LAYER FEED SPECIFICATIONS

Recommended feed specifications should be strictly followed to achieve the full genetic performance of your layers.

For commercial egg farmers, feed specifications will generally be as determined by your nutritionist or feed mill and be like those indicated below.

For backyard producers, your feed specifications need to be close to those advised. Generally bagged feed specifications are printed on the bag, or on a tag attached to the bag.

Bagged feeds labelled as Scratch Mix, or similar, are supplementary feeds only and do not provide the necessary dietary requirements for layers.

Chick Starter

Recommended Chick Starter Ration Specification.

Metabolisable Energy (kcal)	2900
Metabolisable Energy (MJ)	12
Crude Protein (%)	21
Methionine (%)	0.48
Methionine/Cystine (%)	0.83
Digestible M/C (%)	0.68
Lysine (%)	1.20
Digestible Lysine (%)	0.98
Isoleucine (%)	0.83
Digestible Isoleucine (%)	0.68
Tryptophan (%)	0.23
Threonine (%)	0.80
Calcium (%)	1.05
Phosphorus – total (%)	0.75
Phosphorus – available (%)	0.48
Sodium (%)	0.16
Chlorine (%)	0.16
Linoleic Acid (%)	1.40

Chick starter rations should always contain a coccidiostat for the prevention of coccidiosis.

Pullet Grower

Recommended Pullet Grower Ration Specification.

Metabolisable Energy (kcal)	2800
Metabolisable Energy (MJ)	11.7
Crude Protein (%)	18.5
Methionine (%)	0.38
Methionine/Cystine (%)	0.67
Digestible M/C (%)	0.55
Lysine (%)	1.00
Digestible Lysine (%)	0.82
Isoleucine (%)	0.70
Digestible Isoleucine (%)	0.58
Tryptophan (%)	0.21
Threonine (%)	0.70
Calcium (%)	1.00
Phosphorus – total (%)	0.70
Phosphorus – available (%)	0.45
Sodium (%)	0.16
Chlorine (%)	0.16
Linoleic Acid (%)	1.40

Pullet grower rations should always contain a coccidiostat to prevent coccidiosis.

Pre-Layer

Commercial producers should use a pre-layer ration.

Backyard producers should move from pullet grower directly to a layer ration.

Recommended Pre-Layer Ration Specification.

Metabolisable Energy (kcal)	2750
Metabolisable Energy (MJ)	11.5
Crude Protein (%)	17.5
Methionine (%)	0.36
Methionine/Cystine (%)	0.68
Digestible M/C (%)	0.56
Lysine (%)	0.85
Digestible Lysine (%)	0.70
Isoleucine (%)	0.60
Digestible Isoleucine (%)	0.50
Tryptophan (%)	0.20
Threonine (%)	0.60
Calcium (%)	2.00
Phosphorus – total (%)	0.65
Phosphorus – available (%)	0.45
Sodium (%)	0.16
Chlorine (%)	0.16
Linoleic Acid (%)	1.00

Layer

Commercial producers should follow the recommended phase feeding program.

Backyard producers should use a Phase 1 ration for the full productive life.

Recommended nutrient levels (per kg of feed) for initial (Phase 1) laying ration.

Nutrient	Daily Feed Consumption		
	105g	**110g**	**115g**
Crude Protein (%)	18.7	17.8	17.0
Methionine (%)	0.38	0.36	0.35
Methionine/Cystine (%)	0.71	0.68	0.66
Digestible M/C (%)	0.59	0.56	0.54
Lysine (%)	0.83	0.79	0.76
Digestible Lysine (%)	0.68	0.65	0.62
Isoleucine (%)	0.59	0.62	0.65
Digestible Isoleucine (%)	0.49	0.51	0.53
Tryptophan (%)	0.21	0.20	0.19
Threonine (%)	0.61	0.58	0.56
Calcium (%)	3.90	3.75	3.60
Phosphorus, total (%)	0.57	0.55	0.52
Phosphorus, avail (%)	0.40	0.38	0.36
Sodium (%)	0.16	0.15	0.15
Chlorine (%)	0.16	0.15	0.15
Linoleic Acid (%)	1.90	1.80	1.75

Commercial producers should use a Phase 1 ration up to 45 weeks of age.

Recommended nutrient levels (per kg of feed) for Phase 2 laying ration.

Nutrient	Daily Feed Consumption		
	105g	**110g**	**115g**
Crude Protein (%)	17.50	16.70	16.00
Methionine (%)	0.36	0.35	0.33
Methionine/Cystine (%)	0.68	0.65	0.62
Digestible M/C (%)	0.56	0.54	0.51
Lysine (%)	0.79	0.75	0.72
Digestible Lysine (%)	0.65	0.62	0.59
Isoleucine (%)	0.52	0.55	0.58
Digestible Isoleucine (%)	0.43	0.45	0.47
Tryptophan (%)	0.19	0.18	0.17
Threonine (%)	0.55	0.53	0.50
Calcium (%)	4.10	3.90	3.75
Phosphorus, total (%)	0.51	0.49	0.47
Phosphorus, avail (%)	0.36	0.34	0.33
Sodium (%)	0.16	0.15	0.15
Chlorine (%)	0.16	0.15	0.15
Linoleic Acid (%)	1.50	1.45	1.40

Commercial producers should use a Phase 2 ration from 45 weeks of age until 65 weeks of age.

Recommended nutrient levels (per kg of feed) for Phase 3 laying ration.

Nutrient	Daily Feed Consumption		
	105g	**110g**	**115g**
Crude Protein (%)	17.00	16.20	15.50
Methionine (%)	0.34	0.33	0.31
Methionine/Cystine (%)	0.64	0.61	0.58
Digestible M/C (%)	0.52	0.50	0.48
Lysine (%)	0.74	0.71	0.68
Digestible Lysine (%)	0.61	0.58	0.56
Isoleucine (%)	0.49	0.51	0.53
Digestible Isoleucine (%)	0.40	0.42	0.44
Tryptophan (%)	0.18	0.17	0.17
Threonine (%)	0.52	0.50	0.48
Calcium (%)	4.20	4.00	3.85
Phosphorus, total (%)	0.45	0.43	0.41
Phosphorus, avail (%)	0.31	0.30	0.29
Sodium (%)	0.16	0.15	0.15
Chlorine (%)	0.16	0.15	0.15
Linoleic Acid (%)	1.15	1.10	1.05

Commercial producers should use a Phase 3 ration from 65 weeks of age until end of lay.

Feed Supplements

For commercial produces who buy in feed, and for backyard producers, there is no requirement to add feed supplements to your feed. For producers who mix their own feed, vitamin and mineral supplements are required and usually are purchased as pre-packs.

Recommended Feed Supplements.

Supplement (per kg)	Chick Starter	Pullet Grower	Pre-Layer	Layer
Vitamin A (IU)	10000	8000	8000	10000
Vitamin D_3 (IU)	3000	2400	2400	3000
Vitamin E (mg)	40*	32*	32*	100*
Vitamin K_3 (mg)	3	2.4	2.4	3
Vitamin B_1 (mg)	2.5	2	2	2.5
Vitamin B_2 (mg)	7	5.6	5.6	7
Vitamin B_6 (mg)	5	4	4	5
Vitamin B_{12} (mcg)	20	16	16	20
Pantothenic Acid (mg)	12.5	10	10	12.5
Nicotinic Acid (mg)	50	40	40	50
Folic Acid (mg)	1.5	1.2	1.2	1.5
Biotin (mcg)	150	120	120	150
Choline total (mg)	1490	1296	1296	1305
Antioxidants (mg)	100-150*	100-150*	100-150*	100-150*
Coccidiostat	As required	As required		
Manganese (mg)	75	75	75	75
Zinc (mg)	80	80	80	80
Iron (mg)	60	60	60	60
Copper (mg)	10	10	10	10
Cobalt (mg)	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Iodine (mg)	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Selenium (mg)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

*Depending on feed fat level.