

Pigeon

Pigeon was first domesticated in Libya or Babylon or Egypt. The rock **pigeon** or *Columba livia* is the ancestor of domestic pigeon. Pigeons are rearing for squab (meat) production or ornamental purpose. They are called an ideal couple. They live in pair. Both male and female pigeons prepare nest, incubate eggs and feed their offspring. Generally it is called symbol of peace.

Pigeon	
Species called as	<i>Columba livia</i>
Young offspring	squab

Pigeon is popular for many reasons:

1. Squab meat is delicious and easily digestible.
2. People pet it for recreation.
3. Investment is low.
4. Resistant to disease.
5. Easy to pet and form couple.
6. Needs less housing space.
7. Requires less feed.

Breeds of Pigeon:

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|--------------|-----------|----------------|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Homer | 2. Bupra | 3. Giant homer | 4. King | 5. Loton |
| 6. Giribaj | 7. Siraji | 8. Jalali | 9. Gazbin | 10. Lakka |
| 11. Carneaux | 12. Mukki | 13. Lahori | 14. Fantail | 15. Jecovin etc. |

Common Characteristics of Pigeon:

1. Feather colour: Different colour in different breeds.
2. Average adult weight: 700-800g.
3. Adult age: 20-24 weeks
4. Market age: 4-5 weeks.
5. Marketing weight: 450-500g.
6. Squab production per year: 6-7 pairs.
7. Incubation period: 17-18 days.
8. Crop milk: both male and female produce it.
9. Egg weight: 20g.
10. Egg shell colour: White.

Housing Space:

(12"x12"x12") with 5" corridor and a door of (4"x4") for one pair.

Feeding:

Balance ration with 16% protein. Feed intake range 40-50 g/pigeon/day.

Quail

Japanese quail (*Coturnix japonica*) also known as Coturnix quail, Pharaohs quail, Eastern quail. Apparently quail were either domesticated in Japan about the 11th century or brought to Japan from China about that time. They were first raised as pets and singing birds, but by 19th century Japan had become widely used quail for meat and egg production. It is very popular in many other countries like Hongkong, Singapore, Malaysia, France etc. due to high acceptability of quail meat and eggs.

Why Quail Farming?

1. Early sexual maturity.
2. Small body size.
3. Lower feed intake.
4. High rate of egg production.
5. Short generation interval.
6. Can be used as laboratory animal.
7. Quick return on low investment.
8. Requires less housing space.
9. Minimum feeder and water space.
10. Resistant to diseases no need for vaccination.

Breeds of Quail:

Breed : Japanese quail.

Varieties: Pharaoh, British Range, English White, Manchurian Golden etc.

Common Characteristics:

1. Feather colour: Mixture, black with variation shades.
2. Body weight: 150-180g
3. Sexual maturity: 6-7 weeks
4. Egg production: 260/year
5. Egg weight: 10g
6. Egg colour: Multi-colour.
7. Incubation period: 17 days.

Housing space:

Cage space: (4 x 2 x 10") for 50 quails.

Feeding:

Balance ration with 22-24% protein. Feed intake 20-25g /quail/day.