



**KWAZULU NATAL
POULTRY INSTITUTE NPC**

Poultry Management Training Centre

COMMERCIAL LAYER SHORT COURSE

This one-week course is designed for those who have some poultry knowledge and who require more in-depth knowledge on commercial egg production. It is aimed at those already working on a layer farm and those wanting to start a business. The course is presented in English and the notes are in English. There is an emphasis on understanding why as well as knowing how. About 30% of the training time is practical. Relevant anatomy and physiology is also covered.

The training farm has both a pullet and a layer house. The learners follow normal farm biosecurity procedures, are shown how to manage the pullet and the layer flocks and are encouraged to get involved in the daily routines of feeding, weighing, egg collection etc. There is a written test at the end of the week and certificates are issued to successful learners.

The course material includes:

1. Introduction to the egg industry
2. Cleaning the layer house
3. Pullet rearing
4. Housing new point-of-lay pullets
5. Bird health
6. Biosecurity
7. Feeding
8. Water supply
9. House design
10. Managing the environment
11. Egg handling and storage
12. Record keeping