

Possible Agri-preneurial Units for First Generation Agripreneurs

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INTRODUCTION

In the changing scenario, agriculture is taking a new shape and expanding. Activities like value addition, diversification, high tech agriculture, export marketing, organic farming have become it more valuable and profitable for Agri- enterprises, which in turn can, not only help in increasing the disposable income of farmers but also helps in increasing standard of living. Some of the attractive agribusinesses are:

Apiculture: Apiculture is known as Bee – Keeping. Bee colonies are maintained in man- made box hives, by agripreneurs in order to extract honey. Mostly *Apis* bees are kept to collect honey in Haryana state. In Haryana the production of honey is around 4,500 metric tonnes (MT) every year. Relative humidity, irrigation facilities, different soil types, temperature and different cropping patterns are favourable for bee-keeping business in the state. Kurukshetra, Karnal, Yamunanagar, Mahendergarh, Jind districts have been leading in the business of honey collected from eucalyptus, mustard, sunflower, bajra, toria *etc.* The agripreneurs regularly migrate the bee colonies in those areas where bee floras are available in abundance. The beekeeping business has enough scope and opportunities for farmers & rural youth to sell honey and allied products like flower pollen, propolis, bee wax, royal jelly *etc.* It is lucrative business with less investment.



Beehive



Bee Colonies

Mushroom cultivation: Mushroom is the fleshy, and fruiting spore bearing body of fungus and Mushroom cultivation is the method to produce mushrooms by using industrial, animal and plant waste and it also requires spawn , compost and casing mixture. It is grown either in covered area or in hut or house as it does not require sunlight Haryana is the third largest grower of Button mushroom in India. At the commercial level mainly two spaces White button mushroom in winter season (November to February) and Oaster

mushroom (dhingri) for whole year (except May- June) are cultivated in the state. Mushroom farming business can be done with less capital investment and requires little knowledge of growing mushroom as well as requires less time. It can be done for selling packed mushroom, mushroom pickle, candy, chips, powder, soup etc. Panchkula, Kurukshetra, Sonipat and Panchkula districts has been leading in value added produce of mushroom like canned mushroom, export of fresh mushroom *etc.*



Mushroom Cultivation



Stacks of Mushroom

Aquaculture: Aquaculture is known as fish farming business and it generates tremendous opportunities for domestic market as well as export sector. This business requires moderate investment for tanks & ponds for raising fish but require more investments for selling food

such as canned fish, processed fish, fish oil, fish flour, meal, glue *etc.* Fisheries business has been growing rapidly in different regions of Haryana including Palwal, Hisar, Rewari, Mahendragarh.



Tarpaulin Fish Ponds



Catfish inside the Pond

Dairy Farming: Dairy farming is a well-known category of agri-business for production and marketing of value added products of milk. Haryana is well known for “Murrah” buffaloes and cattle and contributes 5 per cent to the national dairy production. Dairy farming business involves milk production with the help of domestic animal along with processed milk products like

paneer, ghee, curd, sweets, lassi, powdered & flavoured milk *etc.* as well as selling and purchasing of desi cattle & buffalos. In Haryana, Dairy farming has been flourishing in the districts like Ambala, Bhiwani, Mewat & Kurukshetra of Haryana Agribusiness and Food Processing Policy (2018).



Loose house system for cows



Machine milking

Poultry Farming: Commercial farming of different types of domestic animals and birds to produce eggs and meat is called poultry farming. Poultry farming is a lucrative & fastest growing business which provides good opportunity to earn handsome profit because consumption of egg and meat has been rising day by day. Other methods of poultry farming are as Free-range farming used for abundant poultry birds, Layered poultry farming where domesticated birds are bred to produce eggs,

Broiler poultry farming where birds are raised for meat production only. Some of the major broiler hubs are in Fatehabad, Hisar, Panipat, Sirsa, Kaithal and Karnal districts. The growth of value added poultry products such as processed eggs, processed meat or chicken, egg powder *etc.* are flourishing in Karnal, Panipat, Jind, Yamunanagar, Ambala, Mewat districts of the state. (Haryana Agribusiness and Food Processing Policy, 2018).



Broiler Poultry



Hatchery Poultry

Food processing: Food processing is the transformation and value addition in agricultural produce in one form to another form of food. In Haryana about more than 3000 food processing units have been operating. There are tremendous opportunities in setting up dehydration, drying & value addition units for canned juice, squash, concentrate jam, processing units for vegetables, poly-houses for exotic and off

season vegetable and powder seed and raw seed processing units *etc.* Demand for Value added products has been increasing day by day. Hence, food processing business generates tremendous opportunity for farmers, youth and rural women to manufacture and sell value added agri- products like potato chips, pickle, jam, pappad, biscuits & cookies, jelly, fruit squash *etc.*



Spiral mixer for making bread



Packaging machine

Some other agripreneurial areas are like organic farming, Vermi composting, floriculture, horticulture, fruit & vegetables marketing, customer hiring centres, seed processing, poly houses *etc.*