

Domestic ducks are birds raised for down, meat and eggs. The most common production breed for Indiana is the Pekin duck. These birds produce larger eggs and more meat than other breeds. Ducks belong to a group of animals called poultry which include birds like chickens and turkeys.

Ducks live together in flocks. A flock containing only females can produce eggs. However, these eggs will not be able to produce chicks unless a male is present.

Fertile duck eggs hatch after 28 days. Duck eggs offer many of the same benefits of chicken eggs. Ducks can lay around 100-300 eggs per year.

Ducks reach maturity between 18 and 20 weeks. This is when they will begin to be used in the industry for egg laying or meat production.


Ducks produce down. This is the soft undercoating of light, fluffy filaments that provide insulation for the bird. Down is used for a lot of different products including duvets, pillows, jackets, and more.

DID YOU KNOW?

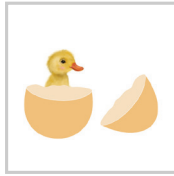
Duck eggs are 30% larger than chicken eggs but can still be used in the same way.



THE LIFE CYCLE

 Draw a line between the description and the correct picture.

A hen lays a fertilized egg.



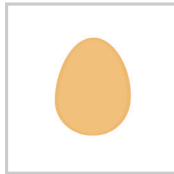
After four weeks of incubation, the duckling begins to peck through the shell.



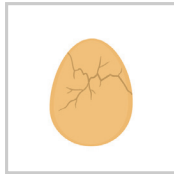
When it hatches, the duckling is wet and can immediately walk.



The duckling has soft feathers called down. These feathers are eventually replaced with more feathers.



When ducks are mature, farmers determine if they will be raised for meat or egg-laying.



SCAN THE QR CODE TO

WATCH A
DUCKLING
HATCH

OR VISIT: bit.ly/IASduckling




SCAN THE QR CODE TO
LEARN ABOUT
INDIANA'S DUCK
PRODUCTION
INDUSTRY.

OR VISIT: bit.ly/IASduckproduction

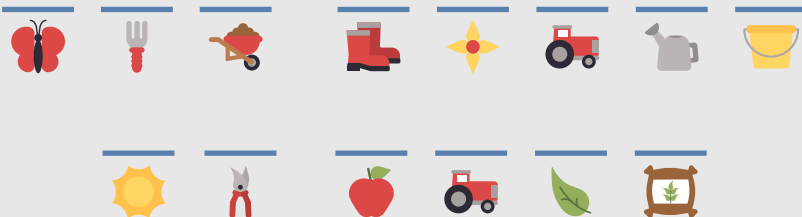
DID YOU KNOW?

In 2024, Indiana was ranked 1st in the nation for duck production.

QUACK THE CODE

 Match the picture to the letter to unlock the code.

What time do ducks get up?



Indiana Activity Sheets are provided by Indiana Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom.

For more information, please contact inaite@infb.org or visit www.infb.org/aitc.



Indiana Farm Bureau
Agriculture in the Classroom