advanced technologies for farming processes can enhance efficiency and productivity.

3 **Policy Advocacy**

Advocating for robust policies that address the needs of small scale broiler farmers is crucial for long-term sustainability.

