

Insert ministry name here

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food
and Rural Affairs

Managing Poultry Flocks in the North (And Other Places)

Al Dam- Provincial Poultry Specialist

OMAFRA

Al Dam's Contact Info

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What is out there?

Birds for:

**Food
Show**

Chickens

Turkeys

Ducks

Geese

Pigeons

Gamebirds



Buying chicks/poults/ducklings/goslings (day olds)

- Readily available at TSC, Coop, Feed Dealer, Local Broker Dealers- hatcheries, etc.
- Purchasing breaks a disease cycle
- Vaccinated? You need to ask
- Sure bet you know what you get
- Bond easily
- Start fresh

- Can get sexed or unsexed chicks-
 - Cockerels are males
 - Pullets are females

Ready-to-Lay Hens

- Can be purchased from Bonnie's, Frey's, Pullets Plus etc
- 18 week old hens that are starting to lay eggs
- These hens will have a full spectrum of vaccinations. (Marek's, New Castle, Infectious Laryngotracheitis, Fowl Cholera, Etc)
- Gives you the strongest hen you can get with full spectrum of protection.

Meat Breeds

Raising your own-
taste preference

These birds
demonstrate:

Grow and feather
rapidly

Reach weight quickly

Broad breasted

White feather for
clean picking





Family Food Program

300 broilers/person/premise/year
Just under 15,000 Registered
previous 4 years
2020 had almost 22,000
registered





Under the CFO Artisanal Chicken program, non-quota holding farmers who wish to grow between 600 and 3000 chickens each year can partner with independent processors to provide Artisanal Chicken for select identified markets.

SPECIALTY BREEDS CHICKEN PROGRAM

The new program specifies that two common breeds of specialty chicken will now be included under this program: **Frey's Special Dual Purpose** chicken and **Silkie** chicken.





Farmers entering this program will be required to acquire between 1,000 and 10,000 units of production quota. This will allow farmers to produce 6,000 to 60,000 birds/year



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Dual Purpose Breeds

Best of both worlds- eggs and meat

These birds do not lay as well or grow as fast as meat birds

Good compromise- classic backyard chicken

Barred Rock, Rhode Island Red



Laying Hen Management

- Approx every 25 hours an egg is produced
- The process starts out as a yolk is released into the funnel of the oviduct - ovulation.
- Usually 1 hour after first egg is laid.
- The yolk travels through the oviduct, is encased in various layers of egg white, wrapped in protective membranes, sealed within a shell, and finally enveloped in a fast drying fluid coating called the bloom or cuticle.

Rate of Lay

- One laying cycle is called a clutch
- This is variable on each hen
- As the hen gets older her eggs get bigger
- Leghorns begin laying at 18-22 wks 250-280 eggs in the 1st yr
- Brown egg hybrids-
 - Red sex link- 250-260 eggs-
 - Black sex link – 16 wks- 240 eggs – larger eggs though
 - Start out with a few eggs and as maturity happens more eggs- bigger

The FLAWSS of Poultry Production

- F Feed
- L Light
- A Air
- W Water
- S Space
- S Sanitation

Recommended Floor Space for Small Flock Poultry

	Age (weeks)	Floor Space (square feet)	Feeder Space (inches)
Chicks and Poult	0 to 6	0.8 to 1.0	1.0 to 1.6
Chicks and Poult	6 to 12	1.0 to 2.0	1.6 to 2.4
Roasters, Pullets and Turkeys	12 to 20	2.0 to 4.0	2.0 to 2.8
White Egg Layers	>20 weeks	2.5 to 3.0	2.8 to 3.9
Brown Egg Layers	>20 weeks	3.0 to 3.5	2.8 to 3.9
Turkeys	>20 weeks	4.0 to 5.0	4.1 to 4.8
Ducks	>20 weeks	4.0 (plus yard)	2.8 to 3.9
Geese	>20 weeks	5.0 (plus yard)	2.8 to 3.9

Courtesy of Wallenstein Feed and Supply

Pests and Predators



Identification

- Remember Dime and Quarter...



Norway Rat



House Mouse



Want to Learn More?



- CFO/OMAFRA with help from Poultry Industry Council to put on 3 nights of poultry
- July 7, 14, 21 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm
- Everything you would want to learn about poultry!
- Details will be on www.artisanalchicken.ca and www.poultryindustrycouncil.ca



Transport **Food**

Preparing for your birds **Lighting**

Air **What you can own**

Bio-security **Water**

How birds get sick **Sanitation**

Wildlife Compensation **Space**

Laying hens

Culling **Questions?**

Disposal

Questions?

