

Poultry Skill-a-thon Supplemental

This is in addition to the Florida State Skill-a-thon Study Guide. These are basic information for all youth and may or may not be on the Skill-a-thon.

Basic Information

Body temperature: 103° F

Respiration rate: 12-36 BPM

A young chicken from hatch to five weeks of age is called a chick. A male chicken less than one year of age is a cockerel; a female through her first laying year may be referred to as a pullet. A mature male chicken greater than one year of age is referred to as a cock or rooster; a mature female greater than one year old may be called a hen.

A young turkey is called poult. A male turkey of any age may be referred to as tom; female turkey, a hen.

A young duck is called a duckling. An adult male is a drake; and an adult female, a duck.

A young goose is called a gosling. An adult male is a gander; and an adult female, a goose.

Internal Parasites:

Poultry internal parasites, including nematodes (roundworms, cecal worms, threadworms, gapeworms), cestodes (tapeworms), and protozoa (coccidia), can negatively impact bird health, causing symptoms like weight loss, diarrhea, decreased egg production, and potentially death. Prevention involves good biosecurity practices like keeping feeders and waterers clean, rotating pastures, and preventing contact with wild birds or contaminated soil.

External Parasites:

There are three distinct types of external parasite groups that will infest poultry: Lice, Mites, and Sticktight Fleas. Mites have three common types that can infest poultry: Mites, Northern Fowl Mite, and Scaly Leg Mite. Each will cause decreased egg production, rough feathers, poor body condition, loss of weight, irritation to the animal, and possibly death.

True Bantam Breeds

Bantams include both miniature versions of the large standard breeds and True Bantams that have no matching large standard size. These include: Belgian D'Anver, Belgian D'Uccle, Booted, Japanese, Nankin, Rosecomb, Sebright, and Silkie.

Breed Identification

Animals are selected for traits or characteristics that are considered economically important. Though most of our livestock industries use crossbreeding systems, it is still important to consider the purebred animals that contributed the genetics to the composite breeds we see today. A purebred animal is one that has the characteristics defined by the breed registry and purebreds are expected to pass those traits on to their offspring with a high degree of predictability. When animals of different breeds are mated, we call it crossbreeding. Some crossbred animals are now listed as purebreds because they have a set of traits that they consistently pass on and they have established a breed registry. The following are some breeds you should learn. The variety is also listed as that helps to distinguish what you may be showing or tested on.

Junior/Intermediate/Senior



Leghorn Single White Combs



Barred Plymouth Rock





Silkie Bearded White



Intermediate/Senior



Langshan Black



White Cornish





Golden Sebright



Brahma Light



Golden Laced Wyandotte



Senior



Brown African



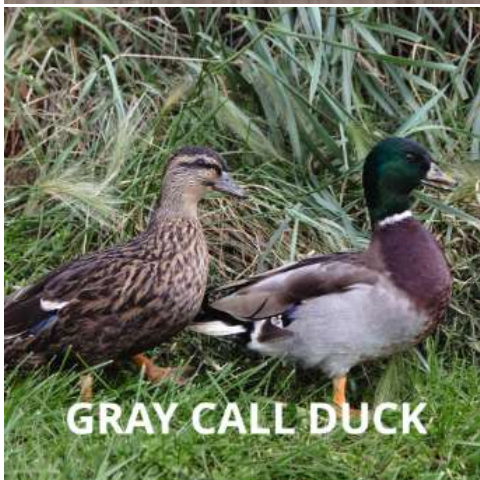
Bronze Turkey



Bourbon Red



Snowy Call Duck



GRAY CALL DUCK



WHITE CALL DUCK

