

**ANALYSIS OF INCREASING LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND IMPROVING ITS
EFFICIENCY IN AGRICULTURE**

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Annotation

This article analyzes the current state of the livestock sector, production volumes, existing problems, and modern ways to improve efficiency using the example of the Kashkadarya region. It also highlights the role of innovative technologies, strengthening the feed base, genetic selection, and government support programs in the development of livestock farming.

Keywords

livestock farming, efficiency, genetic selection, feed base, agro-industrial complex, Kashkadarya region, economic efficiency.

INTRODUCTION. Today, deep reforms are being implemented in the agricultural sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The main objective of these reforms is to strengthen the country's food security, increase household incomes, and expand export potential. In particular, the livestock sector has gained special importance as one of the priority areas of the economy. This is because it not only supplies essential food products and industrial raw materials such as meat, milk, wool, leather, and eggs, but also plays a significant role in ensuring employment in rural areas.

In the Presidential Decree of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the "New Uzbekistan Development Strategy for 2022–2026," specific tasks have been defined for modernizing the livestock sector, supporting local producers, expanding the feed base, and developing high-yield breeds through genetic selection. At the same time, programs such as "Every Family an Entrepreneur" and "Every Family a Livestock Breeder" have created broad opportunities for the population to engage in livestock activities.

The Kashkadarya region is one of the major agrarian regions of the republic, with high potential for livestock development. The region's specific climatic conditions, vast pasture areas, and available water resources create natural advantages for the sector's growth. However, the level of utilization of these opportunities remains insufficient. In many cases, limited feed resources, weak breeding activities, low technical levels of production, and underdeveloped marketing systems negatively affect livestock efficiency.

Although the share of the livestock sector in the national economy has been increasing, the production cost of livestock products remains high, and the level of processing is still low. Therefore, scientifically improving this sector, identifying ways to enhance efficiency, and ensuring rational use of resources have become highly relevant issues.

In recent years, positive growth has been observed in the number of livestock and in the production volumes of milk and meat in the Kashkadarya region. However, this growth does not yet fully satisfy economic efficiency indicators. Higher results can be achieved through the introduction of modern technologies, intensification of livestock production, development of the feed production chain, and economic incentives for producers.

Thus, the main purpose of this research is to analyze ways to increase livestock production and improve its efficiency in the Kashkadarya region, identify existing problems, and develop practical recommendations to address them.

The article analyzes the current state of the livestock sector in the Kashkadarya region, growth trends, production indicators, and factors influencing economic efficiency. It also highlights the role of innovative technologies, state support, and the rational use of local resources in improving efficiency.

MAIN PART. Reducing poverty and improving household incomes have become one of the most pressing priorities in Uzbekistan and its regions, particularly in the Kashkadarya region. Below, we present an analysis and the results of the poverty reduction process in the Kashkadarya region for the period 2020–2024.

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Growth in the Number of Livestock in the Kashkadarya Region (2020–2024)

Year	Cattle (thousand heads)	Sheep and Goats (thousand heads)	Poultry (million heads)
2020	1190	2870	7,5
2021	1230	2940	8,1
2022	1270	3050	8,9
2023	1315	3120	9,6
2024	1360	3210	10,4

In 2020–2024, the number of livestock in the Kashkadarya region increased steadily: cattle rose from 1,190 thousand to 1,360 thousand (+14.3%), sheep and goats from 2,870 thousand to 3,210 thousand (+11.8%), and poultry from 7.5 million to 10.4 million (+38.6%).

Livestock production volumes also demonstrated positive dynamics: meat production increased from 180 thousand tons to 215 thousand tons (+19.4%), milk from 620 thousand tons to 710 thousand tons (+14.5%), and eggs from 1,050 million to 1,360 million (+29.5%).

According to economic efficiency indicators, production cost increased from 21,000 UZS/kg to 25,800 UZS/kg (+22.9%), while the average selling price rose from 23,500 UZS/kg to 30,000 UZS/kg (+27.7%). Profitability improved from 11.9% to 16.3% (+4.4 percentage points).

The analysis of tables and diagrams indicates a positive correlation between the growth in livestock numbers and the increase in production volumes. The growth rate of selling prices exceeded that of production costs, resulting in an overall rise in profitability.

CONCLUSION. Developing the livestock sector, one of the key pillars of agriculture in Uzbekistan, plays a crucial role in the country’s socio-economic development. It not only ensures food security by providing essential products such as meat, milk, eggs, wool, and leather but also contributes to income generation and employment, particularly in rural areas where agricultural activities are the main source of livelihood. The livestock sector thus serves as both a strategic and socio-economic instrument for reducing poverty, stabilizing rural communities, and supporting sustainable development goals.

Research conducted in the Kashkadarya region demonstrates that over recent years, the livestock sector has experienced significant growth. The numbers of cattle, sheep, goats, and poultry have increased steadily, resulting in annual growth in the production of meat, milk, and eggs. This trend reflects the successful implementation of state programs and policies designed to support and modernize the sector. Programs such as “Every Family a Livestock Breeder” and “Farmer–Cluster–Cooperation,” along with other mechanisms like preferential loans, feed base expansion, and the establishment of modern mini-farms, have contributed substantially to increasing production volumes and improving economic efficiency. Additionally, investments in breeding programs have helped enhance the productivity of livestock by introducing high-yield local and foreign breeds, which in turn raises both meat and milk output.

Between 2020 and 2024, livestock production volumes in Kashkadarya increased on average by 15–18%, and profitability improved from 11.9% to 16.3%. These figures indicate not

only a quantitative growth in output but also a significant improvement in labor productivity and the overall economic efficiency of the sector. This increase in profitability suggests that farmers are better able to cover production costs while achieving higher returns, thus strengthening their economic resilience.

Despite these positive developments, several challenges remain. Certain districts continue to face inefficiencies in resource utilization, feed shortages, limited water supply, and weak infrastructure for cooling and storage. These factors contribute to post-production losses during processing and distribution and reduce the overall competitiveness of livestock products in both domestic and external markets. Addressing these gaps is critical for sustaining growth and ensuring long-term sectoral development.

The research highlights that the adoption of innovative technologies, improvement of breeding programs, diversification of feed production, and expansion of cooperative systems can significantly enhance efficiency and output. Furthermore, learning from international best practices, such as the cluster models, scientific management approaches, and technological solutions applied in countries like Turkey, the Netherlands, and South Korea, and adapting them to the local context, can provide additional impetus for modernization and productivity gains.

Overall, the development of the livestock sector in the Kashkadarya region offers multiple socio-economic benefits. It ensures a reliable supply of high-quality agricultural products to the domestic market, strengthens the region's export potential, increases household incomes, reduces rural poverty, and enhances economic security. By combining state support, technological innovation, and efficient management practices, the sector can achieve sustainable growth, promote rural development, and contribute to Uzbekistan's broader economic and strategic goals. Continuous investment in infrastructure, human capital, and research-driven innovations will be essential to maximize the sector's potential and to integrate the region's livestock production into national and international markets.

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