**HYBRID BROWN EGG LAYER**

**Red Sex-Link**

The Red Sex-Link is a top performing brown/red hybrid. Of all our brown egg layers, this is the lightest (about 3½ lbs. at 18 weeks and about 4½ to 5 lbs. after a year of laying), and the best feed converter, meaning it will cost you less to feed. Egg production at 72 weeks can reach 305 to 315 eggs. Females are reddish-brown in colour with white underfeathers. Males are mostly white and some may have a few brown markings on the feathers.

This is our most productive and efficient breed.

**WHITE EGG LAYER LEGHORN**

**White Egg Layer**

For customers who want white eggs, Leghorns will peak at 90%+ production and lay approximately 300+ eggs over a 12-month period. They will do this with minimum feed, and will weigh approximately 4 lbs. at end of lay. Leghorns are not as hardy and are more nervous and flighty than brown egg breeds.

**DUAL PURPOSE BROWN EGG LAYERS**

**Black Sex-Link**

This layer is one of the top egg producers of large brown eggs, and performs well in all types of conditions. The females are jet black with a bit of red tinge on the neck and breast. Female live weight is approximately 4 lbs. at 19 weeks, 5 lbs. at 30 weeks, and 5½+ lbs. at end of lay. Males are a dark barred colour, similar to Barred Rocks, and weigh approximately 1½ lbs. heavier than females. This bird’s black colour tends to absorb light, so we recommend brighter or more intense lighting for top egg production.
This proven crossbreed has been with us for over 40 years, and today bears the distinction of being one of the hardest breeds to be found. These birds have a beautiful colour pattern. They are a good producer of quality brown eggs, a very quiet and docile bird in the laying pen, and good for the yard. Heavier than hybrids, live weight will be approximately 4 lbs. at 19 weeks and close to 6 lbs. at end of lay for females. Males are approximately 1½ lbs. heavier. Sexing accuracy guaranteed at 90%.

The robust hardiness of this dual purpose breed and its excellent performance have won wide approval for small flocks over the last 40 years. A very good producer of rich brown eggs, with good shell texture and interior quality. A good producer of eggs and meat, females weigh approximately 4 lbs. at 19 weeks, 5 lbs. by 30 weeks, and 6 lbs. at end of lay. Males are coloured similar to the Columbian Rock X and weigh approximately 1+ lbs. heavier than females.

This veteran of all the brown egg breeds is still available in quantity. For many years, they were almost extinct, as many poultry growers were carried away with the new crossbreeds. Every superior breed will prove its worth in the end, and these have made a comeback mainly because of their good meat qualities, combined with good brown egg production. People in the fly-tying business say that the Barred Plymouth Rock males carry the best “cape feathers” for that type of use. Both females and males are grey barred in colour, with the female being a bit darker. Females weigh approximately 4 lbs. at 19 weeks and 5-6 lbs. at end of lay. Males are 1-1½ lbs. heavier than females.

This popular breed is used in most crossbred varieties available today. Its bloodlines flow in most brown egg breeds throughout the world. It is a good producer of large brown eggs, yet quiet and easy to handle. Both male and female are dark red/brown in colour. Live weights are comparable to other dual purpose breeds.

NOTE: Barred Plymouth Rocks and Rhode Island Reds are more difficult to sex at day old, so only 80% accuracy is guaranteed on sexing (no sexing guarantees on orders under 30). If no males are desired, we suggest selecting other breeds.
This breed is a combination of some of the heaviest dual purpose breeds still in existence. It was developed for those who want a hardy, healthy chicken with firm and flavourful meat. Mortality is very low in this breed, and weak legs and heart attacks are almost unheard of.

The females are a rusty red in colour and are generally quiet, but they are not recommended for growers wanting high egg production. The females will grow to approximately 6 lbs. live weight at about 15 weeks. As females approach maturity (15–20 weeks), they tend to put on fat, so if larger-size females are desired, we suggest a diet lower in protein and energy.

The males are white and may have dark markings on their backs. Males will be 7 to 8 lbs. live weight at 15 weeks.

As males mature they can have a tendency to fight and so keeping the ratio of males to females at 1 to 10 or lower will help. If you raise only males and want to keep them to an older age you can try darkening the pen and beak trimming.
HEAVY MEAT BREED

White Rock Cornish X (Broiler Roaster)

These extra heavy meat-type birds are bred for meat only. Their strength is in their efficient conversion of feed into meat. If purchased as non-sexed, the fighting of the males is reduced. Females will substitute well for capons. Cornish Game Hens are produced by growing females of this breed to 2 lbs. live weight (approximately 4-5 weeks). White Rocks are typically grown for 8-10 weeks, more or less if larger or smaller birds are desired. We will guarantee delivery of 100% live, healthy chicks, but we cannot accept responsibility beyond that point.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (Weeks)</th>
<th>Pullets (Lbs.)</th>
<th>Cox (Lbs.)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>4-5</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>Up To 9.5</td>
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WHY IS IT MORE DIFFICULT EACH YEAR TO GROW THE WHITE ROCK MEAT BIRD?

White Rock growth rates have changed dramatically over the years:

- Average weight at 7 weeks of age in 1957 – 2 lbs.
- Average weight at 7 weeks of age in 1986 – 4½ lbs.
- Average weight at 7 weeks of age in 1999 – 6.3 lbs.
- Average weight at 7 weeks of age in 2009 – 6.8 lbs.

Unfortunately, the White Rock’s increased efficiency at feed conversion has not been matched by improvements in the bird’s cardiovascular system (heart and lungs). Simply put, too often the bird’s heart and legs just can’t keep up with the rest of its body.

The sad result is an increased incidence of flip-over disease (Sudden Death Syndrome or heart attacks), and Acities (an accumulation of fluid in the body cavity) caused by right heart failure (RHF). Flip-over disease seems to strike the healthiest and the biggest birds – especially the males. Most will be found on their backs. It can happen as early as 3 days of age, and any time after this. Since these birds are already stressed internally by rapid growth, they are much more susceptible to environmental stresses than are other breeds. This has made them increasingly more difficult to raise. To maximize your chances of success, we suggest the following.

FEED RESTRICTIONS: Start the chicks on 20 or 22% chick starter. Once the birds have reached 5 to 6 weeks of age, feed restriction can be used to slow down growth and promote a healthier bird. Feed what the birds can eat in 20 to 30 minutes 2 to 3 times per day. *Caution must be used, as too little feed can leave the bird malnourished. A vitamin supplement in the water should be used during feed restriction. Be sure to have enough feeders so all birds can eat at the same time. White Rocks generally take from 2-2.5 lbs. of feed per 1 lb. of live body weight.

GROWTH: The older your raise them, the more feed per lb. of body weight they require. Birds may take longer to grow if given more space to move around and exercise, but may be healthier as well. If you see that your White Rocks are not growing as fast as they should, there may be a health problem.

SICKNESS: Any time you observe a snick or sneeze, or if your birds are looking droopy, you can give them a broad spectrum antibiotic powder mixed with their water. You can also use a “worming” powder/liquid to prevent worms from using up the nutrients in the feed the birds eat. Your birds will appear healthy even if they have intestinal worms, however they will not gain much weight.

LIGHTING: Start chicks with 24 hours of light for 4 days, then introduce a dark period. (Heat lamps must stay on.) When chicks reach 5 weeks of age, darkness can be increased. The period of darkness will reduce feed consumption as well as stimulate melatonin production. Melatonin is a hormone produced by the bird to help the immune system fight disease.

TEMPERATURE: Pay particular attention to the temperature guidelines in the Care and Comfort section of our website. If your birds are 5 weeks or older then add a vitamin supplement in the water when outside temperatures go above 80F / 27C. When temperatures hit 85F /29C you can have a fan blowing directly on your birds.
**AIR QUALITY:** Air quality is very important in the prevention of Ascities. Poor ventilation, extreme temperatures, and spores from moldy litter can all affect the birds’ breathing. In chilly weather, it is better to supply extra heat and open a window than to subject the birds to a stuffy room with insufficient oxygen. If you have damp or wet litter/bedding, when the birds huddle together at night their body heat will react with the wet litter and cause poor air quality.

**AN ALTERNATIVE:** Consider raising our Frey’s Special Dual Purpose breed. They won’t grow as big or as fast as the White Rocks, but you should experience lower mortality and few health problems. Because the Frey’s Special Dual Purpose birds grow more slowly, many people find their meat to be firmer and more flavourful than that of the White Rock. However, if you have raised White Rocks in the past, then understand that you will not get close to the size of the White Rocks.

**TURKEYS:**

**LARGE WHITE TURKEYS**

Large White Turkeys are the fastest growing and most feed efficient turkeys. They can grow to tremendous size, however keeping them for longer than 18 weeks will decrease their feed efficiency.

Turkeys are very delicate and require careful attention to all details in the first few weeks of life. Turkeys can be processed as early as 10 weeks of age.

**APPROXIMATE LIVE WEIGHTS OF LARGE WHITE TURKEYS**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (Weeks)</th>
<th>Hens (Lbs.)</th>
<th>Turkeys (Lbs.)</th>
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For turkeys 18 weeks or less, the process weights will be approximately 75% of the live weight and breast meat approximately 30% of that. It takes approximately 2.5 lbs. of feed for lb. of live weight.

**ORLOPP BRONZE TURKEYS**

These are premium broad breastened Bronze Turkeys available for the niche market. Excellent confirmation, high meat quality, natural fat layering and beautiful bronze feathering.

**APPROXIMATE LIVE WEIGHTS OF ORLOPP BRONZE TURKEYS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (Weeks)</th>
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<th>Turkeys (Lbs.)</th>
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These were weights achieved on a trial - actual weights will vary with environment, health and feeding programs.
For more information go to [www.orloppbronze.com](http://www.orloppbronze.com).
**TURKEYS:**

**MINICLASSIC WHITE TURKEYS**

The MiniCLASSIC may be small in stature, but big in everything that counts. This special bird has been bred to develop and mature like natural bred turkeys of the past, and this little meatball is sure to impress. For the farmer this means that the Toms don’t grow as big and can be harvested more efficiently.

This bird can be harvested early without sacrificing meat quantity or quality. It is a perfect complement to any specialized or free-range operation, and thrives under those conditions. For the consumer who wants a small, organic, locally-grown bird for a special occasion, they won’t find anything that compares to the MiniCLASSIC.

**ARTISAN GOLD TURKEYS**

The Artisan Gold is a rare breed that is smaller in size and slow growing. It has black feathers, unique colouring in the face and feet, long black legs, and a pronounced beak. It has natural tendencies such as roaming and roosting, and others a robust, gamey taste that is exotically different from traditional turkeys.

**TURKEY CARE**

**Care Considerations For Raising Turkeys**

**WATER:** When turkeys are young, water should always be lukewarm or the poult can catch a chill from it. Keep clean, fresh water in front of them at all times, dipping their beaks in it when you first put them down in the pen.

**FEED:** Use 28% Medicated Turkey Starter for 4 weeks. Consult your local feed supplier for a feed program. Put feed in chick box lids, shallow pans, egg flats, paper plates or trays, and place these around the brooder area. Never make sudden changes in items like waterers or feeders – make them gradually. Turkeys can lose track of where feeders and waterers are located.

**TEMPERATURE:** Use one 250-watt lamp (or a similar type that will heat the floor area) for every 25 poult. Keep day old turkeys at 95º F (35º C), and lower the temperature 5º F (2-3º C) per week to 75º F (21-24º C) at 5 weeks. Allow room for the birds to move away from the heat.

**VENTILATION:** Fresh air must be supplied at all times. If you can smell ammonia in the pen, ammonia levels are too high, and the birds will be affected. Ventilate and add litter.

**SPACE:** By 14 weeks, you will need 2 square feet per bird. If birds are grown to 20 to 30 weeks, they will require 4 square feet each. Do not overcrowd.

**LITTER:** Litter must be at least 4” deep, and of a good insulating material – not too coarse, but not so fine as to be confused with feed. For starting turkeys, it is best to cover the shavings in the brooding area with an old towel or cloth sheet. Do not place turkeys on newspaper or any other smooth surface. Place your waterers, feeders and feed tray or pans around the brood area. Then scatter feed all over the towel or sheet. This will help the turkeys find the feed quickly. After a few days, the towel or sheet should be removed, as it will have become very damp and dirty. By this time the turkeys will be able to identify feed and locate their water. Following these recommendations will help prevent spraddle legs or curled toes, which are common complaints in young turkeys.

**LEG PROBLEMS:** Cold and dampness will give turkeys leg problems, so check the temperature at floor level and keep litter loose and dry. Leg problems can also result from deficiencies of certain nutrients. To promote flock health, a vitamin pack containing Biotin, Niacinamide and Vitamin B12 can be added to the water.

**FEEDING TIPS:** To help attract turkeys to feed and water, place coloured marbles in the water, place feed in foil pans, and sprinkle crumbled hard-boiled eggs overtop of their feed.
Ducks: White Muscovy

Grain-fed Muscovy duck has been widely renowned for its distinctive flavour, firm flesh, and high yield after cooking – Muscovies have more breast meat, smaller bones, and less fat than other ducks. The drakes are about twice as large as the females, so the grower has the right-sized bird to suit almost everyone.

The new hybrid Muscovy ducklings look like the original Muscovy, but they eat somewhat more per bird per day, and grow more rapidly. For the traditional roasting duck with that fine “duddy” flavour, you need to raise them at least 14 weeks. The feed efficiency will drop as the birds get older and heavier, but the improved meat quality and better dressing percentage will make it worthwhile.

Duck Care

Ducklings may be floor-bred (same as chicks), but need more floor space per bird. An area 20 feet square for the starter period.

Feeding & Management of Ducks

Ducks should be started at 90º F (32º C) for the first 7 days. The temperature may be lowered 5º (2-3º C) per week thereafter for 6-8 weeks until birds are feathered. Infrared heat lamps with hard glass bulbs that won’t break if water is thrown about by the birds are satisfactory for brooding. They should be hung 24” to 30” above the litter. Any other kind of brooder with a hoover will also do a good job, but take care to raise the hoover high enough so that the birds won’t burn their heads. Straw or shavings make good litter for brooding.

Don’t use newspapers for litter because ducklings find it difficult to walk on such a smooth surface, and it may even cause them to become lame and go off their feet completely.

The birds should be fed all they will eat of a good duck starter for the first 2 weeks. If this is unavailable, chick starter may prove quite satisfactory if you ensure that it is not medicated with any drugs that could be harmful to ducklings. It is essential that plenty of drinking water be available at all times as these birds are born thirsty and stay that way.

Swimming water is unnecessary and, in the case of a large flock, may even invite disease through water pollution.

Occasionally we receive reports that ducks did not get very big, but we receive many more reports that they did wonderfully well. The difference is in the feeding. If the birds are not properly fed during the first week of life, they will be stunted, and no amount of fattening just before Christmas will produce a big duck if there is not a big frame on which to put the weight. For best results, Pekin ducks should be full fed on a good 18% protein growing ration from 2 weeks until 8 weeks of age. During this period, they will make as efficient gains as almost anything else you care to name, and will have attained nearly mature size. If you do not wish to kill them at this age but prefer to have a more mature duck, you can then ease off on the feeding and gradually introduce whole grain to the ration.

Diseases are rare in waterfowl, and ducks seldom require non-natural feed additives or medications. This makes them an ideal choice for those concerned about food additives. However, there are several conditions which do arise occasionally, and which you should watch for. First, lameness may appear. This is often due to niacin deficiency, either in the starting ration if the condition appears in very young birds, or in older birds because the pasture has become dry and brown. Also, sometimes respiratory problems occur, and the birds have symptoms similar to those found in chickens. Among the possible causes are moldy bedding material, poor ventilation, and viruses. Antibiotics will usually prove helpful.