

# Housing of Poultry

Housing means giving shelter to the poultry to a particular comfortable confinement area for better performance.

## **Site Selection**

The following points should keep in mind during site selection for a poultry house or farm:

1. Dry and high flood free land
2. Good drainage system
3. South or east facing house
4. Well road communication
5. Availability of poultry feeds
6. Marketing facilities
7. Source of drinking
8. Availability of electricity and honest labor
9. Away from jungle, residence, market, highways or other sound producing industries
10. Free from wild birds and animal.

**Advantages of housing:**

1. To provide more comfortable environment.
2. To protect the birds from rain, sun etc.
3. To protect the birds from thieves.
4. Individual care is possible.
5. To protect from insect, pest, wild animal.
6. To keep the birds in calm and quiet environment
7. Easy egg collection
8. It is easy to supply feed to the birds
9. Desire breeding is possible
10. Easy for treatment of birds
11. Easy to clean litter
12. Less labor cost.
13. It helps a close supervision.

**Disadvantages of housing:**

1. Costly
2. Spread out contagious diseases
3. Ventilation problem
4. Less exercise
5. No vegetation

## Housing Requirements of Poultry

### 1. Housing Space:

In litter:

For light breed - 2.5 sq ft/bird

For Heavy breed -3.5 sq ft/bird

In cage - 0.55 sq ft/bird

**2. Ventilation:** It is necessary for removal of carbon dioxide and supply of fresh air. A 2 kg bird produces 52 liters of carbon dioxide. So accumulation of this gas creates health hazards. For this reason cross ventilation of a house is essential.

**3. Temperature:** Moderate temperature is 50<sup>0</sup> F to 70<sup>0</sup> F.

**4. Light:** Proper light schedule should be followed to control early or late maturity. Recommended light for layer house is 16 hrs.

**5. Litter:** Rice husk, saw dust, sand, ash etc. moisture absorbing materials are used as litter.

**6. Humidity:** Relative humidity of poultry house should be 40-60%.

**7. Sanitation:** Fumigation and other hygienic measures should be taken. For fumigation solid potassium permanganate and formalin is used.

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# Poultry Keeping/ Rearing System

There are major three systems of poultry keeping generally found to follow among the poultry keepers.

## 1. Extensive /Free range/Scavenging system:

In this system poultry are keeping in the free area, except night shelter. Here there is no specific space for bird.

### 2. Intensive/ Confinement system:

In this system poultry are keeping in a entirely confinement house with no access to land outside. Here a recommended space is allocated for bird.

Types of intensive system-

a. *Litter system in floor*: Shallow (2") or deep (6" or above) litter.

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.

## **Keeping System for Duck**

1. Extensive /Free range/Scavenging system.
2. Intensive/ Confinement system.
3. Semi-intensive system.

### **4. Herding system:**

This is one type of scavenging system where flock size of adult will be 100-150. This is suitable for that type of area where ducks can forage for grains and feeds.

### **5. Lenting system:**

This system is suitable in flood affected area. There may be several floating houses for ducks. At night birds will take shelter in these floating houses.

## **Classification of Poultry House**

### **1. Purpose**

- a) Brooding house(0-8 wks.)
- b) Growing / Rearing house (9-16 wks.)
- c) Laying house (17-72 wks.)
- d) Sick house or Isolation house

### **2. Style of houses:**

- a) Shed type
- b) Combination type
- c) Gable type
- d) Monitor type

