

# POULTRY

## Care and Feeding

	Number of Adults	Number of Young	Cage Dimensions*		
			Length	Width	Height
Breeding/Lactation			35 cm	25 cm	35 cm
Growing	10-20	—	75 cm	50 cm	20 cm
Experimental	10-50	—	Variable		

Feeding Recommendations	Daily Feed Usage	Water Requirement	Begin Dry Food Consumption
	110-250 gm	250-500 ml/day	Immediately after hatching

Environmental Data	Room Temp.	Humidity	Light	Litter Material
	21 °C	40-70%	14 hrs./day	Shavings, peat moss or commercial products

## Biological Values

Blood Chemical Composition	Water	Calcium	Sodium	Chloride	Phosphorus	Potassium
	93-95 gm/100ml	—	—	—	—	23.4 mEq/L
	Magnesium	Cholesterol	Glucose	Serum Protein	Albumin	Globulin
	2.8 mg/100ml	—	—	—	—	—

Values are for plasma, except where noted

Oxygen Consumption and Body Temperature	Observed Weight	Temperature	Oxygen Consumption	Breathing Rate	Heart Rate Adult	Heart Rate Newborn
	—	41 °C	—	M: 12-18 /min. F: 20-30 /min	Rooster: 273+ Hen: 341+	Rooster: 243+ Hen: 279+

Hematological Values	Whole Blood Volume (T-1824 dye)	Clotting Time	RBC Life Span	RBC Diameter	RBC Rate of Sedimentation
	60-80 gm/kg	—	28 days	8.2 x 4.5 microns	—
	Blood pH	RBC	Hematocrit	Platelets	Hb
	—	—	2.8 ml/100ml	356 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>	12.0 gm/100ml

Total and Differential White Blood Cell Counts	Leucocytes	Neutros	Eosinos	Basos	Lymphos	Monos
	33 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>	9.1 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>	0.005 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>	0.9 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>	17.6 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>	4.4 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup>

## Life Cycle Information

Weight Light Breeds Adult Male	Weight Heavy Breeds Adult Male	Weight at Birth	Breeding Age Male	Breeding Age Female	Estrus Cycle
2.2-3.6 kg	3.2-4.5 kg	20-50 gm	22-24 wks	18-24 wks	—
Adult Female	Adult Female	—	1.8-2.7 kg	1.4-2.3 kg	
1.6-2.7 kg	3.6-4.1 kg				
Incubation	Rebreed After Parturition	Breeding Life Male	Breeding Life Female		
21 days	—	4-5 years (1 yr. effectively)	2-3 years (1 yr. effectively)		

**Special Handling:** Avoid drafts, noise and excitement. Control lighting according to program needs. Keep cages dry. Fowl have cannibalistic tendencies.

\* Refer to the "Guide for the Care and use of Laboratory Animals" — NIH Publication No. 85-23, Revised 1985.  
Prepared by the Institute of Laboratory Animal Resources, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20418