



# Feeding

### Key Points:

- A balanced diet is key – kitchen scraps or corn won't suffice
- Use a proprietary mash or pelleted feed in conjunction with corn or wheat
- Fresh greens also of benefit
- Treat occasionally
- Provide grit for good digestion

### Mash/Pelleted Feeds

Chickens are omnivores and it is very important for them to have a balanced diet. Feeding them a diet of mostly kitchen scraps won't give them this which can impact their health and inhibit good egg laying. Feed them with a proprietary mash or pelleted feed. This can be fed in conjunction with suitable grain such as corn or wheat. To avoid selective feeding, feed the pellets in the morning via a protected feeder (it's important to keep the food dry), then grain (corn or wheat) in the afternoon as a scatter food.

If you are giving the right amount of food, there should be a little left over at the end of the day.

### Fresh greens

Fresh greens are very popular with the birds and have definite benefits. If your birds don't free range on grass regularly, give them some cabbage or similar leafy greens.

# Care & Advice Sheet



## Treats

Treats such as bread, cereal, sunflower seeds, raisins, cooked potato, rice and pasta can be given on occasion – ideally in the afternoon after their main feed.



## Grit/Flint and Oyster Shell

Chickens require grit (flint) to grind food in their crop. Some will be included in a good quality food, but it's a good idea to supply some in a separate container. The food will also contain a source of calcium, necessary for the formation of eggshells, but many poultry keepers like to supply extra in the form of ground oyster shell, which can be mixed in (or supplied) with the grit.

## Drink

Fresh, clean water is a must and should be available to your birds during daylight hours. A proprietary drinker will reduce spillage and soiling. If you shut your birds in at night they do not require water to be available then.

## Supplements

There are a range of supplements that can help to maintain good health in your birds. For example, a poultry tonic will help to maintain the balance of vitamins and minerals. Apple & Garlic Cider Vinegar helps with digestive health, joint health and coat condition.

We stock a range of poultry feed and supplements. Ask one of our knowledgeable Poultry staff for advice on the best products for you



### Need Advice?

With over 15 years of poultry-keeping experience, we are best placed to help with all of your poultry needs.

We aim to give you the best advice possible and the best service possible: novice or experienced we are here to help you.

**Contact us today!**