

Broiler Breeds Selection

Broiler Breeds Selection – Key Points & Guidelines

1. Why Breed Selection Matters

Aspect	Impact on Production
Growth Rate	Faster weight gain ? shorter production cycle, lower feed cost per kg
Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR)	Better FCR = more meat per unit of feed ? higher profit
Carcass Yield	Higher breast/leg proportion ? market?preferred cuts
Health & Robustness	Disease resistance, mortality risk, adaptability to local climate
Temperament	Ease of handling, stress susceptibility, suitability for intensive or free?range systems
Reproductive Traits (for breeder flocks)	Egg production, hatchability, fertility

2. Major Commercial Broiler Lines (U.S./International)

Breed (Genetic Company)	Typical Market Weight*	Avg. Daily Gain (g)	FCR (15? wk)	Notable Traits
Ross 308 (Aviagen)	2.0–2.5?kg	55–60	1.55–1.65	Strong early growth, good meat yield, tolerant to high densities
Ross 708 (Aviagen)	2.5–3.0?kg	58–63	1.58–1.68	Improved breast yield, better feed efficiency under heat stress
Cobb 500 (Cobb? Vantress)	2.0–2.5?kg	54–59	1.55–1.65	Consistent performance, robust under varied management
Cobb 700 (Cobb? Vantress)	2.5–3.0?kg	57–62	1.57–1.67	Higher breast meat %; good for larger market weights
Hubbard?Classic (Hubbard)	2.0–2.5?kg	53–58	1.56–1.66	Excellent livability, strong bone development

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Hubbard?Flex (Hubbard)	2.5–3.0?kg	56–61	1.58–1.68	Adaptable to extensive systems, good for slower?grow niche markets
Arbor Acres (Aviagen)	2.0–2.5?kg	52–57	1.57–1.68	High breast yield, good for processing plants with strict carcass specs
Redbro (Hy?Line)	2.0–2.5?kg	51–56	1.58–1.70	Strong immune response, suitable for hot climates
Indian native breeds (e.g., Kadaknath, Aseel)	1.0–1.8?kg	30–40	2.0–2.5	Niche market (organic, heritage), slower growth, higher meat quality

*Market weight varies by region and end?use (e.g., whole bird vs. cut?up).

3. Decision?Making Framework

3.1 Define Production Objectives

- 1. Target market weight & carcass specifications
- 2. Desired production cycle length (e.g., 5?week vs. 7?week)
- 3. Price premium vs. volume (premium niche vs. commodity)

3.2 Evaluate Environmental & Management Constraints

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