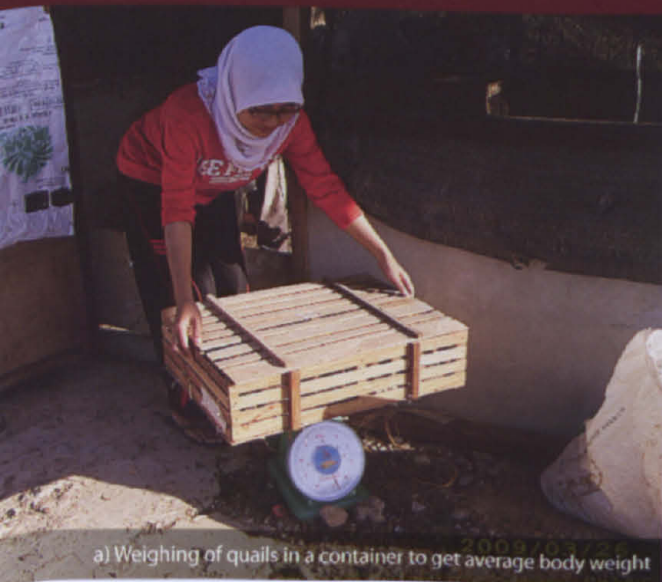


Rearing of Quail during Share Farm

Sarina Binti Sukarman (Graduating Student)



a) Weighing of quails in a container to get average body weight

In the second semester of third year and first semester of fourth year all the students of School of Sustainable Agriculture (SSA) are required to take a course known as Share Farm 1 and Share Farm 2, respectively. This course is usually coordinated by Mr. Mohammad Amizi bin Ayob, Senior Lecturer in the School and examined by a few other SSA lecturers. The coordinator gave us some briefing and information on various livestock projects and we decided to rear quails for meat production. We choose quails rather than broiler or goats because of several reasons. First of all, it was cheaper to buy young quails. Secondly, it was easier to do the de-feathering process because of the smaller size of the birds. For the Livestock Production Program, this course was examined by Dr. Kiron Deep Singh Kanwal. This course encouraged us to work in a team. Our group was named Fresh Coturnix and consisted of six members. Various members were allotted different portfolios such as director, assistant director, administration and operation assistant (secretary), financial assistant, marketing assistant and technical and logistics assistant. For the first project, we started with a minimal number of 200 quails. But in the second cycle the number of quails was increased to 400.



b) Slaughtering of quail is initiated at the site of jugular vein



c) De-feathering of quails

The SSA helped us to prepare the quail's house and also in lending some money for purchasing birds and feed. The chicks were purchased at one week of age at the rate of RM 0.80 per bird. The quails need 6 weeks and the body weight of 150 gram and above to be matured physically and physiologically. At 6 weeks and above, they start to lay eggs. However, for this project, birds



d) Evisceration process

were reared until they reached 6 weeks of age and slaughtered and sold to the customers. Feeding of quails was done twice a day once in the morning and once in the evening. Clean water was provided twice a day and the water feeders

were cleaned frequently. The bedding consisted of sawdust and sand and was changed every two weeks. The birds showed a peculiar behavior sometimes, showed no movement and acted as if they were dead inside the bedding! The rearing of quails was really a meaningful practical experience for us. Hahaha! We learnt the



e) Packaging of dressed quails

processes of rearing, slaughtering, processing and marketing the quails by ourselves. Few pictures showing various activities done during the share farm project are included.