

A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE HISTORY OF OSTRICH FARMING IN THE KHOREZM REGION, UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation. This thesis gives a brief summary of the initial introduction and acclimatization of ostriches in Uzbekistan and the territory of the Khorezm region.

Keywords: Khorezm region, ostrich, farming, Uzbekistan.

The poultry industry is a reliable source of high-quality sustenance. In numerous countries, poultry meat and eggs are regarded as significant food commodities [1], [4], [5]. Chicken flesh and eggs are the primary products of commercial poultry production in Uzbekistan. Meanwhile, the production of ostriches in Uzbekistan has garnered a growing amount of attention since 2012. The local market in Uzbekistan has yet to experience significant demand for ostrich products, as there is a lack of knowledge and experience regarding the cultivation and maintenance of ostriches within domesticated environments. An increased knowledge of poultry production, the lower expense, and the quality of the meat [1] among poultry producers in Uzbekistan provide good reasons for developing the ostrich market in Uzbekistan.

Permits for the breeding and rearing of ostriches were given to some businessmen and farmers, making the beginning of ostrich farming in the Khorezm region of Uzbekistan.

Live bird exports are profitable for exporting nations, despite criticism that they create competition with importing nations because their prices are higher than those of the local market climate [2].

Similar to other countries, a large number of ostriches can be found in Fergana in Uzbekistan. Ostrich breeding was established in local conditions at the Uzbekistan-Great Britain joint venture “STRAUS FARM” in the Rishton district of the Fergana region in about 2015 [6]. The main activities of the farm are the industrial breeding of ostriches, the incubation of ostrich eggs, and the production of meat and leather. The company is focused on producing high-quality, dietary meat and leather. However, according to the information given on the internet, commercial interest in ostriches in Uzbekistan started in 2012. A farmer, Bakhtiyor Hakimov, in Bustanlik of Tashkent in Uzbekistan, founded the first ostrich farm. Based on the data offered by this farmer, before him, some people living nearby this farmer were interested in ostriches too, but the ostriches perished at the hands of these people [7]. One can summarize that before 2014, ostriches were available in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The first ostrich farm was established by a farmer, Bakhtiyor Hakimov, in Bustanlik is located in the mountains. But official data is not available about these.

The first commercial interest in ostrich farming started between 2014 and 2015 approximately in the Kushkupir district, the Khorezm region [3]. The “Ibrat-Ruzmat” farm, which is the only farm, is located on Sputnik Street in the Kushkupir district of the Khorezm region. The farm contains a promenade to walk around and a resting place in winter for ostriches to keep them warm. Initially, on this farm, five ostriches were introduced in 2014 and bred by an

incubation artificially and their numbers reached 30 ostriches in 2020. Then in 2024, these numbers declined due to the unavailability of veterinarians taking care of ostrich illnesses and also the lack of knowledge of farmers on how to breed and raise ostriches in the right case. In Uzbekistan, many farmers have started ostrich farming to make more profits by selling their meat, eggs, and feathers but these aims were useless without caring for ostriches. So many failures are available around the region, including the death of ostriches because of their illnesses, poor food consumption, the breaking of their legs, or other reasons.

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