

Herd Management and Manager in Turkey Livestock

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ABSTRACT

The objectives set to bring animal husbandry to an advanced level and to a certain standard are important in Turkey. Agriculture is mostly done in the conventional manner in Turkey and producers and farmers do not need to improve themselves. In contrast to population growth across the country, there is a significant decrease in agricultural production. The reason for this, it can be said that the reasons such as the lack of security of the working people in the sector, the fact that they do not receive a wage that can sustain their lives, the lack of infrastructure to carry out training programs for constantly changing and developing. We can define herd management as providing the animals with optimum care and welfare conditions, achieving the desired target for fertility, reproduction and nutrition and preventing animal diseases and management-related losses in livestock enterprises. The main objective in herd management and manager is to increase animal production to breeders and to provide economic returns that can provide sustainability and competitiveness in enterprises. In addition, it is to minimize or completely eliminate the material losses that may occur by means of more cost-effective and efficiently organized programs. In order to solve all these problems, herd management should be considered as an educated and organized profession. As a result of the training of certified herd management, breeders who are employed without registration and social security must be provided with registered status, increase the number of registered employees and achieve professional status by providing organization. It is important that certificate is a prerequisite for the grower to benefit from government support, incentives, grants, subsidies and other national and international projects.

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INTRODUCTION

Animal production in Turkey predominately is made in a conventional manner. Breeders do not need to improve themselves. In our country, due to the fact that the geographical conditions are also suitable, extensive animal production based on pasture is carried out.

In contrast to the population increase across the country, significant decreases have been observed in the number of animals and animal production (Anonymous, 2017a). It is thought that the reasons such as the lack of security of the working people in the sector, their inability to receive wages to sustain their lives, the lack of infrastructure to carry out training programs for constantly changing and developing information and to realize an organization. In recent years, Turkey has come to a standstill in animal husbandry. The effects such as increase in input prices, incomplete organizations, price and market instability, unconscious care and the support of the government, and the effects of different types of culture and breeding of

hybrid animals, product losses and animal deaths have yielded many negative results. The fact that qualified personnel and modern systems cannot be put into practice in the herd management has an effect on this situation which directly affects the producers as well as the consumers. We can define herd management as providing the animals with optimum care and welfare conditions, achieving the desired target for fertility, reproduction and nutrition and preventing animal diseases and management-related losses in livestock enterprises.

Herd management in livestock

Herd management is providing the nutrients needed for the survival and yield of animals and maintaining them in an appropriate and hygienic environment where they can exhibit animal welfare and behavior, have training and experience to control animals on pastures and meadows, the ability to produce and apply solutions for diseases and treatment, use the necessary technological equipment to obtain economic and healthy products and keeping record (Ünalán & Cebeci, 2007; Uzmay *et al.*, 2010; Anonymous, 2013; Göncü, 2017). On the other hand, shepherd can be defined as the person who takes care some cattle, sheep and economically important poultry for a fee and feeds and maintains the animals in suitable areas (Özdemir & Kaplan, 2013).

It has been observed in many studies that the communication between livestock and carers affects animal welfare and behavior and the result of this is reflected in the productivity of the animal (Koyuncu, 2012). Herd management has a broader meaning in terms of operation and application, including shepherd. In animal production, it is possible to obtain reliable, health and economic products from birth to yield stage and later periods with good herd and business management. In order to achieve the desired production level in the enterprise, being absolutely knowledgeable and experienced in herd management it is also important in obtaining planned and safe results (Uzmay *et al.*, 2010; Akman, 1998; Öz & Bilgen, 2002). It is essential that production and welfare are at the highest level in herd management.

Generally the most important factors in animal husbandry are;

- shelters
- animals
- feed
- labor
- pharmaceutical and general veterinary services
- management information systems and decision support systems.

The most important features of herd management are;

- Monetary earnings
- Spare time
- Animal welfare
- Work conditions
- Environmental Protection
- Personal prestige
- Product

In order to combine these factors optimally, their impact on production needs to be known.

Herd management;

1. The status of the enterprise at all stages of production during planning,
2. Factors related to production,
3. All specifications related to manufacturer's preferences,
4. Any legal, economic, physical or personal limitations (Kristensen *et al.*, 2006).

Knowing such features will be helpful in solving problems.

Once the objectives are defined, the planning process can be started. However, it is important to make accurate decisions about the share of each factor in the planned process.

The next element of the management cycle is the implementation phase. Implementation should only be performed carefully to achieve the objectives set in the plan and during the implementation.

In the herd management decision-making stage, production should be monitored and evaluated according to production results (Kristensen *et al.*, 2006).

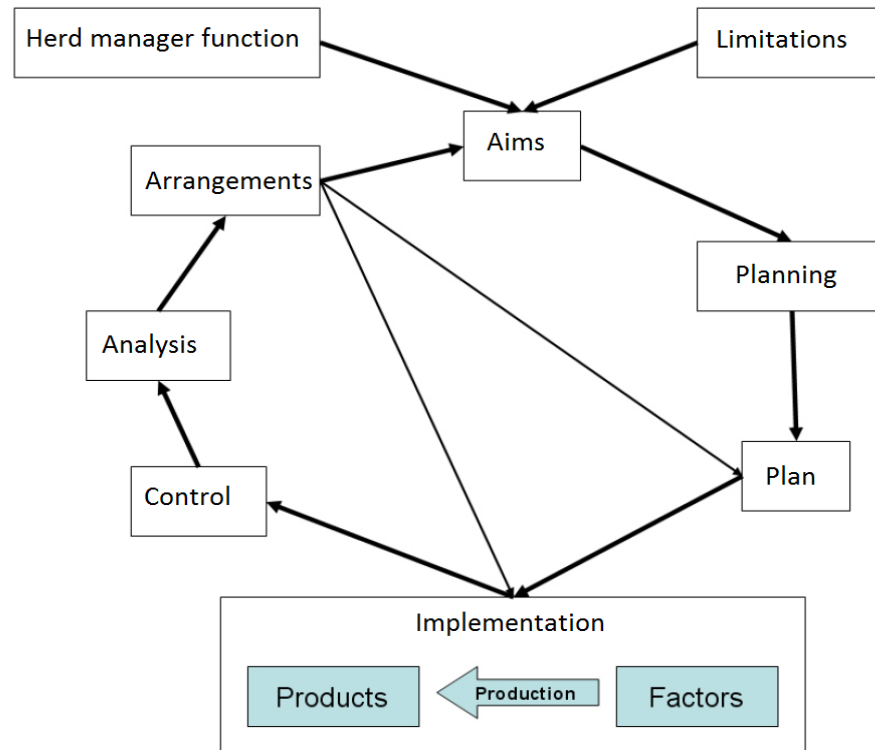


Figure 1. Management cycle

It is therefore necessary to follow the objectives, plans or phases of implementation for the future, looking at the previously recorded results. If there are any restrictions (legal, economic, physical or personal), new objectives should be defined and alternative plans should be made.

Production monitoring and decision-making process, type of model or application the current status of the enterprise, production follow-up, data recording, database, data processing and statistical analysis is also important elements in herd management (Kristensen *et al.*, 2006; Karakus *et al.*, 2019).

In order to solve the problems, herd management should be considered as an educated and organized profession. In the practices, breeding activities to be carried out in order to bring the animal husbandry to an advanced level and to certain standards.

The use of qualified personnel to provide the necessary environmental conditions for animals, prevention of migration of rural population having livestock will provide positive results in the sector. People who migrate from rural areas to cities in order to do different jobs despite having experience in animal husbandry, provided that equal wages and job security are provided, scientific and contemporary approaches will play a solution-generating role in meeting the needs of institutions, organizations and producers related to the sector (Karakus *et al.*, 2011; Karakus & Celikyurek, 2017).

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Following are the results of a trained and conscious herd management and herd manager;

- By using modern livestock techniques, higher quality products can be obtained, costs can be reduced and profitability can be increased,
- Increasing sensitivity to the issue and understanding that animal breeding is an economic activity rather than any activity,
- Conscious approaches to animal welfare and behavior,
- Improving the existing animal production by benefiting from the applications that increase productivity in animal care and feeding,
- Ensuring the profitable use of meadows and pastures according to the law,

- A more technical and planned approach to animal husbandry with the training taken in different forms according to the size of enterprise scale in modern animal husbandry in terms of modern breeding systems and integration to world animal husbandry, (Çelikyürek & Aygün, 2017),
- Providing reliable animal products to human consumption by conducting animal breeding with healthy animals in suitable environments,
- Reducing the social risks that may occur with herd management , preventing migration to big cities,
- Reducing the intensity of breeding diseases resulting from unconscious practices in animal breeding and minimizing the losses of animals and yields,
- Increasing profitability in livestock enterprises by adopting modern practices,
- A more sensitive approach to the practices aimed at protecting the health of the livestock which is the source of income of animal breeders,
- To be more conscious and sensitive to the prevention and spread of zoonotic diseases and epidemic diseases that may occur during aquaculture and can be transmitted from animals to humans,
- Placement and adaptation of modern production techniques related to animal husbandry,
- Improving the livestock techniques, improving the competitiveness of the livestock occupants, ensuring the organization, improving the welfare and quality of rural life,
- Providing advanced animal breeding and establishment of enterprise management, planning and common animal husbandry policies performed

Also records and data on national stockbreeding and monitoring of production should be ensured. This data is an effective way to obtain information about the status of livestock enterprises and to evaluate them financially and administratively. It may be effective to increase the contribution of the employees to the economy by supporting the decision-making process in livestock activities.

To prevent production and yield losses and in order to achieve more quality-economic product programmes for herd management for those who can be employed in the sector,

With the coordination of scientists and related institutions certificate programs opened in regions where animal production is intense and opening an associate degree program and their sustainability, compulsory employment of herd management in all projects related to animal husbandry and in kind and cash supports to be provided (Koyuncu, 2012; Anonymous, 2017b) play an important role in the process.

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