



ONLINE COURSE: PROFITABLE EGG PRODUCTION

LEVEL 3

This innovative program is aimed at those who have been in commercial egg production for a few years and therefore already have practical experience managing a flock of hens. Delegates who are fairly new to the business should have already attended a basic course in egg production.

The course examines the key drivers for profitable egg production; on the farm, in the market place and financial. The importance of proper planning and monitoring is emphasised. Real-life exercises make the learning highly relevant to the business of table egg production. The ability to do basic calculations with a calculator and to use Excel spreadsheets is essential.

The course is split into 11 modules. Each module contains comprehensive notes in English, a narrated power point presentation and a range of assignments which are done on the online learning platform Moodle. Good internet connectivity and sufficient data are required. Facilitators will be available to interact with delegates via scheduled video conferencing sessions. Marks will be assigned and certificates will be issued to delegates who successfully complete all the assignments.

The course includes:

1	Introduction to the egg industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Structure, size, value• Role of SAPA• Relevant legislation
2	Biosecurity and hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Key concepts & practices• Effective use of chemicals in sanitation• Monitoring hygiene
3	Bird welfare and housing point-of-lay pullets	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The five freedoms in practice• Concept of stockmanship• Bird handling and culling
4	Production systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Battery cages, barn, free range• Open vs. automated housing• Managing the environment
5	Nutrition – feed and water	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply and quality• Measuring, recording and interpreting
6	Flock health and key diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vaccination vs. medication• Signs of disease

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood sampling, serology • The role of the vet and extension officer
7	Egg handling and egg quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Egg collection and storage • Egg quality – external and internal • Food safety regulations
8	Advanced production records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of accurate records • The numbers and what they mean • Using records as a management tool
9	Marketing eggs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic marketing principles • The South African market • Building networks
10	Managing the finances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generating an income statement • Predicting and managing the cash flow • Calculating the cost of production • Optimum culling age
11	People management skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing the farm team to their full potential • Communication and leadership