HOW MANY LIVESTOCK?

Foundation for Manpower Development

Foundation for Manpower Development (FMD)

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Highlights

- Objective
- What is livestock?
- Livestock – The Big Six
- Values and Challenges
- Changes in production systems: Consequences
  - Chickens
  - Cattle
  - Sheep
  - Ducks
  - Goats
  - Pigs

- Acknowledgement

Picture Source:
https://www.csiro.au/en/research/animals/livestock/Livestock-logistics

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HOW MANY LIVESTOCK?

An adaptation of the FAO **Esri's StoryMaps team.**

The objective is to provide a perspective of the distribution of the main livestock species of the world for persons who need a general perspective for making livestock business decisions.

Full Report:
https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/58ae71f58fd7418294f34c4f841895d8

Picture Source: https://www.csiro.au/en/research/animals/livestock/Livestock-logistics

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Source: FAO Global Livestock Distribution:

What is Livestock?

- Domesticated, land-living animal
- Raised to provide resources like meat, milk, eggs, skin and feathers,
- Provides employment for hundreds of millions.
- Provides services like transportation, farm power, bankable assets, prestige, traditional roles.

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Photo Credit: Transville Agromash - Nigeria

Livestock The Big Six

Major world livestock species are six:

- Poultry (Chickens and Ducks),
- Cattle
- Goats and Sheep
- Pig.

Other Livestock:

Horses, Donkeys and Mules, Camels, Buffalo, Camelids (Llamas & Alpacas), Yaks, Reindeer, Guinea pigs, Rabbits & Hares. Turkey, Geese, Guines Fowl, Quails, Ostriches, Snail, Bees etc.

Livestock Production : Values and Challenges

Values of Livestock

- Source of animal protein food for humans.
- Source of other products such as wool, hides, hoofs etc.
- Recycling of plants biomass into high value animal protein products
- Source of Livelihood and banking asset for millions of producers.
- Means of exchange in traditional marriage and other ceremonies.

Challenges

- Urbanisation and threat of traditional systems
- Erosion of genetics
- Ethics and emerging production systems
- Weak business approach
- Conflict with arable land users
- Theft and rustling
- Population growth and Increasing demand

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Changing Production Systems : Consequences

Today, more than three-quarters of all agricultural land, and perhaps 30 percent of *all land*, is used for livestock (including the cultivation of animal feed).

Potential environmental effects of changing production systems.

- Air and water pollution,
- Loss of biodiversity,
- Resource exhaustion, and
- Land degradation.

CHICKENS

22.8 billion chickens

Chickens are the most numerous type of livestock on the planet.

There are about **135 chickens for every cow** - and three for every human.

Horizontal bar graph showing the number of chickens raised in the top 5 producing countries

Photo Credit: Niyi Adediran

CATTLE

1.5 billion cattle

Cattle are the **second most common** livestock animal.

Their domestication is thought to have occurred roughly 10,500 years ago, in what is now considered the Middle East.

Data Source: FAO Global Livestock Distribution:

Photo credit: Picturehttps://www.britannica.com/topic/livestock-farming/Beef-cattle-feed

SHEEP

1.2 billion sheep

Sheep are believed to be **one of the first domesticated animals**, and are common throughout the Old World.

They are especially prevalent in northeastern China, Central Asia, and North Africa, but are also raised intensively in New Zealand and Australia.

Data Source: FAO Global Livestock Distribution:

Photo Credit : Niyi Adediran

DUCKS

1.2 billion ducks

Although ducks are the **fourth most common type of livestock**, their distribution is largely contained to East Asia.

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Source: FAO Global Livestock Distribution:

Photo Credit: Duck framing South Africa
https://www.poultryworld.net/poultry/south-africa

GOATS

1 billion goats

Goats are the fifth most common kind of livestock on the planet. Goats are unique for preferring browsing to grazing.

Goats were likely **domesticated more than 10,000 years ago** in modern-day Iran, and there are now more than 300 distinct species roaming the planet.

Photo: Gallery DS

Source: FAO Global Livestock Distribution:
https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/58ae71f58fd7418294f34c4f841895d8

PIGS

967 million pigs

The **sixth most common livestock animal** is the humble pig, which is descended from the significantly more formidable wild boar.

Pig production is localized to a few high-intensity areas in China, northern Europe, and the American Midwest. Nearly half of the world's pigs are raised in China alone.

Source: FAO Global Livestock Distribution

Photo Credit: https://www.ifad.org/en/w/rural-voices/take-a-360%C2%B0-tour-of-a-small-thriving-pig-farm-in-the-green-hills-of-lao-pdr

Acknowledgement

The FMD acknowledges that the resources used in the presentation have been adapted from the FAO Global Livestock Distribution:
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Photo credits are also acknowledged on respective slides.

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