

DID YOU KNOW?

The color of the egg is not associated with feather color. Instead, a hen's earlobes will tell you what color her eggs will be. In most cases, hens with white earlobes will lay white eggs. Hens with red earlobes will lay brown eggs.

EGG PRODUCTION STATISTICS

	Eggs/ Year (natural cycle)	Egg Color	Broody
White Leghorn	280-300	White	No
Golden Buff (Comet, Sex Link)	280-300	Brown	Infrequent
Rhode Island Red	220-250	Brown	Infrequent
Barred Plymouth Rocks	220-250	Brown	Infrequent
New Hampshire Red	220-250	Brown	Sometimes
Buff Orpington	200-220	Brown	Yes
White Plymouth Rock	200-240	Brown	Infrequent

WHAT ABOUT THE MOLT? GOOD OR BAD?

Molts are great for older flocks or for flocks producing eggs with undesirable meat spots and blood spots. When a hen molts, she will stop laying eggs and her reproductive tract will have a chance to take a break from production. Once the molt is over, the frequency of lay and the quality of the eggs usually increases.



Kalmbach Feeds is proud to offer a full range of poultry feed, tailored to meet your specific needs.

Our premium All Natural line of feeds produces the results you seek.

- All Natural Vegetable Recipe
- No Antibiotics or Hormones
- Proprietary Blend of Prebiotics, Probiotics and Enzymes to Support Digestive, Immune & Health Systems



ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

CHICKEN KEEPING

(888) 771-1250
kalmbachfeeds.com

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CHICK CARE: PREPARE YOUR BROODING BOX

Preparing a safe and comfortable brooding box for your chicks is essential during this fragile time in their lives. Here are some of our quick tips for managing your brooding box:

- **Clean** the area. Once completely dry, put down shavings or straw bedding.
- Place **fresh water** and **feed** into the pen so it is ready when your chicks arrive.
- Prior to feathering, chicks require our help **staying warm**. (Once chicks have feathered, they can regulate their own temperature.)
 - 0-7 days old = 90-95°F
 - 7-14 days old = 85-90°F
 - 14-21 days old = 80-85°F
 - 21-28 days old = 75-80°F
 - 28-35 days old = 70-75°F

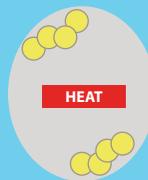
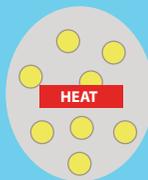
- **Monitor** your chicks to make sure they aren't too hot or too cold. Chicks should be evenly spread out in the entire brooding area.

TEMPERATURE MANAGEMENT: MONITOR THE CHICKS

TOO COLD

JUST RIGHT

TOO HOT



- Chicks should not be allowed outside until they are **fully feathered**, 3-6 weeks of age depending on the breed.

GET STARTED WITH ADULT CARE

HOUSING RECOMMENDATIONS		
	Laying Hens	Broilers
Inside Space	1 sq. ft./bird	1.5 sq. ft./bird
Outside Space	8 sq. ft./bird	10 sq. ft./bird
Roosting Space	~6 inches/bird	Not required
Nesting Boxes	1 box/4 hens	Not required

HOW MANY POUNDS OF FEED WILL I NEED FOR MY FLOCK?		
	10 Birds Small-Medium Breed or Laying Hens	10 Birds Large Breed or Broilers
Starter Phase	22.5 lbs. (0-6 weeks of age)	32.5 lbs. (0-4 weeks of age)
Growing Phase	100 lbs. (6-16 weeks of age)	100 lbs. (4-8 weeks of age)
Laying Phase	75 lbs/month	



ARM YOURSELF WITH EGG-CELLENT INFO

- Young females (pullets) will begin to lay eggs at 18-24 weeks of age.

• White and brown eggs have the same nutritional profile. The only way to change the nutrient content of an egg is to change what you feed the hen. Feeding hens diets high in **omega-3 fatty acids** and **vitamin D** will result in eggs that are higher in **omega-3** and **vitamin D**.

• The **yellow color** in an egg yolk comes from a compound called **xanthophyll**. Xanthophyll compounds are found in forages like grass and alfalfa and grains like corn. Hens accumulate xanthophyll compounds in their bodies when young and transfer that color to their eggs. If your poultry are a breed with yellow legs, a bright yellow color in a pullet usually means she will be a good egg producer. In mature poultry, hens with lighter leg colors are thought to be your best producers because they have used their xanthophyll compounds to produce lots of yellow-yolked eggs.

- Hens require 12-18 hours of **light** each day in order to lay eggs. Many breeds will go through a natural molt in the winter months because the day length decreases. Don't worry, hens will begin laying again as soon as the day length starts to increase. If you want to keep your birds laying through the winter, provide artificial light during the winter months.

