

## BACKYARD LIVESTOCK COMPARISON CHART

	LAYING HENS	BROILERS	DUAL-PURPOSE CHICKENS
<b>INITIAL INVESTMENT (VARIES WITH LOCALE)</b>	straight run: 35¢-45¢ sexed pullets: 60¢-80¢ sexed cockerels: 0¢-15¢ pullets: \$2.00-\$3.00 old hens: 50¢-\$1.50	straight run: 40¢-55¢ sexed pullets: 40¢-55¢ sexed cockerels: 35¢-70¢ pullets: NA old hens: NA	straight run: 35¢-45¢ sexed pullets: 60¢-70¢ sexed cockerels: 20¢-30¢ pullets: \$1.75-\$3.00 old hens: 50¢-\$1.50
<b>HOUSING AND FENCING</b>	2-3 sq. ft./bird 1-1½ sq. ft./bird if pasture available 8" roost/bird 1 nest/4 birds chicken wire for pasture	2-3 sq. ft./bird 1-1½ sq. ft./bird if pasture available 4-5 sq. ft./bird if kept 10 wk. chicken wire for pasture	2-3 sq. ft./bird 1-1½ sq. ft./bird if pasture available 10" roost/bird 1 nest/4 birds chicken wire for pasture
<b>MISCELLANEOUS NEEDS</b>	hanging feeders starter feed trough waterers brooders (incubator)	hanging feeders starter feed trough waterers brooders (incubator)	hanging feeders starter feed trough waterers brooders (incubator)
<b>FEED</b>	per 100 chicks: 40 lb. starter ration for first 2 wk. 250-300 lb. starter for 2-6 wk. change to growing ration at 6 wk., to layer ration at 18-20 wk. 100 adults: 24-30 lb./day (1 adult: 85-90 lb./yr.) 2-5 lb. oyster shell/yr. 1 lb. grit/yr. 300-500 pullets: 1 acre pasture	per 100 chicks: 500-600 lb. starter ration for first 6 wk. change to finishing ration at 6 wk. 300-500 pullets: 1 acre pasture	per 100 chicks: 40 lb. starter ration for first 2 wk. 250-350 lb. starter 2-6 wk. change to growing ration at 6 wk., to layer ration at 18-20 wk. 100 adults: 25-35 lb./day (1 adult: 85-90 lb./yr.) 2-5 lb. oyster shell/yr. 1 lb. grit/yr. 300-500 pullets: 1 acre pasture
<b>WATER</b>	per 100 birds: 6-8 gal./day	per 100 birds: 6-8 gal./day	per 100 birds: 6-8 gal./day
<b>YOUNG PER YEAR</b>	none unless incubated low production for hybrids	none unless incubated low production for hybrids	none unless incubated low production for hybrids
<b>RATIO MALE/FEMALE</b>	for eggs: no male needed to incubate: 1/20	NA	for eggs: no male needed to incubate: 1/10-15
<b>LIFE SPAN</b>	1 yr. egg production (decreases each following yr.)	5-15 wk. (see HARVEST)	butcher meat hens at 20-22 wk. butcher layers at end of first egg season
<b>LABOR</b>	feed, water, collect eggs: 1-2 times/day butcher: 15-min. process	feed, water: 1-2 times/day butcher: 15-min. process	feed, water, collect eggs: 1-2 times/day butcher: 15-min. process
<b>HARVEST</b>	first egg harvest: 20-22 wk. 250-290 eggs/yr./hen (drastic drop after first yr.) butcher 1-yr. hens	butcher "Cornish game hen" at 5 wk. butcher broiler at 8 wk. butcher roaster at 11-15 wk. 1 lb. meat/2.5 lb. feed	first egg harvest: 20-22 wk. 200-270 eggs/yr./hen 4-6-lb. adults for meat

RABBITS	SHEEP	GOATS	PIGS
\$5-\$25 each	90¢/lb. 90-lb. lamb = \$81	registered: \$50-\$300 + purebred: \$25-\$200 + grade: \$20-\$100 +	\$1.00/lb. 45-65-lb. pig = \$45-\$65
all-wire hutches, 24" X 30" X 36"	15-20 sq. ft. shed/adult plus pasture 10-15 sq. ft. shade/adult 39"-high, 12"-grid woven wire or 2-strand electric	15 sq. ft. shelter/goat plus pasture or pen 54"-high sturdy wire or 3-strand electric or 52" X 16' stock panel	8-10 sq. ft./shelter/pig plus outside area 36"-high welded wire with sturdy bottom or 2-strand electric or 32" X 16' hog panels
nest boxes crocks for food and water	manger and feed bunk creep feeder for lambs (shearing equipment)	feed bunk and hay manger milk stand and equipment	feeders waterers mud wallow
120 lb. pellets/10-lb. adult 24-30 lb. additional pellets/ pregnancy 65-100 lb. pellets/litter mineral and salt spoons	3½-4 lb. hay/day/sheep, 5-6 lb. during pregnancy and lactation (700-850 lb. hay/year with 6 mo. pasture) Grain: 15-20 lb./year/adult	3 lb. hay/day/goat (540 lb./yr. w/6 mo. pasture) ½ lb. grain/lb. milk produced (500-1,000 lb. grain/yr.)	400-600 lb. balanced ration from weaning to 230-lb. pig (or 1,400 lb. garbage)
1 gal./day/rabbit	2-3 gal./day/sheep	2-5 gal./day/goat	1-3 gal./day/pig
4-6 litters of 8/yr./doe (optimal, 32-48 total)	1.5/ewe	1-3/yr./doe	NA
1/10	1/30-35	1/20-30	NA
4-5 yr.	5-6 yr.	5-6 yr.	one summer
feed, water: 1-2 times/day butcher: 5-min. process	feed, water: 1-2 times/day shear each spring butcher: 30-min. process	feed, water: 1-2 times/day milking: 2 times/day milk handling butcher: 30-min. process	feed, water: 1-2 times/day butcher: 30-60-min. process
first harvest: 10-12 mo. 2 lb. meat/4-lb. bunny hides	first harvest: 1-yr. ewe should produce first litter + 8 lb. wool 50-65 lb. meat/100-lb. lamb 8 lb. wool/year/animal	first milk harvest: 1 yr. milk: 1 gal./day (305-day lactation period) meat hides	4-6 mo. after purchase of 30-lb. piglet 135 lb. meat/200-300-lb. pig hides