

# **Increasing production of local chickens**

To expand the chicken production you should follow some guidelines. Then keeping chicken is profitable.

When you buy your chicken, go to a local market. It is recommended to buy native chickens. Before you buy a chicken consider the features. Is the chicken healthy and strong? Is the anus clean and is the chicken without diarrhea? Buy chickens which haven't produced eggs before. Make sure to vaccinate the chickens for main diseases.

## **Chick production**

A young chicken is able to produce eggs after she is about five months old. Then she can continue to produce them a lifetime, which for chickens means two to three years. You can recognize a chicken who already had laid eggs before, because the stomach is heavier and stronger. It is important that you haven't too many roosters (one male for 9 hens), because they battle for power which leads to fewer egg production.

Once a chicken is brooding, she sits about 22 to 23 days on top of her eggs. Even after the eggs hatched they need their mother's heat. During this time the chicken mother doesn't produce more eggs.

## **Keeping chicken**

If you have a big family or want to make a business you can buy even more. One rooster is enough for up to 9 chickens.

After bringing your chickens home, you should get a two level henhouse where you bring the chickens for the night. In the upper level you put the chicks and in the lower the chickens. Make sure to clean the henhouse every two weeks.

Feed them with rice, corn, barley and semolina. If you have brooding chickens put the food and some water close to them. After 8 days you can check on the eggs with a torch to see if there are cells. When the chicks are hatched separate them from their mother: after 7 days when it is warm, and after 14 days when it is cold.