

Using Math to Start a Poultry Farm

Mustafa

BEFORE YOU READ:

1. What is poultry? Read the definition below and use it in several sentences. Learn the words cost, revenue, and profit.
2. What math do you think a person might need to be able to start a poultry farm?

When I first came to the United States, I spent a lot of time with my uncle, who has a good mind for business. We discussed different ideas, and I kept a small notepad with me where I gathered information.

I bought 100 bags of chicken feed at \$35 per bag.

He was glad that I was thinking about opening my own business. He started asking me questions about my plans. I told him that I wanted to start a small organic poultry farm of 500 chickens.

The chickens would need space to roam freely and receive sunshine, so it was important for me to think about how many square yards I would need for the chicken house and for open space. After three months of collecting information, I finally found and rented the right space in the countryside. It had been a poultry farm before, so there was a chicken coop and an outdoor area. After preparing the available space, I had 78 square yards outdoors and 50 square yards indoors which is sufficient for raising 500 chickens.

Poultry (n):



domesticated birds that we keep for their eggs and meat. Chickens, turkeys, ducks, and geese are all examples of poultry.

I used math in many ways to start my business. For example, I hired my friend

to help me replace a fence. It took 59 hours to finish the work. When we were done, I paid him \$1,062 for his hard work, which is \$18 per-hour.



My next job was to buy the chickens and everything they would need. I bought 100 bags of chicken feed at \$35 per bag. I bought PVC pipes to use as chicken feeders which cost \$400. I installed a \$900 solar panel and many other things. And finally, I bought the 500 chickens, which cost about \$16.27 per chicken. My total expenses came to \$14,000, which I borrowed from my uncle.

When my chickens started laying eggs, I started to have an income. I collect 33 dozen eggs a day, which I sell for \$6 per dozen, for a total of \$198. In addition, every five months I send all the chickens to the slaughter house. I sell them for \$11 each, for a total of \$5,500. To replace them, I buy young healthy chickens that are ready to lay eggs.

I collect 33 dozen eggs a day, which I sell for \$6 per dozen, for a total of \$198.

Math is a part of life. Without math, I couldn't start a great business. It is hard to think how difficult everyday life would be without math. I hope one day my poultry farm is going to be one of the

