

THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF LIVESTOCK







The Kenya Goat Company is a 501c3 Charitable organization that provides life-changing livestock and training to Kenyan families in need. We teach families how to care for their livestock, how to use the livestock to provide food for their families, and how to create ongoing sellable goods such as milk, eggs, and cheese that will help support their families.

Livestock plays an important economic and cultural role for the well-being of the Kenyan people. Food supply, income, employment, soil fertility for crops, and many other benefits come from livestock. Once the livestock starts providing for the families in need, they can begin providing for themselves.

We focus on the five types of livestock that yield the best results for self-sufficiency and business development: chickens, goats, cows, pigs, and beehives. Read on for more information on how our families use these animals.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS: POULTRY FARMING



Poultry can produce a large variety of products (meat, eggs, feathers, goose fat, foie gras, and skin) which makes chickens an incredibly valuable species for our Kenyan families.

Each chicken can produce 200 chicks per year! Our Kenyan households can produce thousands of chicks every year. Typically, 70% of the chicks are sold for income generation and 200 are given back to the revolving pool for redistribution to new families.

Rural backyard poultry production plays a vital role in the rapidly growing Kenyan economy. It provides families with a secure foodsource and a steady income.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS: BEE KEEPING



Honeybees are vital for the pollination of many fruit, vegetable, and seed crops. They also produce a wide variety of important products such as honey, beeswax, pollen, royal jelly, propolis, and more.

Honey is the most important bee product. It is a highly nutritious and medicinal food, with especially high value in the Sub-Sahara African region, where processed sugar cannot be trusted and medical facilities are either scarce or not available at all.

The Kenya Goat Company supplies families with three bee hives and the training and equipment to take care of them and harvest the products.

RAISING GOATS



Goats can be raised for milk, meat, skin, hide, and fiber. Goats can also help clear land and their dung can be used as biogas fuel. Because of this, goat farming can be a very profitable business.

One goat can produce about 3 liters of milk per day. Each liter sells for approximately \$.6 U.S., multiplied by 2 goats, this means about \$3.6 per day. A significant amount of money to these families.

The Kenya Goat Company provides 2 dairy goats per household. Within the first year, each family will have 8 goats of which 2 are given back to the revolving pool for redistribution to other families. This leaves each family with 6 goats by the end of the first year, which is translates to about \$300 per month per household.

PIG FARMING



Pigs are valuable for their flesh (ham, bacon, and pork), and their fat (lard). Pigs also provide many non-food products such as leather for gloves and bristles for brushes.

Since they are able to eat recycled food items, pigs keep feeding costs low and help to reduce waste. Pigs also have a high resistance to disease and adapt easily to most environments. Pigs have fast growth rate, good feed-to-meat conversion ratios, are easy to raise, do not require much space, have prolific breeding potential, and are docile.

Each pig can product up to 20 piglets per year creating an annual income of U.S. \$1,600.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS: DAIRY CATTLE



The milk from dairy cows is used to produce an amazing amount of food products such as milk, cheese, yogurt, butter, sour cream, whey, and more. Cows also produce manure which can be used on-farm as fuel or organic fertilizer (in several farming systems, manure is the sole source of fertilizer for crop production).

One calf produces 20 liters of milk per day for our Kenyan families. Eighty percent of the milk is sold for income generation, the remaining 20% is used by the household for their nutrition and for the production of saleable dairy products.

This results in annual sales of approximately U.S \$2,640 per year for our families.



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