



WHICH ANIMAL IS

# Chickens or Ducks?

RIGHT FOR MY FARM?



## CHICKENS

A predator-proof shelter with locking doors, windows and a covered run is essential with nest boxes and roosting bars.

Pine shavings (no straw).

Chickens free-range on pasture for ticks, grasses, seeds, leaves, worms and insects.

An unmedicated layer feed at about 16% protein. If younger than 10 weeks give starter feed at 20% protein.

Oyster shell and grit to help with digestion.

Mareks Disease is most prevalent. Also Bumblefoot if the bird is too heavy and Sour Crop.

Meat, eggs, friends

Very loving depending on the breed. Roosters can be aggressive at times and females can be aggressive when broody.

A nesting box to lay eggs in is required.

Colors: Rainbow

Quantity: Some breeds can lay over 300 eggs per year.

Chickens need an area to dust bathe in to keep feathers clean. Provide fresh clean water and a clean coop as well.

### < SHELTER >

### < BEDDING >

### < FORAGE >

### < FEED >

### < SUPPLEMENTS >

### < HEALTH CONCERNS >

### < PURPOSES >

### < TEMPERAMENT >

### < NESTING HABITS >

### < EGGS >

### < HYGIENE >

## DUCKS

A predator-proof shelter with locking doors and windows is essential to protect ducks from predators. A covered run is suggested.

Straw or wood pellets.

Ducks forage in waterways and on pasture for slugs, snails, worms and other insects. They also eat a variety of vegetation and leafy growth.

An unmedicated all-purpose layer feed or a duck feed works for most ages. Feed duckling or chick feed until 9 weeks of age.

Niacin is essential for ducks. This can be fed via Garlic Brewer's Yeast. Oyster shells can strengthen egg shells, grit helps digestion and vitamins.

Heavyweight sheep such as Pekins are prone to Bumblefoot. Ducks are generally not infected with viruses or disease.

Meat, eggs, companionship

Some breeds are more nervous than others. Drakes (males) and broody hens (females) can be aggressive during breeding season.

Ducks sleep on the ground and lay their eggs in nests they construct on the floor as well. No roosts or nest boxes required.

Colors: White, Blue, Black

Quantity: Some breeds can lay up to 300 eggs per year.

Water is essential as ducks are waterfowl. Provide access to a pool of clean water if natural waterways aren't accessible.