

- Eggs of these birds are brown in colour and lays about 130-150 eggs per annum.

Gramapriya

- The Gramapriya chicken is a multi-colored layer chicken breed developed by the Project Directorate on Poultry based in Hyderabad.



Gramapriya male and female

- They are very hardy and their livability is very high.
- They are good for eggs production and considered as a good dual-purpose breed. They.
- It is best suited for the preparation of 'Tandoori' type dishes.
- There are actually two varieties of Gramapriya chicken namely white and colored variety.

- The white variety is very good for eggs production, and the colored variety is considered as a dual-purpose breed.
- The white variety can lay up to 200-225 eggs in 72 weeks.
- While the colored variety lays less eggs than the white variety.
- The colored variety has promising multi-colored feature pattern and longer shanks.
- They have lower predator threat; moderate body weight, better dual-purpose birds and they produce brown colored eggs.

Kadakhnath

- The original name of the breed is seems to be Kalamasi (a fowl with black flesh).



Kadakhnath male and female

- The eggs are light brown.
- The skin, beak, shanks, toes and soles of feet are slate like in colour. The comb, wattles and tongue are purple.
- Varying degrees of black colours are also seen in the skeletal muscles, tendons, nerves, meninges, brain etc.
- The flesh although repulsive to look at, is delicious.

- A medium layer lays about 60-80 eggs per year.

CARI Nirbheek

- Developed for free range as well as backyard poultry production.
- These are very active birds, large in size, aggressive in nature with high stamina and majestic gait.
- They are able to save themselves from predators due to their fighting characters and activeness.
- They are also adapted to all climatic zones of the country for backyard production.
- Annual egg production is 192 and egg weight at 40 week is 50g

Brooding of the chicks : Brooding is the management of chicks from one day old to about 8 weeks of age, and it involves the provision of heat and other necessary care during chicks' early growing period. Newly hatched chicks do not have the mechanisms to regulate their own body temperature; chicks may die if temperature is not kept at the optimum. Failure to provide heat from external sources leads to the chicks not taking adequate feed and water and this causes slow growth and poor development of organs.

There are two types of brooding, natural (broody hen provides all the warmth required for the chicks) and artificial (box brooder, electricity brooding, gas brooding etc). Heat source as brooding is provided till 4-8weeks of age in the range 2 watts/chick.

Housing management : A house is the most important component in poultry production. Poultry houses should protect birds from extreme weather, predators, theft etc. Housing helps in better management e.g. Feeding, Disease control, Breeding etc. House should be located away from residential and industrial area. It should be located in an elevated area and there should not be any water logging. Proper ventilation should be there in order to provide clean air, remove excess heat and harmful gases.

Feeding management : Chickens are omnivores. They can enjoy a diet of seeds, grains, leaves, and insects. They naturally scratch or forage for food. Chickens raised in backyards are often fed commercially produced feeds, which are sold in pellets, mash, or crumbs. This feed usually consists of corn, grains, oat, soybeans, grit (which is ground oyster shell or limestone), and poultry vitamin supplements. Young chickens, both male and female, require more protein for sufficient growth and development. Feeding can be conducted with a feeder, a container which holds the feed for the birds. The feed can be distributed in limited quantities for a certain number of feeding times throughout the day, or the feed can be available in unlimited quantities which would be available at all times.

Free range management : Backyard Poultry birds can be let loose in the backyard for scavenging when they attain 6 weeks of age having body weight of 400-500g. Birds are let out for scavenging/ foraging during day time and they are being kept in the cages/ shelter in the night hours with utmost care. They usually eat on foraging and different cereals like bajra, jowar, broken rice etc. can also be provided in the evening time to meet the diet requirements and for better production. Calcium supplements like shell grits, lime powder also can be supplied as a source of calcium.

Health management : Inadequate ventilation of poultry houses results in a build-up of ammonia gas from poultry faeces, which contain urea. This can predispose the poultry to respiratory disorders, such as sneezing, running eyes and mucous discharges from the mouth. Providing good ventilation easily prevents this. Most of the economically important disease of poultry is infectious and contagious therefore, it may spread from sick birds to healthy birds through carriers, direct contact, intermediate hosts, contaminated litter etc. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of contaminated equipment and poultry appliances should be done. Proper vaccination schedule should be followed. Feeding should be done properly. Wet feed predisposes the growth of mould in it. The key factors to improve the health status of the flock are hygiene and bio security. Also through the collective implementation of bio security, disinfection, sanitization and effective vaccination programme.

| Sl.No. | Age | Vaccine | Route |
|--------|--|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | 0 th day | MD Vaccine | S/C |
| 2 | 7 th day | Lasota | Ocular |
| 3 | 14 th day | IBD | Ocular |
| 4 | 21 st day | Lasota booster dose | Water |
| 5 | 6 th – 8 th week | Fowl pox | S/C or wing web |
| 6 | 13 th week | R ₂ B | I/M |

Supply

Fertile eggs; Eggs of the backyard poultry/ desi birds will be brown in colour and is always in a demand. Price of backyard poultry egg is Rs.120/dozen and eggs of ornamental birds are Rs 60/ dozen. This is available in ICAR-CCARI and can be procure in all the working days.

Chicks: The price of a day old back yard poultry chicks varies with breed. Backyard breeds costs Rs.20/ chick and Rs.10 is added up in every week till 8th week of age whereas for Kadakhnath it is Rs.40/chick in the 0th day and Rs. 5 is added up in every week till 8th week of age.

Poultry: A component in Agro-eco-tourism



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Introduction:

Agro-eco-tourism is the new value added agricultural business for improving the incomes and economic viability of the small scale farms in rural community. It also offers the chance to the farmers for interactions with new acquaintances, extend a strong links with new group of peoples etc. Social skills and a scenic clean and attractive farm are crucial for success in agro ecotourism. There will be a harmonious integration of diversified farming activities with tourism for sustainable economic returns and ecology, local employment generation, delivering aesthetic goods and services, environmental protection and management, community and infrastructure development and socio economic transformation.

Animals, birds farms and nature are the few things agro-eco-tourism offers to the tourists to see. This provides a peace and relief from stress at less expense, less travel, and recreation costs by organizing in a more integrated way using the local resources and local folklore to attract the tourists.

Poultry in agro eco tourism:

Poultry is an important component for rural community since it provides supplementary income in shortest period with minimum capital investment. Simple in operation and ensure availability of eggs and meat even in remote areas also(ATM). Since most of the birds are backyard birds they got better adaptability and protect themselves from predators. Usually they are very active in pest control and provide manures for the field. The poultry keeping offers enjoyment and relaxation besides acting as source of fresh, healthy meat and eggs. It provides entertainment and education for children, as pets.

The poultry varieties suitable for agro-ecotourism are ornamental/fancy birds and backyard/rural ones. They make the atmosphere livable besides providing supplementary income and environmental benefits as well. Few breeds/varieties is named as follows:

Ornamental/ fancy birds suitable for agro- eco- tourism:

Fancy birds are miniature breeds and also known as light breeds or bantams. They are usually very docile, gentle and very friendly to the humans. They have an attractive appearance which is an eye catching visual treat for the tourists. Some are with caps on the head, some have silver or golden/silkie feathers, some with sprout surplus feathers around or on their heads or feet which makes them look absolutely amazing. These birds are often reared as ornamental birds though some are good layers and good meat producing birds. Even though some fancy birds are good layers most of them are non sitters (poor brooders). The different varieties are silkie, Millie fleur, polish cap and frizzle etc.

Silkie –Satin fluffy:

- Also known as Silky or furry chicken.
- Origin is from China.
- Silkies are very gentle, friendly and have amazing little personality with a stunning appearance which makes them a great pet.
- Body of the Silkie is tinny with an attractive color of the feather that makes people to fall in love with them.
- Has been used as medicine for warming the body and strengthens the immune system. Also good for woman fertility.



A pair of silkie bird

- Have a black skin and bones due to hyper pigmentation with blue earlobes, comb is of walnut type and has five toes.
- Produce 100-120 cream or tinted eggs/annum.
- Meat of this variety posses Carnitine (anti aging property).
- Male weighs around 900-1000g & female weighs around 750-850g.

Frizzle:

- A friendly and hardy ornamental chicken originated from Asia.
- Also known as curly chicken - over-frizzled", with brittle feathers resembling pipe-cleaners.
- They have a short strong beak yellow/horn in color; eyes are bright and red in shade.
- Egg production is 120-150 eggs/annum.
- Male weighs around 3.2-3.6kg and females weighs 2.25-2.7kg.



Belgian Millie Fleur - Living flowers of the garden:

- Also known as Barbu d' Uccle / booted bantam.
- Originated from Belgium.
- A very delightful and talkative bird with red/orange eyes.
- Each bird has a muff and beard which extend around the head, giving the appearance of an 'owl head'.
- Egg production is 150-200/ annum.
- Colour of the egg is white or tinted.
- There are 7 colour varieties of these birds such as, mille fleur, porcelain, white and Black, Golden Neck, Mottled and lavender.



A pair of BELGIAN MILLE FLEUR (BROWN)



A pair of BELGIAN MILLE FLEUR (WHITE)



A pair of BELGIAN MILLE FLEUR (BLACK)



Polish cap:

- Also known as Paduan/ Tophats.
- Origin is from Poland/ Netherland.
- Have a magnificent crest of feathers, which often resembles a hat that covers almost the entire head of the bird (Pom-Pom Hairdo).
- The temperament of this chicken is friendly, easily handled and shy.
- And the plumage colours vary depending on the colour varieties. Bearded White, Bearded Silver, Bearded Golden, Bearded Buff Laced, White Crested Black, Non-Bearded White, Non-Bearded Buff Laced, Non-Bearded Golden, Non-Bearded Silver etc. are some of the colour varieties.
- Polish roosters weight about 2.75 kg and hens about 2 kg. And the bantam roosters weight about 0.85 kg and hens about 0.74 kg.



A pair of POLISH CAP (WHITE)



A pair of POLISH CAP (BLACK)

Rural poultry breeds suitable for Agro-eco tourism...

Vanaraja

- A dual purpose variety developed by the ICAR-Directorate of Poultry Research Hyderabad



Vanaraja male and female

- Has a very attractive colour and plumage patterns which closely resembles the desi fowl.
- It has better immune status against common poultry diseases and is adaptable to the backyard rearing.
- The general resistance to common poultry diseases and the ability to withstand adverse climatic conditions makes them to perform well in rural areas.

- Due to their relatively light weight and long shanks, these birds are capable to protect themselves from predators, a major problem backyard in backyard poultry rearing.
- Males attain moderate body weight at 8 weeks of age under regular feeding system.
- Females produce around 160-180 eggs in a laying cycle with minimum supplementation of locally available feed ingredients and other managemental inputs.

Srinidhi

- A dual purpose breed developed by ICAR-Directorate of Poultry Research Hyderabad.



Srinidhi male and female

- Very attractive multi coloured bird.
- These birds perform well on low plane of nutrition and grow faster than the desi breeds.
- The male weigh about 2.0 to 2.5 kg between 20 and 24 weeks and females 1.5 to 2 Kg.
- Females lay about 180 to 200 brown eggs in a laying year