

# Poultry Rearing/Keeping System

There are major three popular systems of poultry keeping generally found in the world to follow among the poultry keepers. The poultry growers will take decision on the basis of bird's population, farm area, climate and location of poultry farm.

## 1. Extensive /Free range/Scavenging system

In this system poultry are keeping in the free area, except night shelter. Here there is no specific housing space for bird. This is called backyard or traditional poultry rearing system of Bangladesh. In the morning birds come out from their nest and search feed materials whole day long. They collect their own feed by scavenging and come back in the evening for night shelter. They eat grains, crop residues, kitchen wastages, vegetables and insects. Local chicken reared in this system. Sometimes rich farmers supply feeds to their domestic birds. Although it is the cheapest method of chicken rearing but in our country, commercially this method of rearing is not profitable.

## 2. Intensive/ Confinement system

In this system poultry are keeping in an entirely confinement house with no access to land outside. This confinement house is called poultry farm. Here a recommended space is allocated for bird. Birds live here from day old to sale out. All required amount of balanced feeds and water should be supplied in the house. This intensive/ confinement system of poultry keeping is practiced through out the world to produce commercial chicken. Although here the production cost is high, but it popular due to profitable.

Types of intensive system-

**a. Litter system in floor:** Birds are kept on litter (bed), made of rice husk, saw dust etc. Shallow litter will be 2" depth or deep litter will be 6" or above.

**b. Netting slated floor:** No litter is used in netting slated floor for layer.

**c. Slated floor:** Here litter is used.

**d Cage system:** In this system 3 or more times higher poultry can be reared in a particular confinement cage than litter system.

## 3. Semi-intensive system

There is a lawn for free movement and a house for night shelter, but both are located in common surroundings. Birds can not cross the boundary wall. Birds of some semi-intensive farm having grazing land able to collect partial amount of natural feeds. Rest of the feed grains should be supplied from the farmer's house. In this system home made balance ration increases the productivity of birds. Commercially this method can be practiced where enough foraging area is available. In this system where lawn area is limited to roam there maximum amount of feeds should be supplied from the outside.