

Meat Industry in Sudan

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Sudan, due to its location, vast area, and variety of climates, is endowed with huge animal resources. They were judged to be around 132 million head in 2002, with details as follows:

- 39.4 million head of cows.
- 48 million head of sheep.
- 41.3 million head of goats.
- 3.3 million head of camels

Added to that are a large number of poultry.

Water bodies, approximated to be 42 million square meters, are comprised of rivers and lakes. Most important among them are: The Nile and its branches, lakes behind dams, as well as 700 kms of Red Sea coast.

Large fish resources are approximated at 100,000 tons for internal fisheries, and 10,000 tons for marine fisheries.

Present situation of meat production in the Sudan

Ways of producing and breeding cattle in the Sudan

This differs from one place to another but can be summed up in the following:

- Cattle pasturing practiced by nomadic tribes;
- Cattle pasturing practiced by semi-settled tribes;
- Traditional cattle rearing practiced in rural areas;
- Modern systems practiced in irrigated areas;
- Rearing of cattle and poultry by families in towns.

Pastures occupy 10 % of the land of the Sudan. In addition, the traditional system of pasturing takes place after the time of harvest in fields.



There are modern farms for rearing cattle and poultry following modern systems; technologies and veterinary services for bringing up advanced species of both cattle and poultry. In addition to that, there are a number of centers and teams of modern veterinary: some of them stationary, others mobile. They are giving veterinary services all over the country.

There are 16 schemes for breeding and catching different types of fish in the Sudan at present. There are many investments for export in the fields of shell and crayfish farms in the Red Sea.

Annual demand for various types of meat is increasing in the Sudan due to income increase and increased population.

There is self-sufficiency of red and white meats in the Sudan, while red meats are exported.

There are traditional, mechanical and semi-mechanical slaughterhouses in the Sudan administered by Local Government authorities. There are also export slaughterhouses. The most important among them are: Kadaru and Omdurman slaughterhouses in Khartoum State.

Four new slaughterhouses were established in four different states in the country. Recently, in December 1999, a new slaughter was opened at the cost of 15 million dollars, covering an area of 620 feddans. It operates with a cooling capacity of 70



tons per day. Meat is processed at the rate of approximately 14 tons per day. Sudan's export of live animals reached 436,342 head in 2003 with a value of about 33,984 dollars.

The value of meat exports in the year 2003 (Jan-March) reached about 2,378 dollars.

Sudanese meats are famous for their excellence and being devoid of any chemicals like hormones or antibiotics.

Meat Production Strategies in Sudan

The food policy in the Sudan aims at achieving self-sufficiency in food in general, and emphasis white meats for local consumption and designates red meats for export. The Comprehensive National Strategy has aimed at multiplying the number of cattle by three and the production of red meat for export twenty times. In order to achieve those aims the Animal Resources Bank was established to give animal resources and animal resource products a strong push forward.



In order to achieve the aims of the Comprehensive National Strategy for Animal Resources section in general, and the section concerning meat in particular, **the following modern methods should be applied to increase production:**

- Maintaining natural pastures and developing their quality by opening fire-lanes, collecting improved seeds and distributing them to the various areas of pasturing.
- Introduction of animal rearing to the agricultural rotations of irrigated schemes such as Geezer and Rahad;
- Increasing veterinary services to protect animals from diseases and epidemics; Continuing to depend on the traditional sector, then moving gradually toward establishing pastoral farms in irrigated and rain-fed areas;

Increase production of white meat to satisfy local consumption demand.

Opportunities and fields of investment in the meat sector in Sudan

- Breeding and fattening cattle for meat production;
- Establishing new markets for selling cattle and modern centers for red and white meat;
- Establishing poultry farms based on modern systems to improve species, increase production and provide veterinary services;
- Establishing companies for fishing, improving the techniques of fishing and making modern fishing technology available in the market;
- Establishing fish farms;
- Establishing concentrated fodder factories;
- Making veterinary services available;
- Expansion of mechanical slaughters for local consumers and export, and maintenance of the already available slaughterhouses;
- Al Kadaru slaughter could be renovated by establishing a packing factory and a scheme for purification of siphoned water, and widening its canals for irrigating 60 feddans of farmland.
- Developing the system of preparing white and red meat for display, and supplying them to the markets.
- Implementing developed systems of refrigerated transportation from areas of production to areas of consumption.

Making available specialized services in road, sea and air transportation for cattle and meat; and Exporting white and red meats for international markets.

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