

















**The Livestock Conservancy**  
**Quick Reference Guide to Heritage Rabbits**

| Photo  | Breed                      | Origin        | CPL Status | Purpose    | Adult Weight M/F     | Color                                  | Litter Size | Temperament         | Mothering        | Owner Experience Level  | Notes  |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|----------------------|--|-------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------------|--|
|    | <b>American</b>            | United States | Threatened | Meat & fur | M: 9-11<br>F: 10-12  | Blue, white                            | 8-10        | Docile              | Good             | Novice                  | Select for good mandolin body shape; the blue variety is the deepest blue color of all rabbits |
|    | <b>American Chinchilla</b> | United States | Watch      | Meat & fur | M: 9-11<br>F: 10-12  | Silvery, white and black tipped        | 8-10        | Docile              | Good             | Novice                  | Rapid growth; good meat-to-bone ratio  |
|    | <b>Argent Brun</b>         | France        | Watch      | Meat & fur | 9                    | Silver frosted brown                   | 7-9         | Docile              | Excellent        | Novice                  |  |
|    | <b>Belgian Hare</b>        | Belgium       | Recovering | Exhibition | M: 6-9.5<br>F: 6-9.5 | Brown with black ticking               | 4-8         | Active, intelligent | Variable         | Intermediate - Advanced | Created to resemble a wild hare, but is a true rabbit; can be a challenge to breed             |
|  | <b>Beveren</b>             | Belgium       | Watch      | Meat & fur | M: 8-11<br>F: 9-12   | Black, blue, or white                  | 8-12        | Docile              | Good             | Novice                  | Select for mandolin body shape; good cold tolerance; quick growth rate                         |
|  | <b>Blanc de Hotot</b>      | France        | Threatened | Meat & fur | M: 8-11<br>F: 9-11   | Frosty white with thin black eye bands | 6-8         | Docile to active    | Good to Variable | Novice - Intermediate   | Meat lighter in color than other breeds  |

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|    | <b>Checkered Giant</b>  | Germany       | Watch      | Exhibition        | 11-12                  | White with black spots or white with grey spots        |             | Active      |                                | Novice - Intermediate  |  |
|    | <b>Crème d'Argent</b>   | France        | Watch      | Meat & fur        | M: 8-10.5<br>F: 8.5-11 | Creamy white with orange cast; bright orange undercoat | 5-8         | Docile      | Good                           | Novice                 | Relaxed personality; ears should be well-rounded at the end  |
|    | <b>Giant Chinchilla</b> | United States | Threatened | Meat & fur        | M: 12-15<br>F: 13-16   | Silvery, white and black tipped (Chinchilla)           | 7-8         | Docile      | Good                           | Novice                 | Requires platform in cage to prevent sore hocks; quick growth rate; large size requires bigger cages                             |
|    | <b>Harlequin</b>        | France        | Study      | Exhibition & meat | M: 6.5-9<br>F: 7-9.5   | Black, blue, chocolate, or lilac                       | 3-5         | Docile      | Good; will foster kits as well | Novice - Intermediate  | Kept mostly for exhibition, but size produces a decent carcass for meat; playful and intelligent; color patterns hard to perfect |
|   | <b>Lilac</b>            | England       | Watch      | Meat & fur        | M: 5.5-7.5<br>F: 6-8   | Dove gray with pink tint                               | 4-6         | Docile      | Variable                       | Novice                 | Does better in cooler climates; slow to mature, but hardy  |
|  | <b>Palomino</b>         | United States | Watch      | Meat & fur        | 8-11                   | Golden or Lynx   |             | Docile      |                                | Novice                 | Fast maturing, hardy rabbit  |

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|  | <b>Rhinelander</b>         | Germany   | Recovering | Exhibition | M: 6.5-9.5<br>F: 7-10 | Black & orange or blue & fawn                | 10          | Active but docile; intelligent | Good to variable | Intermediate           | Color pattern a challenge to perfect; owners train rabbits to run and pose for the show table      |
|  | <b>Silver</b>              | Portugal; possibly early Thai breed before that | Threatened | Exhibition | M: 4-7<br>F: 4-7      | Black, brown, or fawn with silver ticking    | 3-6         | Docile but active              | Variable         | Novice - Intermediate  | Small size makes them easy to handle; seasonal breeders, giving birth in Spring and Fall           |
|  | <b>Silver Fox</b>          | United States                                   | Recovering | Meat & fur | M: 9-11<br>F: 10-12   | Black or blue with silver ticking            | 7-8         | Docile                         | Good             | Novice                 | Rapid growth; fur stands upright if pushed that way and does not fall back like other rabbit coats |
|  | <b>Silver Marten</b>       | United States                                   | Recovering | Exhibition | 9.5                   | Black, blue, chocolate, sable                |             | Docile                         |                  | Novice - Intermediate  |  |
|  | <b>Standard Chinchilla</b> | France  | Threatened | Meat & fur | 7.5                   | Silvery, white and black tipped (Chinchilla) | 6-8         | Docile                         |                  | Novice                 | Smallest of the three chinchilla breeds  |