

APRIL 2025

COUNTRYSIDE FEED NEWSLETTER



ASK ABOUT OUR SPRING POULTRY PROMOTION



IT'S CHICK SEASON!

By Tara Bina/CountrySide Feed Formulation Specialist

We are right in the middle of Chick Days at many farm and home stores! If you are starting a new flock, to put meat or eggs on the table, here are some good rules of thumb for feeding them:

Broilers

If you are getting broiler chicks, plan when you get them based on when you would like to harvest. Broilers typically take about 8-9 weeks from hatching to be ready for slaughter.

These birds can use a simple feeding program. You can start them on a chick starter and quickly transition them to a grow finish diet, or most chicks can be started directly on a grow finish feed. Look for an 18 – 20% crude protein feed for a grow finish diet.

The amount of feed needed to finish a bird will vary based on breed and sex of the birds, but a good place to start for rough figures, is about 25 pounds per bird. For easy math, that's two birds per 50-pound bag.

Layers

If you hatch or buy chicks for laying hens know it will normally take roughly 20 weeks for them to start laying.

You can follow the chart below to figure out what feeds and how much of each you will need for laying hens. Keep in mind, this will vary based on the breed of your birds.

Feed	Bird Age	CP %	Intake
Chick Starter	0 – 12 weeks	20 – 22	2 – 3 #/bird
Grower	12 – 20 weeks	16 – 20	12 – 13 #/bird
Layer	20 + weeks	15 – 18	1.8 – 2.4 #/week
All Purpose	All ages	16 – 18	

If you are feeding an all-purpose chicken feed, then it is recommended to offer an extra calcium source, like oyster shell, to laying hens. Layer feeds are usually formulated to provide adequate calcium for good, hard shells on eggs.

Grit of some kind is also recommended monthly if your flock is confined in a coop or brooder. Free range chickens do not require grit because they can find it on their own, but offering it periodically will not hurt anything.

Contact your CountrySide Feed Sales Representative to learn more about feeding your flock!

EMPLOYEE ANNIVERSARIES

Marissa Glaser
5 Years



Spring Poultry Promotion



Limited Time Offer

Contact a sales representative or our office
for information on available products



620-947-3111

UPCOMING EVENTS

PRODUCER MEETING:

6 p.m.

**Pleasantview Activity Center
5015 S. Dean Rd. Hutchinson, KS
67501**

**Featuring industry updates,
cattle management software,
and livestock risk protection
with American Ag Credit. Dinner
provided. RSVP by April 1 to
Clint Lanning at 620-276-9824.**

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