**LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION III**

**(SELECTION AND BREEDING)**

This topic entails the following:

* Description of reproduction
* Description of reproduction systems
* Selection f breeding stock
* Description of breeding system.
* Identification of livestock on heat
* Description of methods used in serving livestock.

The following relevant questions and their answers in this topic will greatly motivate and help the user to comprehend and understand the required concepts and practices.

1. State **four** ways of minimizing disowning of lambs by ewes

2. State the gestation period of the following farm animals

i) Pigs

ii) Rabbits

3. i) What is selection in live stock production

ii) State **three** methods used in selection of livestock

4. Give **four** signs of heat observed on female rabbit

5. Name **four** meat breeds of rabbits

6. State **four** reasons for cutting a breeding boar

7. List the methods of selection in livestock

8. Define the following terms as used in livestock breeding

i) Heterosis

ii) Epistasis

9. State **three** signs of heat in Does (Female Rabbits)

10. Give the gestation period of the following:

i) Cow

ii) Sow

11. State **three** disadvantages of natural methods of mating in cattle breeding

12. a) Explain the advantage of battery cage system of rearing layers

b) Outline **ten** factors considered when selecting dairy cattle for breeding

13. What is upgrading as used in livestock production?

14. Define the word breech of birth as used in livestock production

15. What does the term “**drift lambing’** mean in livestock production?

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1.

* Steaming up of ewes to have milk to be suckled
* Use of lambing pens
* Ewes as made to recognize lambs after lambs
* Blind folding ewes to activate maternal instinct
* Attend/ treat inflamed udders/ painful

2.

* Pig 112 – 15 days

Rabbits 28 – 32 days

3 (i) Selection.

- It is the process of allowing certain animals to be the parents of the future generations while

culling others;

(ii) Methods used in selection.

* Mass selection;
* Progeny testing;
* Contemporary comparison;

4. - Restless.

- Frequent urination.

- Swollen vulva.

- The doe throws itself on its side.

- She (does rubs herself against the wall or any other solid object.

- The doe tries to contact other rabbits in the next hutch by peeping through the cage walls.

5. four meat breeds of rabbits

* Flemish giant
* California white
* New Zealand white
* Ear lop
* chinchilla

6. four reasons for cutting a breeding boar

* Bareness/loss of Libido
* Loss of sight, limb, cannot mate
* Old age
* Perpetual sickness/contract
* Reproductive diseases
* Aggressiveness/wildness

7. - Mass

* Progerry testing
* Comparison

8. (i) Heterosis- Increased vigour/ performance resulting from mating two superior unrelated Breeds

(ii) Epitasis- Is a combination of genes that individually could have been both undesirable

or inferior

9.

* Heat signs in rabbits (doe)
* The doe throws itself on its sides
* She rubs herself against walls or solid objects
* Tries to contact other rabbits in the next hutch (peeping)
* Restlessness
* Swollen vulva
* Frequent urination

10. Gestation periods of :- Cow 270 – 285 days

Sow – 113 117 days

11. Disadvantages of natural mating

* A lot of semen is wasted
* High chances of inbreeding
* Large males can injure small females
* Expensive to transport bull over long distance
* May need extra pasture, extra cost

12. a) the advantage of battery cage system of rearing layers

* Higher egg production due to less energy wastage by birds
* Accurate egg production records re kept
* Cannibalism and egg eating are controlled
* Eggs are clean
* Allows for mechanization
* Birds do not contaminate food and water
* Makes handling easy as birds are restricted within small areas
* Discourages broodiness
* Increases the sticking rate
* Sick birds can easily be isolated
* The wire floor prevails re-infection on the parasites, worms and coccidiosi
* There is no bully during feedings
* There is low labour requirement (1x10=10mks)

b) Outline ten factors considered when selecting dairy cattle for breeding

* age-young animals have longer productive live and are more productive and

Economical to keep than old animals

* level of performance-animals with highest production level be kept
* health-consider animals which are less susceptive to disease
* body confirmation go for ones well people dairy characteristics
* temperature/behaviour select only decline animals which are easy to handle mothering ability
* adaptable under suitability to the environment
* prolycacy ability to give built to many off springs at a time
* physical defects
* quality of products (1x10=10mks)

13. A type of mating where the female of low grade is mated to a pure bred sire of

superior quality (1mk)