

# SUMMARY

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The animal wealth represents an important category of the Egyptian National Economy in view of the nutritional and economic importance of animal products which is considered as the main source of animal protein necessary for the formation and growth of tissues and the regeneration of tissue damaged. It is also considered as an important source of energy for the body as well as a source of Vitamins A, B and C. The problem of meat represents an important item of the Nutrition Security which is given high priority by the Government.

The animal production of red meat in Egypt has reached about 527.04 thousand tons with or annual increase estimated at about 0.6% of the annual average during the period from 1982 to 1989. The value of red meat production has reached about 40.6% out of all animal production during the same period, and 11.63% of all the agricultural production during the same period, and the person's share of animal protein in Egypt is 10.7gm daily, while the required standard should be 33gm daily to reach the preventive nutritive level which means that our production of animal proteins should be threefold the present production of red meat, poultry and fish.

The problem of animal production in Egypt depends upon the economic problem in general which is due to the limited available elements and its inability to satisfy the different desires - which are relatively unlimited of the individuals as a result of the increase in birth rates, increase of income and the disproportion of income in relation to the educational and nutritional standard.

On the other side, the lowering of the share of the agriculture section of investments in the development and social plan has affected the rate of animal developments resulting from increased dependence on animal products, to cope with the increasing demands of the population thereof.

In spite of the inadequacy of some food materials like cereals, for example to meet the population requirements, it is observed that a great area thereof is transferred to the agriculture of animal food ( fodder ) which leads to the waste of these materials.

In addition, inspite of the acute nutritional gap of which Egypt suffers, specially in the area of animal production, we do not advise that the Government would adopt the policy of increasing meat and animal production on the expense of the harvest required for local consumption or export as there is no relative advantage in the production of meat and animals. It is better to concentrate on the products which have special advantages and import the required amounts of meat in addition to the local production in effect right now, and so long as there is some deficiency in the production of animal and poultry locally, the government should substitute the support of meat by supporting the substances required for animal production by importing their feed and studying what reasons lead to limitation of red meat production in Egypt in all steps of production with the objective of reaching a collection of results that would lead to laying some objective recommendations aiming at developing this production activity leading to effective economy and organizing the economic and social returns.

Animal production in Egypt meets many problems and difficulties which affect in a direct manner its development and advance which results in obvious shortage in the availability of the production ( an item of which is meat ) in the local markets. By the accumulation of these problems and difficulties year after year, the prices of these products have increased in a dreadful manner and has reached 13.15 times the original prices during the period ( 1971 - 1990 ). Not only that but the increase in consumption was much more than the increase in local production as the average annual production during the period 1982 - 1989 of red meat is about 527.04 thousand tons. The annual increase rate was 0.031 which represents 0.6% of the annual average of production while the average annual consumption of red meat was 685 thousand tons. The annual increase rate was estimated at 21.32 thousand tons which represents 5.6% of the average annual consumption of red meat. By comparison it is clear that there is shortage in local production in relation to the increase in consumption. The most important limitation factors and the problems meeting meat production are;

- 1) The fixed number ( or rather the diminishing number ) of productive animals.
- 2) The small size of farms allocated for animal production.

- 3) Utilizing the animals allocated for milk or meat production in performing agriculture duties .
- 4) The increase of proportion of consumption and slaughtering of small - weight agriculture animals.
- 5) Shortage - both in kind and in amount - of fodder in relation to the level of distribrition thereof.
- 6) Lowering of food - transfer - efficiency of animals in Egypt due to deterioration of inherited characteristics and construction.
- 7) Poor veterenary supervision and care afforded to farm animal .
- 8) The widespread of diseases and parasites among agriculture animals.
- 9) The inability of veterinary services to cover artificial insimulation for farm animals.

In addition to the above mentioned factors, we observe that the amount of meat required for consumption ( whether local or imported ) is quite inadequate to meet the consumption needs, in view of the effect of many factors of which the increase in income of individuals and the mis - distribution thereof - the increase of population - the change of taste of the consumers in relation to different types of food.

The study has also indicated that the real value of animal production has reached LE. 1490.6 Million Egyptian Pounds or 28.68% of the real value of the agricultural production which amounts to LE. 5197.2 Millions during the period from 1982 to 1989, and it was found that the most important constituents of the animal production are red meat, milk, poultry, egg, honey and wool, and that the slaughtered of these come at the head of the list of animal production as it reached LE. 604.2 Million Pounds or 40.6% of the real value of animal production which amounts to 1490.6 Million Pounds.

Next comes:

Milk, poultry and eggs which reached 525.6; 213.8 Million Pounds respectively i.e. about 35.32% and 14.37% respectively.

The study has also shown the economic position of the animal products and its importance in the Egyptian external commerce.

There is a deficit in the balance payment which resulted in increased imports. It showed also the importance of animal products in the industry as it is included in the manufacture of processed meat, milk products, leather and leather manufacture and represents great importance in the preparation of plant production by organic fertilizers.

It was pointed out, from the study that meat production depends on six areas viz:-

Cows, buffalows, sheep goats, camels and pigs.

Also it showed that the number of animal slaughtered locally was continuously increasing in all kinds while decreased for buffalows, sheep and camels, the reason being that the producer prefers to keep buffalows for the longest period to make use of them to sell their milk for free price and at the same time, these animals reach a heavy weight by way of meat accumulation.

As for sheep and camels, the taste of the consumers has grown to reject them, so they are left to reach heavy weights and their milk is being made use of in the manufacture of certain types of cheese, and then they are slaughtered in the feasts and other occasions. About camels, they are used in agriculture for transportation purposes, then slaughtered when they reach heavy weights to be used for the manufacture of certain types of preserved meat products like "Baserma" (dried beef = "Basterma").

It was found that the proportion of withdrawal of cattle in Egypt, out of cows and buffalows has reached 66.26% and 54% respectively out of their average preparation. The estimated amounts of meat as regards of their sources were found to be greatest from cows, followed by buffalows, then sheep, goats, then camels and pigs as the third and fourth in order of importance.

The study has also estimated meat production taking into consideration the amounts of meat wastes resulting from each type separately.

The study has also reviewed the factors that affect red - meat production in A.R.E. and their effects on the amount of meat produced; and these factors are:

- Number of animal heads.
- Green fodder.
- Concentrated fodder.
- Hay.
- Investments directed to animal production .
- Meat Prices.

It was found that every factor of these has a positive effect in the increase of the amount of meat. The study has also included the consumption of meat in Egypt, and it was found that the average per person of animal protein is 10.7gm/day and that this average is so modest as compared to other countries and does not reach the minimum preventive limit recommended by the World Health Organisation which is 33gm / day/ person.

The study has also considered briefly the lowering of marketing efficiency in Egypt depending on what studies have reached. The study included also the effect of the price of red meat on the amount and value of red meat and it was found that it has great effect on both.

It is clear that the Egyptian citizen needs a great deal of nutrition consciousness to have a clear idea about the substitution of animal protein with other alternative protein products so that the only alternative to meat will not be poultry as there are other products than poultry there are fish, eggs, and milk, and its products as sources of protein.