
















THE LIVESTOCK CONSERVANCY
Heritage Duck Breed Comparison Chart

| Photo | Breed | Origin | CPL Status | Purpose | Adult Weight M/F (lbs.) | Egg Color | Egg Size | Rate of Lay/Yr | Temperament | Brooding & Mothering Ability | Foraging | Climate | Owner Experience Level | Uses and Notes |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------------|--|
|  | Ancona | England | Watch | Meat, Eggs | M: 6.5 F: 6 | White, tinted, blue-green, or spotted | Large | 210-280 | Docile, active | Fair to Good | Excellent | Hot and cold | Novice | Rapid growth; excellent for slug control; can be used for dog herding trials |
|  | Aylesbury (traditional) | England | Critical | Meat | M: 10 F: 9 | White or tinted green | Extra Large | 35-125 | Docile | Poor to Fair | Fair | Hot and cold | Intermediate | Good meat-to-bone ratio; UV will turn pink bills to orange; traditional type can be challenging to breed; need pool to mate properly |
|  | Australian Spotted | United States | Critical | Exhibition | M: 2.2 F: 2 | Cream, blue, green | Small to Medium | 50-125 | Docile | Excellent | Excellent | Hot and cold | Novice | Can fly, but typically stays near home; great for insect control |
|  | Buff or Orpington | England | Watch | Meat, Eggs | M: 8 F: 7 | White or tinted | Large | 150-220 | Docile, active | Fair to Good | Good | Hot and cold | Novice - Intermediate | Light pin feather make for a cleaner dress-out |
|  | Campbell | England | Watch | Eggs | M: 4.5 F: 4 | White to tinted | Large | 250-340 | Docile, active | Poor to Fair | Excellent | Hot and cold | Novice - Intermediate | Premier egg layer; very active; can be used for dog herding trials |

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|  | Cayuga | United States | Watch | Meat, Eggs | M: 8 F: 7 | Black fading to blue-gray and then white by end of lay season | Large | 100-150 | Docile | Good | Good | Hot and cold | Novice | Many skin this duck rather than pluck because of dark pin feathers; can be used for dog herding trials |
|  | Dutch Hookbill | Netherlands | Critical | Eggs | M: 4 F: 3.5 | White to blue-green | Large | 100-225 | Docile, active | Good | Excellent | Hot and cold | Novice - Intermediate | One of the best foraging ducks; can fly |
|  | Magpie | Wales | Threatened | Meat, eggs, exhibition | M: 6 F: 5.5 | White | Medium to Large | 220-290 | Docile, active | Fair to Good | Excellent | Hot and cold | Intermediate | One of the best foraging ducks; drakes have strong sex drive so you should have no fewer than 5 ducks per drake; can be high strung |
|  | Rouen (traditional) | France | Watch | Meat | M: 10 F: 8 | White | Extra Large | 30-125 | Docile | Poor to Good | Good | Hot and cold | Intermediate | Excellent table bird; need pool to mate properly; can be a challenge to breed |
|  | Runner | Malaysia | Recovering | Eggs | M: 4.5 F: 4 | White to blue-green | Large | 200+ | Docile | Poor to Fair | Excellent | Hot and cold | Novice - Intermediate | Active; often used for dog herding trials |

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|  | Saxony | Germany | Threatened | Meat, Eggs | M: 9 F: 8 | White to blue-green | Extra Large | 190-240 | Docile | Fair to Good | Good | Hot and cold | Novice | One of the best dual purpose breeds; slow growing; lean meat |
|  | Shetland | Scotland | Critical | Meat, Eggs | M: 4.4 F: 4 | Black with green-blue iridescence | Medium | 120-150 | Docile, active | Fair to Good | Excellent | Hot and cold | Novice | Small, hardy duck adapted to cold, wet and windy climates. |
|  | Silver Appleyard | England | Watch | Meat, Eggs | M: 9 F: 8 | White | Large to Extra large | 200-270 | Docile | Fair to Good | Good | Hot and cold | Novice | Has deep, wide breast |
|  | Swedish | Pomerania (currently Germany & Poland) | Watch | Meat, Eggs | M: 8 F: 6.5 | White, green, tinted | Large | 100-150 | Docile, active | Fair to Good | Good to Excellent | Hot and cold | Intermediate | Does not do well in confinement; color can be a challenge to perfect; can be used for dog herding trials |
|  | Welsh Harlequin | Wales | Watch | Meat, Eggs | M: 5.5 F: 5 | White to tinted | Large | 240-330 | Docile, active | Poor to Good | Excellent | Hot and cold | Novice | Carcass dresses very clean; great dual purpose bird; can be used for dog herding trials |