

INFORMATION FOR NEW OWNERS OF CHOOKIES!!

HOUSING-

When you get them home, put them in their pen, and leave them to settle in for a couple of days undisturbed. This will enable them to find feed, water, nesting boxes and perching and therefore relate to 'home'. If joining other chooks, you may need to separate them for a couple of days. They may need to be lifted onto the perch the first night or two, don't let them sleep in the nesting box.

NESTING BOXES-

Ideally straw or wood shavings should be in the nesting box and a cover of some sort over the front of the box to give darkness and privacy when laying.

FEEDING-

Feed them high protein layers feed, about 18% protein, as an egg is basically protein. We at Wagners produce an 18% protein layers mash, grain based (wheat, corn, barley, rice) and NO added hormones or antibiotics. If you are feeding commercial pellets, make sure they do eat that, as a day or two without eating will send them off the lay!

Please **don't** feed your chookies anything mouldy, as this may cause a crop infection and eventually lead to death. Most household scraps are suitable if free from mould, and your chooks will enjoy them. They will particularly love picking at vegetable peelings, meat scraps and table leftovers. Clean water should be available at all times.

LAYING-

Chooks will lay on average, 3-4 eggs per week each, slightly more in summer and slightly less in winter, due to light variation. You can help maintain egg production over winter by installing a light in the shed. Turn it on at about 5:30pm. Turn it off at bedtime. Alternatively, install a timeclock will be easier, setting it to come on at about 3am will result in additional light necessary during the shortened autumn and winter days.

DUST BATHS-

Your chickens will love a dry, dusty area of the garden in which to dust bath. This is an effective way to keep them free from mites, which are carried by wild and local birds. We do, however, stock a dusting powder for control of mites, along with other poultry equipment and supplies. Also see our extensive range of fun '**chicken giftware!**

In summer, when it is very hot, please check your hens for heat stress as frequent hosing may be necessary if they are suffering. If you require additional advice please feel free to contact us on the number below.

PLEASE LOCK THEM UP AT NIGHT OR MR.FOX WILL GET THEM

And

ENSURE YOUR CHOOK-PEN IS WELL SECURE and FOX-PROOF!!!!



Date..... No.....Age group.....

Price each \$..... Amount \$.....