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Zimbabwe Leads the Way in Reducing Antimicrobial Use in Poultry Farming

Zimbabwe is making notable strides in tackling the global threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), particularly within its poultry sector, through a comprehensive and collaborative effort involving the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Government of Zimbabwe. This effort, underpinned by the support of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) and the Fleming Fund global project, is actively working to reduce the excessive use of antimicrobials in broiler chicken farming by equipping farmers with sustainable and biosecure poultry production practices.

AMR has emerged as a growing threat worldwide, affecting human health, food systems, and economies. It arises when bacteria become resistant to antibiotics due to overuse or misuse in both human medicine and livestock production. In poultry farming, the habitual use of antimicrobials to prevent or treat diseases without proper veterinary oversight accelerates the development of resistant bacteria, which can spread to humans and the environment.

To address this, the project was rolled out in eight key districts across Zimbabwe: Bubi, Chegutu, Masvingo, Marondera, Murewa, Mutare, Mutasa, and Zvimba. It employed the Farmer Field School (FFS) approach, a participatory and practical training model that allows farmers to learn by doing. Through this approach, farmers gained essential knowledge in disease prevention, improved poultry husbandry, and ways to enhance biosecurity, all aimed at reducing dependency on antimicrobials. FAO's Livestock Development Officer, Berhanu Bedane, highlighted the project's success during a review meeting, emphasizing how the initiative reflects the effectiveness of the One Health approach. This approach promotes collaboration across the human, animal, and environmental health sectors to solve shared problems like AMR. He noted that the focus was not only on awareness but on practical, evidence-based strategies that farmers could implement in their day-to-day operations.

One of the critical tools used in the project was the baseline Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices (KAP) survey. This survey guided the creation of training materials, ensuring that they were tailored to farmers' needs and contexts. As a result, the FFS sessions became more relatable and impactful, leading to noticeable changes in farming practices and reduced use of antibiotics.

Bedane pointed out that these trainings enhanced poultry productivity while reducing infection rates. By preventing common poultry diseases through improved hygiene, vaccination, and early detection practices, farmers were less reliant on antimicrobials. He also mentioned that similar efforts are being extended to the dairy sector, further underlining the broader application of these strategies across livestock farming.

Dr. Flous Makaya, Chief Director of the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS), praised the project's alignment with Zimbabwe's National Development Strategy 1 (NDS) and Vision 2030. He underlined how improving animal health contributes directly to human health, food

safety, and national food security. Dr. Makaya also acknowledged that addressing AMR is complex and requires integrated, multi-sectoral solutions.

Looking forward, both FAO and the Government of Zimbabwe reaffirmed their commitment to sustaining and building upon these gains. Discussions are already underway for a second phase of the MPTF project. These efforts also contribute to global targets under the RENDFARM initiative, which aims to reduce the need for antimicrobials on farms through preventive health strategies and better farm management.

By empowering farmers with knowledge, resources, and alternatives to antibiotics, Zimbabwe is setting a strong example in the fight against antimicrobial resistance. This progress not only benefits the poultry industry but also strengthens national and global efforts to ensure safe, sustainable food systems for future generations. SOURCE : <https://poultrynews.africa/index.php/2025/06/15/zimbabwe-leads-the-way-in-reducing-antimicrobial-use-in-poultry-farming>



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Empowering Poultry Farmers in Senegal Through Practical Training and Digital Tools



In many African nations, including Senegal, poultry farming remains essential to both food security and revenue generating. The need for better production methods and effective value chain management is growing as the demand for poultry products develops rapidly among both rural and urban populations. In light of this, a revolutionary training program was introduced in Senegal this week with the goal of bolstering the poultry industry via digital innovation and capacity building.

Led by poultry expert Thierry, the training session brought together 17 Field Service Representatives (FSRs) from Couvoir Amar, one of Senegal's key players in poultry hatchery and production services. The FSRs included a balanced mix of new recruits and experienced field workers, fostering a dynamic environment where knowledge sharing and mentorship naturally occurred. This diversity ensured that insights from years of on-the-ground experience were passed on to newer staff, while fresh perspectives and questions stimulated active discussions and critical thinking.

The training was designed to be hands-on and highly practical, focusing on real-world challenges faced by poultry farmers. It included comprehensive modules on poultry health management, nutrition, housing, brooding techniques, vaccination schedules, and biosecurity protocols. Thierry emphasized a farmer-first approach, ensuring that each FSR could deliver personalized technical support to farmers based on their unique needs and local conditions. Participants engaged in role-play simulations, group problem-solving, and field demonstrations to build their confidence and improve service delivery.

Introducing and using the recently revised CommCare application, a potent digital tool for data collecting and field reporting, was a major part of the training. FSRs can now record precise, up-to-date data on vaccination coverage, feed utilization, disease outbreaks, and poultry farm performance using CommCare on smartphones and tablets. In addition to increasing information accuracy and dependability, this move from paper-based to digital data collecting speeds up decision-making and allows for better tracking of farmers' progress over time.

With better data, FSRs can provide more targeted technical support to poultry farmers, addressing problems before they escalate and tailoring recommendations to specific farm conditions. For instance, if the data shows a pattern of poor weight gain in a particular region, the FSR can immediately investigate feed quality or advise on improved feeding strategies. This responsiveness leads to better farm outcomes and ultimately enhances productivity across the value chain.

Furthermore, the digital system allows Couvoir Amar to analyze trends and performance at a broader level. Management can now identify gaps in service delivery, recognize top-performing FSRs, and allocate resources more effectively. Farmers benefit directly from this ecosystem through increased support, access to timely information, and improved flock health, which translates to higher profits and more sustainable livelihoods.

Overall, this training initiative marks a significant step forward in professionalizing poultry extension services in Senegal. By investing in both human and digital capacity, Couvoir Amar is empowering its field agents to become more effective change agents for rural farmers. As FSRs return to their respective regions, they carry with them not only new knowledge and tools but also a renewed commitment to helping poultry farmers succeed. Such efforts are key to building a resilient and inclusive poultry sector that can meet Senegal's growing nutritional needs while providing dignified employment across the country.

SOURCE : <https://poultrynews.africa/index.php/2025/06/12/empowering-poultry-farmers-in-senegal-through-practical-training-and-digital-tools/>



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**DOC BROILER AND FREE RANGE CHICKENS
PRICES , STABLE**



Price of Day old chicks adjusted upwards from the average price of K16.00 during the month of May 2025 to the average price of K17.00 in June 2025. This indicates the price movement of adjustment of K1.00 in absolute.

It was also noted that most hatcheries have discontinued price promotions registered during the first quarter of the year.

We assume that the price adjustment could be attributed to the slight increase in the demand for day old chicks.

We hope the demand for the chicks will be sustained should there be a reduction in the price of stockfeeds. For more details please refer to the graph for the day old chicks.

WHOLE DRESSED CHICKEN PRICES - STABLE

Processed chickens recorded a very minimal upwards adjustment in terms of price.

It is almost the same price recorded last month of May 2025.

However the price increase was about ZMK0.74. Kindly take note that this is the average price increase when compared to last month. The prices for the frozen chicken adjusted upwards to between ZMK67.99 Minimum and the Maximum price of ZMK78.99 during the month of June 2025.

Disclaimer: The price reported in the newsletter are average price ranges obtained from Pick n Pay, Shoprite, Zambeef, Melisa Supermarket, Chopies, and Cheers Stores, Country Choice and Supreme.

It is possible that actual prices could be different in other processed chicken suppliers in Lusaka and other places. It should also be noted that these are Lusaka prices only. For the price trend, check figure 2 courtesy of PAZ.

LIVEBIRD CHICKENS – RECORDS SOME MOVEMENTS

The national average prices for the live broiler chickens was maintained at the average price of K130 during June 2025.

Point of lay have increase from ZMK165 average price sold in June from K165.00 -K175.00 to ZMK180 - ZMK185 in June 2025.

POINT OF LAY PRICES -STABLE

Price for point of lay chickens moved upwards from from the average price of ZMK165.00 in April to about K180 to K185 per bird during May 2025. It should be noted that most suppliers didn't have point of lay chickens during the month of June 2025.

Most suppliers will offload their point of lay chickens in August and September 2025. The increase in demand may be due to the slight drop in production during winter, which ultimately has negative effect on supply.

We should expect the status quo to remain the same until end of August 2025.

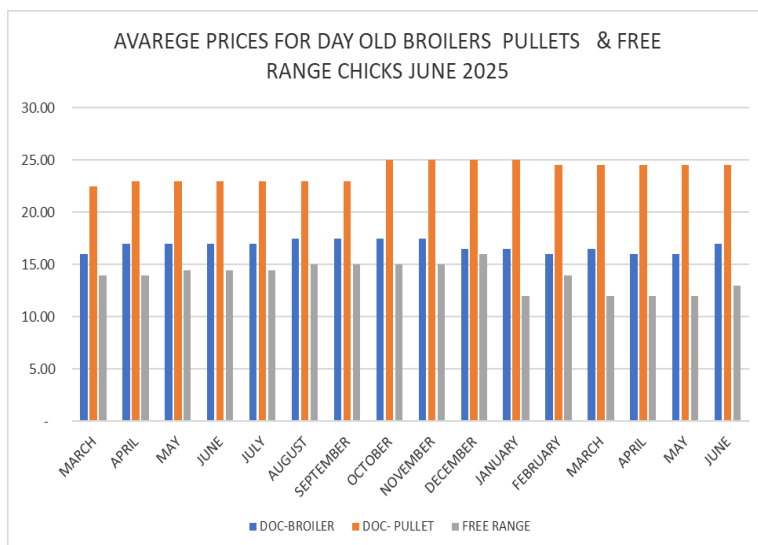


FIGURE 1 SHOWING AVERAGE PRICE FOR DAY OLD CHICKS

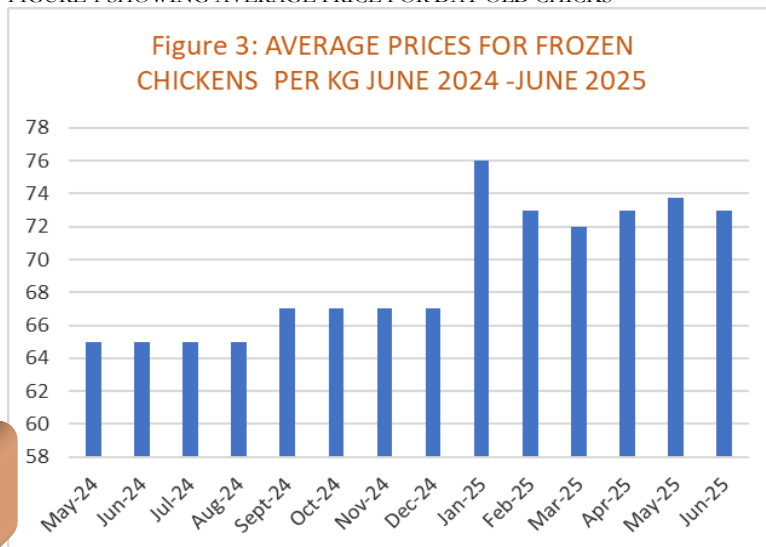


FIGURE 2 SHOWING AVERAGE PRICE PER KG FOR PROCESSED CHICKENS

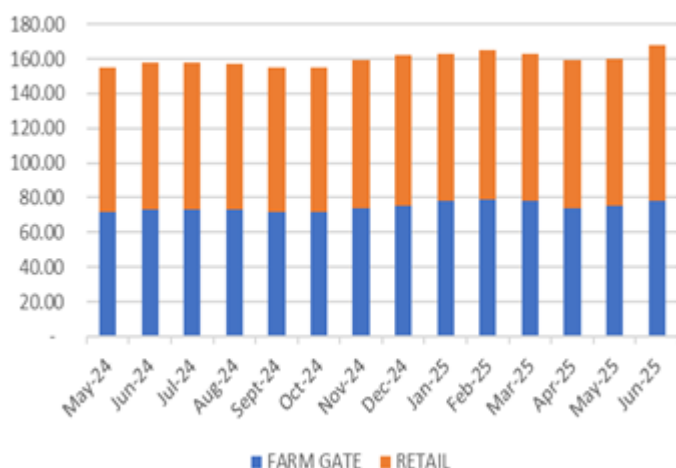


EGG PRICES REGISTER SOME PRICES DURING JUNE 2025

The price for table eggs went up from K74.00 average price in May to K80.00 average farm gate price in June 2025

The retail price is now ZMK80 – ZMK90.00 per tray of 30 eggs.

AVG PRICES FOR EGGS JANUARY 2024 - JUNE 2025



AVERAGE PRICES FOR LIVE BROILERS, FREE RANGE X LAYER
POINT OF LAY June 2024-June 2025

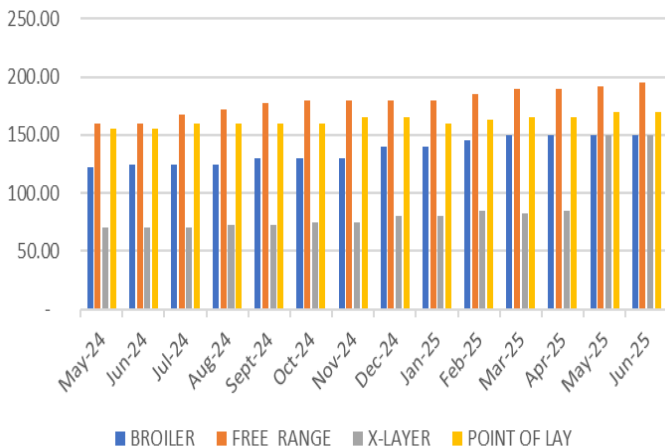
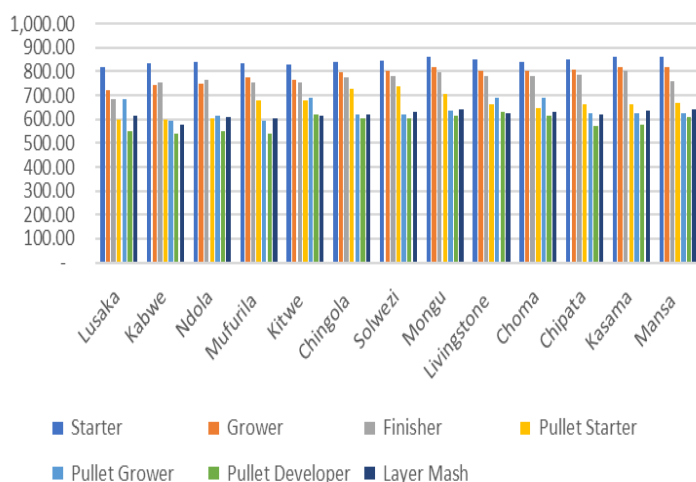


FIGURE 3 SHOWING COST AVG PRICES FOR BROILERS
,FREE RANGE, X LAYERS & POINT OF LAY

BROILER FEED PRICES REGISTERED SOME UPWARD MOVEMENTS

Generally the price for all feeds remained the same in June 2025 same as what was reported in May 2025. Starter was still going for ZMK 812.00 Lowest average price while the maximum average price was ZMK862 for stater feed . For details please refer to Figure showing price for Feeds.

AVG PRICES JUNE 2025



AVG PRICES FOR STOCK FEEDS

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FIGURE 8 AVERAGE SOYACAKE PRICES- JAN24- 30 JUNE 2025

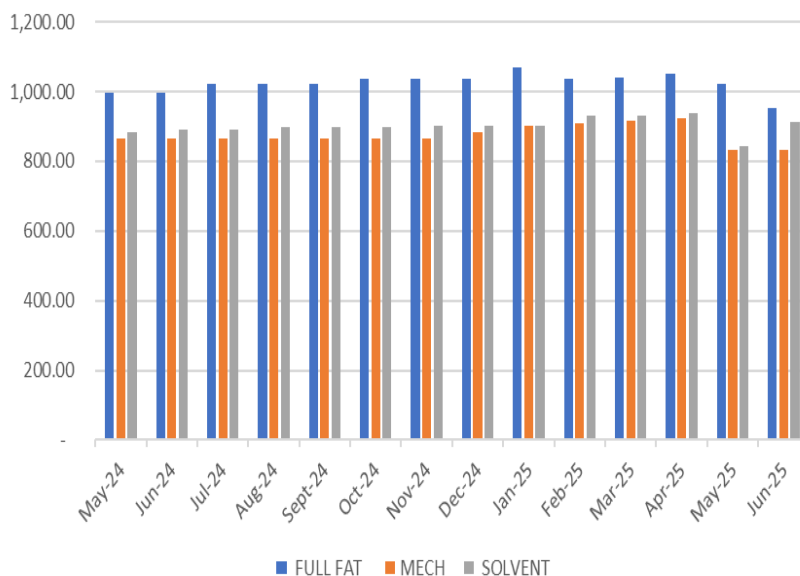


FIGURE SHOWING MOVEMENTS IN FULL FAT,SOYACAKE

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JULY 2025

ISSUE 6

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