



## Breed Descriptor of Chicken

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal, Haryana 132 001 India

### 1. Ankaleshwar Chicken

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0400\_ANKALESHWAR\_12001

#### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Name of the breed  | Ankaleshwar  |
| 2. Synonyms   | Gowrani, Gamthi, Desi  |
| 3. Background for such a name/origin                          | The breed owe its name to the place where it has been bred i.e. Ankleshwar in Bharuch district of Gujarat. |
| 4. Native tract of distribution                               | State Districts<br>Gujarat Bharuch Narmada   |
| 5. Estimated population                                       | 5600   |
| Year  | 2004   |
| Source  | College of Vety Sci. & Anim. Husbandry, GAU, Anand under Network Project of NBAGR                          |
| 6. a. Communities responsible for developing the breed        | Vanvasi  |
| b. Description of community (Farmers/nomads/isolated/tribals) | Tribals  |
| 7. Flock: Average size  | 5–10   |
| 8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/both/others)               | Meat and eggs  |

#### II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Colour                        |   |
| Plumage colour                   | Golden yellow or yellow with black strips or white and golden with black strips |
| Plumage pattern                  | Stripped/spackled or Spotted or Solid   |
| Skin colour                      | Yellow to pinkish   |
| Shank colour                     | Yellow or black   |
| Ear lobe colour                  | White   |
| Comb colour                      | Red   |
| Eye ring colour                  | Yellow reddish  |
| 2. Comb                          |   |
| Type                             | Single or Rose  |
| Size                             | Large in cocks and small in hens  |
| 3. Other specific visible traits | Small to medium sized bird. Golden yellow plumage is predominant in cocks while |

Black golden is more common in hens. Feathered legs, cap feather and bearded feathers are also observed in some of the birds.

#### III. PERFORMANCE

- |                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Egg production characteristics |             |
| Age at first egg (months)         | 5.92±0.008  |
| Egg production to 40 weeks of age | 61.15       |
| Annual egg production             | 79.35±0.291 |
| 2. Egg quality traits             |             |

Parameter	Average
Weight (g)	16.46
Albumen	12.99
Yolk	5.64
Shell	35.09±0.14
Egg	
Shell colour (%)	
Cream	65.5
Brown	33.4
White	1.1
Shell thickness (μ)	30.53±0.10
Yolk colour	Yellow
Albumen quality	
Thick	85
Thin	15
(% of eggs)	
Albumen index	0.088±0.006
Yolk index	0.36±0.001
Haugh units	83.68±0.02
Blood spots%	Nil
Meat spots%	Nil

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 3. Reproduction characteristics         |  |
| Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other) | Usual                                  |
| Fertility and hatchability (%)          |  |
| Fertility                               | 91.34                                  |
| Hatchability on fertile egg basis       | 92.41                                  |
| Hatchability on total egg basis         | 84.41                                  |
| 4. Growth characteristics               |  |
| Weight at hatching (g)                  | 28.95±0.96                             |
| Weight at 8 weeks (g)                   | Male 551.12±2.57<br>Female 458.58±2.31 |
| Weight at 12 weeks (g)                  | Male 829.57±4.26<br>Female 750.49±4.28 |
| Adult weight (kg)                       | Male 1.759±0.007<br>Female 1.487±0.006 |

5. Mortality (%)	
0–1 week	Approx.10
1–8 weeks	Approx. 7
8–20 weeks	Approx. 5
> 20 weeks	Approx. 10–12
6. Carcass characters	
Carcass characters	Average
Age at slaughter (months)	16.59±0.073
Weight (kg)	1.687
Dressing%	62.44

**Source:**

- Final Report. 2004. Network project on survey of poultry (Ankleshwar) genetic resources. College of Vety Sci. & Anim. Husbandry, GAU, Anand
- Chicken breeds of India – Ankleshwar. 2006. Leaflet No 37. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal

**2. Aseel chicken**

*National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal–132001 (Haryana)*

**Accession No.** INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0110\_ASEEL\_12002

**I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

- Name of the breed: Aseel
- Synonyms / varieties: Peela (Golden red), Noorie (White), Cheeta (Spotted black & white), Yakhub (Black and red), Kagar (Black), Java (Black laced), Sabita (White and golden), Jeekar (Rose comb), Teekar (Rose comb), Reza (light red), Dhummar (Blue dust), Patedda (Single comb) and Kavval (Bearded)
- Background for such a name/origin: -
- Native tract of distribution:
 

State	Districts
Andhra Pradesh	Khammam
Odisha	Koraput Malkangari
Chhattisgarh	Bastar Dantiwara
- Estimated population: 12000  
Year: 1998  
Source: Estimated by IGKV, Durg under Network Project of NBAGR on ‘Survey of Aseel Genetic Resources’
- a. Communities responsible for developing the breed: Tribes of Bastar and Andhra Pradesh and some Nawabs, Jamidars and families of Kings especially the king of Vizaynagram.

- Description of community (Farmers/nomads/isolated/tribals): Tribals
- Flock: Average size: 9.46  
Composition: Cocks 16%; Hens 24%  
Chicks 60%
- Utility of the breed (eggs/meat/both/others): Game/fighting, meat.  
These birds provide recreation and source of income for the tribals. Birds are also known for plentiful delicious and flavoured meat. Eggs are generally not consumed/sold but kept for hatching. Flocks are generally kept for breeding purpose only.

**II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS**

- Colour:
 

Plumage colour	Mostly Red (or Brown) and black but Aseel breed has various varieties having different plumage colours
Plumage pattern	Patchy or solid or stripped or spotted
Skin colour	White or Yellow
Shank colour	White or Yellow
Ear lobe colour	Red
Comb colour	Red
Eye ring colour	Red
- Comb:
 

Type	Mainly Pea sometimes Single (Patedda variety) or Rose (Jeekar & Teekar variety)
Size	Medium
- Other specific visible traits: Small but firmly set comb. Bright red wattles. Long and slender face devoid of feathers. The general feathering is close, scanty and almost absent on the breast. Plumage has practically no fluff and feathers are tough.

**III. PERFORMANCE**

- Egg production characteristics:
 

Age at first egg (months)	6.66±0.06 (range 6.55–7.2)
Egg production to 40 weeks of age	39.56
Annual egg production	65–70
Laying cycle (months)	4
- Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average
Egg weight (g)	41
Shell colour (%)	Brown 63.73 Cream 36.27
Shell thickness (mm)	0.333
Albumen quality	Thick 87.04

(% of eggs)	Thin	12.96
Albumen index		0.07–0.12
Yolk index		0.32–0.38
Haugh units		86.65±1.330
Blood spots%		Rare
Meat spots%		Rare

### 3. Reproduction characteristics

Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other)	Usual
Fertility and hatchability (%)	
Fertility	84.28
Hatchability on fertile egg basis	85.11
Hatchability on total egg basis	73.97
4. Growth characteristics	
Weight at hatching (g)	29±0.05
Weight at 8 weeks (g)	234±0.14
Weight at 12 weeks (g)	408±0.22
Adult weight (kg)	Male 4.0, Female 2.59
5. Mortality (%)	
0–1 week	2 - 5
1–8 weeks	7 - 10
8–20 weeks	6 - 8
> 20 weeks	10 - 12
6. Carcass characters	

Carcass characters	
Age at slaughter (months)	8.75
Weight (kg)	2.66
Dressing%	74.76
Feed conversion efficiency	5.00±0.44

### 7. Any other information

A game bird well known for its pugnacity, high stamina, majestic gait and dogged fighting qualities. The remarkable endurance of an Aseel even during the most critical stages of fight is proverbial as it prefers death to dishonour. It will let its blood flow in a final frenzied flurry of slashing and pecking rather than to turn its tail before the foe.

#### Source:

- Terminal Report. 1999. Network project on survey of poultry (Aseel) genetic resources. Dept. of Animal Breeding & Genetics, IGKV, Anjora, Durg (M.P.)
- Singh, D.P. 2008. CARI, Izatnagar
- Annual Report, CARI, 2007–08.

## 3. Busra chicken

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0411\_BUSRA\_12003

### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1. Name of the breed Busra
2. Synonyms Desi
3. Background for such a name/origin Local birds in the Busra breeding tract are not

known by the name Busra but as Desi. Busra nomenclature might have come from Busrawal – a village in Sakri taluk of Dhule district or from the name of a tree 'Busrawal (Marathi) / Bahawa (Advadi dialect).

### 4. Native tract of distribution

State Districts  
Maharashtra Dhule  
Nandurbar  
Nasik  
Gujarat Surat  
The Dangs

### 5. Estimated population

-

- a. Communities responsible for developing the breed Tribals
- b. Description of community

(Farmers/nomads/isolated/tribals)

Busra breed of chicken is reared by tribal people living all along on either side of boundary line of Maharashtra and Gujarat. 8.6 (range 2–25) Cocks 13%, Hens 48%, Chicks 39%

### 7. Flock: Average size Composition

### 8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/both/others)

Meat and eggs. These birds are reared for home consumption as well as for sale of live birds and eggs.

## II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

### 1. Colour

Plumage colour  
Plumage pattern  
Skin colour  
Shank colour  
Ear lobe colour  
Comb colour  
Eye ring colour

White mixed with black  
Spotted  
Pinkish  
Yellow  
White or Brown  
Red  
Red

### 2. Comb

Type  
Size

Single  
Small to medium

### 3. Other specific visible traits

Busra birds are small in size and have wide variation in plumage colour which is mostly white mixed with black feathers on neck, back, tail, and reddish brown feathers on shoulders and wings. Good number of birds has white plumage mixed with light brown feathers throughout. Some are solid white in colour. Birds having brown mixed with black or black mixed with golden feathers or solid black plumage are also available.



1. Ankaleshwar, 2. Aseel, 3. Busra, 4. Danki, 5. Daothigir, 6. Ghagus (a: Cock, b: Hen)

**III. PERFORMANCE**

- 1. Egg production characteristics
  - Age at first egg (months) 6 (range 5-7)
  - Annual egg production 40-55
  - Laying cycle (months) 3.5 - 4
- 4. Egg quality traits

- 4. Growth characteristics
 

	Male	Female
Adult weight (kg)	1.11±0.06	0.98±0.06
- 5. Mortality (%) Very low, almost nil
- 6. Dressing% 65-70

**Source:**

- Chicken breeds of India – Busra. 2007. Leaflet No 62. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

Parameter	Average
Weight (g)	Albumen 17.65±0.73
	Yolk 9.96±0.73
	Shell 3.95±0.15
	Egg 31.56±1.40
Shell colour (% of eggs)	Light Brown 46
	Brown 27
	Creamy 27
Shell thickness (m)	37.73±1.47
Yolk colour (% of eggs)	Deep yellow 62
	Yellow 38
Albumen quality (% of eggs)	Thick 90
	Thin 10
Albumen index	0.059±0.007
Yolk index	0.352±0.012
Haugh units	73.66±4.04
Blood spots%	Nil
Meat spots%	Nil

- 3. Reproduction characteristics
  - Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other) Usual
  - Hatchability on total egg basis (%) 60-85

**4. Danki chicken**

*National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)*

**Accession No.** INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0100\_DANKI\_12005

**I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

- 1. Name of the breed Danki
- 2. Synonyms Dinki, Denki
- 3. Background for such a name/origin -
- 4. Native tract of distribution
 

State	Districts
Andhra	Vizianagaram
Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam
	Srikakulam
- 5. Estimated population -
- 6. Communities responsible for developing the breed Tribals
- 7. Flock: Average size 16.7 (range 6-42)  
Composition: Cocks 26.7%, Hens 17.6%, Chicks 55.7%
- 8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/both/others) Danki birds are used mainly for game purpose (fighting).

These birds are also used for meat purpose. Eggs are not sold but kept for hatching.

**II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS**

1. Colour
  - Plumage colour Brown
  - Plumage pattern Patchy in males and spotted in females
  - Skin colour Pinkish white
  - Shank colour Yellow
  - Ear lobe colour Red
  - Comb colour Red
  - Eye ring colour Red
2. Comb
  - Type Pea
  - Size Large
3. Other specific visible traits
 

Cocks generally have shining bluish black feathers on wings, breast, tail and thighs. Eyes are sharp. Comb is compressed and is positioned high on the head. Beak is generally shorter and is yellow in color. Wattles are absent. Spur is long and sharp in cocks.

**III. PERFORMANCE**

1. Egg production characteristics
    - Age at first egg (months) 7.37 (range 6–8)
    - Annual egg production 32 (range 25–35)
    - Clutch size (days) 3
    - Laying cycle (months) 4
  5. Egg quality traits
- | Parameter                   |             | Average     |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Weight (g)                  | Albumen     | 24.43±2.18  |
|                             | Yolk        | 16.0±1.34   |
|                             | Shell       | 5.73±0.20   |
|                             | Egg         | 46.16±1.72  |
| Shell colour (% of eggs)    | Light Brown | 8           |
|                             | Brown       | 58          |
|                             | Dark Brown  | 34          |
| Shell thickness (µ)         |             | 40.45±1.40  |
| Yolk colour                 |             | Deep yellow |
| Albumen quality (% of eggs) | Thick       | 10.5        |
|                             | Thin        | 89.5        |
| Albumen index               |             | 0.059±0.002 |
| Yolk index                  |             | 0.275±0.013 |
| Haugh units                 |             | 66.81±2.54  |
| Blood spots%                |             | Nil         |
| Meat spots%                 |             | Nil         |
3. Reproduction characteristics
    - Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other) Usual
    - Hatchability on total egg basis (%) 70–85

4. Growth characteristics
  - Adult weight (kg) Male 3.115±0.092 Female 2.223±0.064
5. Mortality (%)
 

Mortality ranges from 20–30% up to the age of 2 months of age. It is high in winter (up to 50%) as compared to that in summer
6. Any other information
 

This is one of the fast growing, heavy and large sized breed in India. Local people call these birds by different names on the basis of plumage color: - Black colored birds - khaki or sanwla, red color- dega, brick color - parla, white -satua and spotted - pingle.

**Source:**

- Chicken breeds of India – Danki. 2005. Leaflet No 23. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

**5. Daothigir chicken**

*National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal–132001 (Haryana)*

**Accession No.** INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0200\_DAOTHIGIR\_12006

**I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

1. Name of the breed Daothigir
2. Synonyms Desi
3. Background for such a name/origin
 

The breed derives its name from the name of a plant - Thigir (*Dillenia indica*) found in this region. This plant bears flowers of different colours similar to the plumage colour of these birds. The shape of these flowers also resembles the comb of these birds. In Bodo language Dao means bird and hence these birds are known as Daothigir.
4. Native tract of distribution
 

State	Districts
Asom	Kokrajhar
	Bongaigaon
	Barpeta
	Dhuburi
	Nalbari
5. Estimated population
 

Year of estimation	2005
Population	14000
Source / Reference	NBAGR
6. a. Communities responsible for developing the breed
 

The breed is reared by Bodo community.
6. b. Description of community (Farmers/nomads/isolated/tribals)
 

Tribals. Bodo people have a passion for Daothigir birds and prefer its meat over that of other desi birds.
7. Flock: Average size
 

Composition	23 (range 10–60)
	Cocks 21%, Hens 15%, Chicks 64%



8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/ both/others) These birds are reared mainly for meeting the domestic requirements of meat and eggs. These also serve as a cash reserve for the farmers

Blood spots% 9.0  
Meat spots% Nil

**II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS**

1. Colour  
Plumage colour Black interspersed with white feathers  
Plumage pattern Stripped or Spotted  
Skin colour Creamish slightly towards pinkish  
Shank colour Yellow  
Ear lobe colour Red  
Comb colour Red  
Eye ring colour Red

2. Comb  
Type Single  
Size Large

3. Other specific visible traits Daothigir birds are small sized, compact but heavy and have long legs. Wings and tail has black or brown feathers. Neck and back has golden yellow or brown feathers in brown coloured birds. Comb red and erect. Wattles are medium to large in size and are of red colour. Tail is short and almost in level with the back.

3. Reproduction characteristics  
Broodiness (usual/sometimes/ rare/other) Usual  
Hatchability on total egg basis (%) 80–85

4. Growth characteristics  
Adult weight (kg) Male 1.792±0.129 Female 1.625±0.126

5. Mortality (%) Very low, almost nil

6. Any other information Male birds are castrated (caponized) at about 2–4 months of age for fattening. This is done with a belief that caponized birds have faster growth and better meat quality as compared to the entire ones.

**Source:**

- Chicken breeds of India – Daothigir. 2006. Leaflet No 35. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

**III. PERFORMANCE**

1. Egg production characteristics  
Age at first egg (months) 6 (range 5–8)  
Annual egg production 60–70  
Laying cycle (months) 3.5 - 4

6. Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average
Weight (g)	Albumen 23.19±0.82
	Yolk 16.14±0.55
	Shell 5.09±0.21
	Egg 44.42±1.35
Shell colour (% of eggs)	Light Brown 54.5
	Brown 18.2
	Dark Brown 9.1
	Creamy 18.2
Shell thickness (µ)	33.64±0.90
Yolk colour (% of eggs)	Deep yellow 64
	Yellow 27
	Light yellow 9
Albumen quality (% of eggs)	Very Thick 55
	Thick 36
	Thin 9
Albumen index	0.068±0.005
Yolk index	0.29±0.01
Haugh units	76.35±1.16

**6. Ghagus chicken**

*National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)*

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0108\_GHAGUS\_12007

**I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

1. Name of the breed Ghagus

2. Synonyms Desi

3. Background for such a name/ origin This breed might has derived its name from its peculiar sound ‘Ghegu’ and the birds are locally known as Desi.

4. Native tract of distribution  
State Karnataka Districts Kolar Bangalore  
Andhra Pradesh Chittoor Anantapur

5. Estimated population -

6. a. Communities responsible for developing the breed Kulkarni  
b. Description of community Farmers (Farmers/nomads/isolated/ tribals)

7. Flock: Average size 27 (range 10–60)  
Composition: Cocks 11%, Hens 31%, Chicks 58%

8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/ both/others) Ghagus birds are mainly kept for meat and egg purpose

**II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS**

1. Colour  
Plumage colour Brown or black  
Plumage Pattern Patchy  
Skin colour White  
Shank colour Yellow  
Ear lobe colour Red

Comb colour	Red
Eye ring colour	Red
2. Comb	
Type	Pea or Single
Size	Medium
3. Other specific visible traits	Cocks have shining bluish black feathers on breast, tail and thighs. Neck is covered with golden feathers. Throat in some cases is loose and hanging. Wattles are small and red in colour.

### III. PERFORMANCE

1. Egg production characteristics
 

Age at first egg (months)	5.75 (range 5–8)
Annual egg production	52 (range 45–60)
Clutch size (days)	4–6
Laying cycle (months)	4
7. Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average	
Weight (g)	Albumen	22.41±1.23
	Yolk	13.30±1.02
	Shell	4.54±0.37
	Egg	40.25±2.39
Shell colour (% of eggs)	Light Brown	42
	Brown	58
Shell thickness (µ)	34.86±0.70	
Yolk colour (% of eggs)	Deep yellow	40
	Yellow	60
Albumen quality (% of eggs)	Very thick	50
	Thick	38
	Thin	12
Albumen index	0.069±0.001	
Yolk index	0.389±0.001	
Haugh units	76.79±2.93	
Blood spots%	Nil	
Meat spots%	Nil	

3. Reproduction characteristics
 

Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other)	Usual
Hatchability on total egg basis (%)	81 (60–85)
4. Growth characteristics
 

	Male	Female
Adult weight (kg)	2.16±0.25	1.433±0.81
5. Mortality (%)
 

	Very low, almost nil
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6. Any other information
 

Ghagus look mixture of Aseel type and Desi egg laying birds. The birds are smaller in size as compared to Aseel, Danki and Kalasthi but egg production is more than these breeds. Housing of birds is open. Sometimes the shelter is provided under the dry fodder stack which is kept at a height of about 1 to 1.5 feet above the ground on stone pillars. Birds use this space to keep away from sun and predators. Cocks are tied by a rope and steel strips are used on both ends of rope to prevent coiling.

#### Source:

- Chicken breeds of India – Ghagus. 2005. Leaflet No 22. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

## 7. Kadaknath chicken

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal–132001 (Haryana)

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_1000\_KADAKNATH\_12009

### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1. Name of the breed
 

	Kadaknath
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2. Synonyms Kalamasi
3. Background for such a name/origin
 

	The breed is locally called Kala (Black) masi (flesh) because of black colour of its flesh
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4. Native tract of distribution
 

State	Districts
Madhya Pradesh	Dhar Jhabua
5. Estimated population
 

Up to 5 months	Male	Female
	More than 6000	More than 15000
5 months & above	More than 5000	More than 25000
- Source
 

Singh, D.P. 2009. CARI, Izatnagar
6. a. Communities responsible for developing the breed
 

	These birds are mostly reared by the tribals, adivasis and rural poor.
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- b. Description of community (Farmers/nomads/isolated/tribals)
 

	Tribal communities of Bhil and Bhilala
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7. Flock size
 

	5–30 birds
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8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/both/others)
 

	Meat, religious ceremonies. The black flesh is considered not only a delicacy but also of medicinal value. The tribals use Kadaknath blood in the treatment of chronic diseases in human beings and its meat as aphrodisiac. It is considered to be a sacred bird and offered to Goddess after Diwali.
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### II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

1. Colour
 

Plumage colour	Jet-black, penciled and golden. Ranges from silver to gold spangled to blue black without any spangling
Plumage pattern	Solid, Pencilled and Spangling
Skin colour	Dark grey
Shank colour	Grey
Ear lobe colour	Bluish
Comb colour	Black, Purple, Pinkish hue
Eye ring colour	Black
2. Comb
 

Type	Single
Size	Large in males and small in females

3. Other specific visible traits The colour of day old chicks is bluish to black with irregular dark stripes over the back. In the adults, comb, wattles and tongue are purple. The shining blue tinge of the ear lobes adds to its unique features.

**III. PERFORMANCE**

1. Egg production characteristics
  - Age at first egg (months) 6
  - Egg production to 40 weeks of age 57.68
  - Annual egg production 85 - 90
8. Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average
Egg weight (g)	40
Shell colour (%)	Brown
Shell thickness (mm)	0.325
Albumen index	0.101
Yolk index	0.434
Haugh units	87.01
Blood spots%	Rare
Meat spots%	Rare

3. Reproduction characteristics
  - Fertility and hatchability (%)
    - Fertility 74
    - Hatchability on fertile egg basis 81
    - Hatchability on total egg basis 61
4. Growth characteristics
 

	Male	Female
Weight at hatching (g)	30	30
Weight at 5 weeks (g)	225	202
Weight at 10 weeks (g)	544	452
Weight at 15 weeks (g)	950	760
Weight at 20 weeks (g)	1349	1120
Adult weight (kg)	1.6	1.125

5. Any other information Most of the internal organs show the characteristic black pigmentation which is more pronounced in trachea, thoracic and abdominal air sacs, gonads, elastic arteries, at the base of the heart and mesentery. The black colour is due to the deposition of melanin pigment (fibromelanosis). The meat and eggs are reckoned to be a rich source of protein and iron.

**Source:**

- Final Report. ICAR Ad hoc project on Kadaknath breed of poultry. Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry, J.N.K.V.V., Jabalpur (M.P.)
- Singh, D.P. 2008. CARI, Izatnagar
- Annual Report, CARI, 2007-08.

**8. Kalsthi chicken**

*National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)*

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0100\_KALASTHI\_12010

**I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

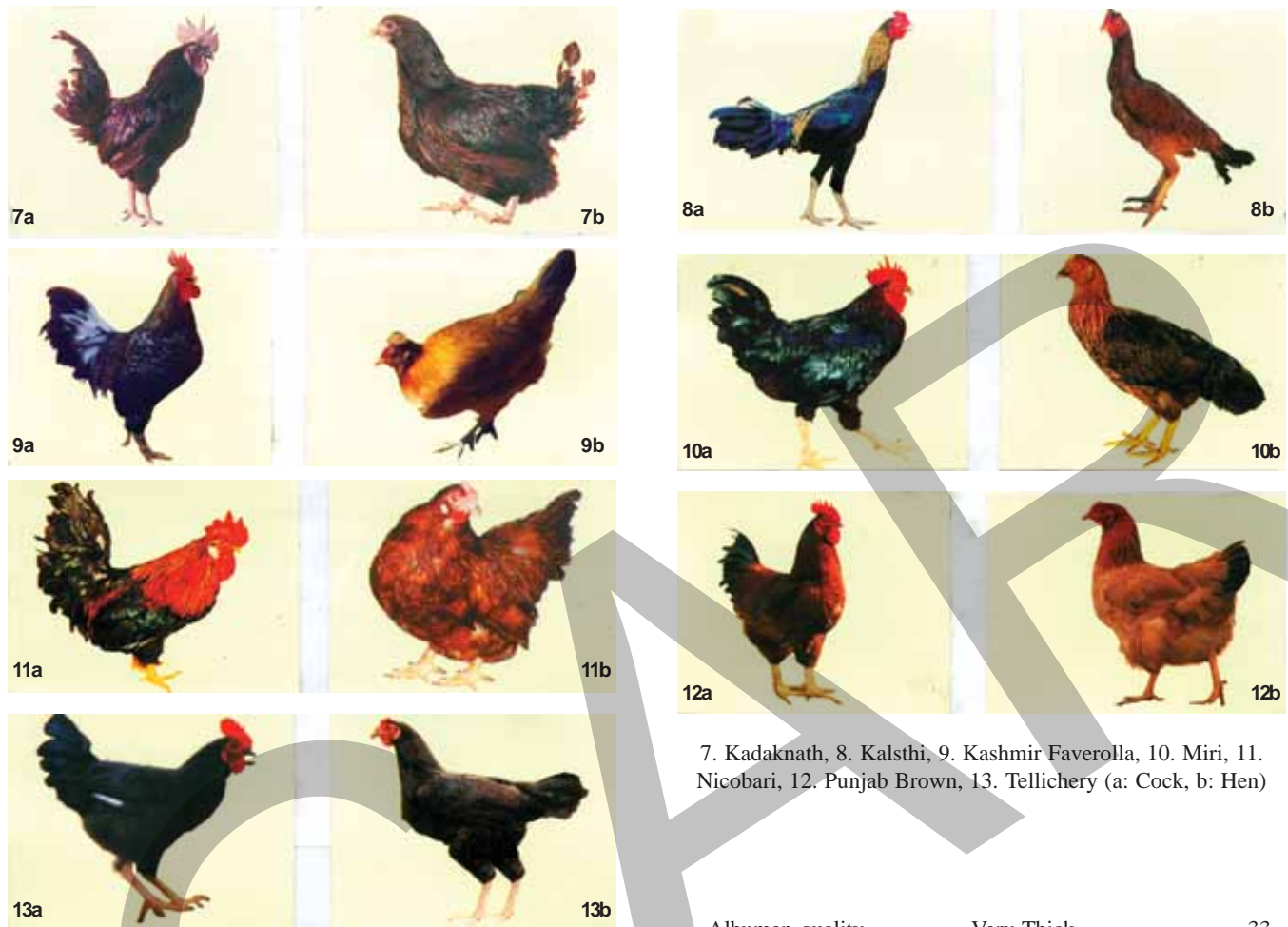
1. Name of the breed Kalasthi
2. Synonyms Desi
3. Background for such a name/origin This breed might have been named after the name of the area i.e. Sri Kalahasti in Chittoor district where these birds are found. However, in the breeding tract, the birds are known not by the name Kalasthi but as desi.
4. Native tract of distribution
 

State	Districts
Pradesh	Andhra Chittoor Cuddapah Nellore
5. Estimated population -
6. Communities responsible for developing the breed Farmers
7. Flock: Average size 13.6 (range 3-53)  
Composition: Cocks 15%, Hens 28%, Chicks 57%
8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/both/others) Kalasthi birds are mainly kept for meat purpose and cocks are occasionally used for fighting. The consumption of eggs of desi birds is very little in this area owing to high returns from the sale of chicks.

**II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS**

1. Colour
  - Plumage colour Bluish black or brown
  - Plumage pattern Patchy
  - Skin colour White or Pinkish
  - Shank colour Grey or Yellow
  - Ear lobe colour Red
  - Comb colour Red
  - Eye ring colour Red
2. Comb
  - Type Pea or Single
  - Size Medium
3. Other specific visible traits Neck is long and is covered with golden feathers. Brown colored birds have dark brown feathers on neck and bluish black or dark brown on tail. Cocks have shining bluish black





7. Kadaknath, 8. Kalsthi, 9. Kashmir Faverolla, 10. Miri, 11. Nicobari, 12. Punjab Brown, 13. Tellichery (a: Cock, b: Hen)

feathers. Wings are dorsally set exposing thighs which are covered with smooth feathers.

**III. PERFORMANCE**

1. Egg production characteristics

Age at first egg (months)	7.2 (range 5–9)
Annual egg production	34 (range 30–42)
Clutch size (days)	3
Clutch interval (days)	2 - 3
Laying cycle (months)	4

6. Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average	
Weight (g)	Albumen	21.84±1.67
	Yolk	16.05±1.02
	Shell	5.02±0.28
	Egg	42.91±1.94
Shell colour (% of eggs)	Light Brown	36
	Brown	45
	Dark Brown	19
Shell thickness (µ)	37.09±1.19	
Yolk colour (% of eggs)	Deep yellow	75
	Yellow	25

Albumen quality (% of eggs)	Very Thick	33
	Thick	50
	Thin	17
Albumen index		0.055±0.00
Yolk index		0.351±0.02
Haugh units		68.81±2.19
Blood spots%		10
Meat spots%		Nil

3. Reproduction characteristics

Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other)	Usual
Hatchability on total egg basis (%)	72 (range 60–85)

4. Growth characteristics

Adult weight (kg)	Male	Female
	2.482±0.13	1.85±0.102

5. Mortality (%)

Mortality ranges from 20–30% up to the age of 2 months of age. It is high in winter (up to 50%) as compared to that in summer.

6. Any other information

Kalasthi birds resemble Danki birds except that they are smaller in size; peacock type bluish in colour and have smaller spur.

**Source:**

- Chicken breeds of India – Kalasthi. 2005. Leaflet No 21. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

### 9. Kashmir Faverolla chicken

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)

A No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0700\_KASHMIRFAVEROLLA\_12011

#### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Name of the breed                                | Kashmir Faverolla  |
| 2. Synonyms   | Kashir Kukkar  |
| 3. Background for such a name/origin                |  |
| 4. Native tract of distribution                     | State      Districts<br>Jammu &      Srinagar<br>Kashmir      Baramulla<br>Anantnag<br>Budgam<br>Kupwara<br>Pulwama  |
| 5. Estimated population                             | 3475000  |
| Year  | 2001   |
| Source  | NATP Project on Animal Genetic Resource Biodiversity, NBAGR, Karnal  |
| 6. Communities responsible for developing the breed | Farmers  |
| 7. Flock: Average size                              | 6.5  |
| 8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/both/others)     | The birds are reared for meat and egg production and constitute one of the major sources of animal protein. It is more important because the commercial poultry farming could not make much headway due to extremes of temperature and increased maintenance cost. |

#### II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Colour                        |  |
| Plumage colour                   | Mixed shades of Black, Red, Green, Gold  |
| Plumage pattern                  | Solid, stripped, Patchy, Spotted, Barred   |
| Skin colour                      | White  |
| Shank colour                     | Yellow   |
| Ear lobe colour                  | White  |
| Comb colour                      | Red  |
| Eye ring colour                  | Red  |
| 2. Comb                          |  |
| Type                             | Single   |
| Size                             | Large in cocks and small in hens   |
| 3. Other specific visible traits | The typical features are feathered cap - tuft of feathers on head. The other physical traits at varied |

frequencies are: feathered shanks, tuft of feathers over earlobes, naked neck, silky frizzle, multiple spurs.

#### III. PERFORMANCE

- Egg production characteristics
  - Age at first egg (months) 6.9
  - Annual egg production 60-85
- Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average
Weight (g)	
Albumen	23.67±1.632
Yolk	16.97±1.763
Shell	5.8±1.4
Egg	45.76±2.188
Shell colour	Light - Dark brown
Shell thickness (m)	0.25±0.007
Yolk colour	Light - Deep yellow
Albumen quality	Thick
Albumen index	0.0678±0.011
Yolk index	0.47±0.036
Haugh units	70.26±11.77
Blood spots%	Nil
Meat spots%	Nil

- Reproduction characteristics
  - Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other) Usual
  - Fertility and hatchability (%)
    - Fertility 77
    - Hatchability on total egg basis 64
- Growth characteristics
  - Weight at hatching (g) 30.43±0.97
  - Weight at 8 weeks (g) 219.1±73.2
  - Weight at 12 weeks (g) 07.74±136.3
  - Adult weight (kg)
    - Male 1.875±0.318
    - Female 1.415±0.311
- Mortality (%)
  - 7.3% up to one week
  - 37.0% up to 8 weeks
  - 62.4% up to 12 weeks

#### Source:

- Chicken breeds of India - Kashmir Faverolla. 2005. Leaflet No 1. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

### 10. Miri chicken

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0200\_MIRI\_12012

#### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Name of the breed                 | Miri   |
| 2. Synonyms                          | Porog  |
| 3. Background for such a name/origin | The name Miri is derived after the name of the tribe |

4. Native tract of distribution 'Miri' who rear these birds.  
State Districts  
Assam Sibsagar  
Lakhimpur  
Dhimaji  
Dibrugarh  
Majhuali
5. Estimated population 1331049  
Year 2001  
Source NATP project on Animal Genetic Resource Biodiversity, NBAGR, Karnal
6. a. Communities responsible for developing the breed Miri tribe (now a days called as Mising tribe)  
b. Description of community Tribals. The "Miri" is one of the oldest tribes of Assam. These are generally riparian inhabitants, and therefore, their habitations are commonly found on river banks- ranging from Sadiya in the Tinsukia district on the east to Gia Bharali in the Sonitpur district on the west. From the time immemorial, the Misings are rearing various types of livestock including poultry which play an important role in the daily life of these people.
7. Flock: Average size 25.2  
Composition: Males 44%  
Females 56%
8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/ meat/both/others) Meat and eggs. The tribals use these birds invariably in their social and religious rituals.

## II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

1. Colour  
Plumage colour White or brown or black  
Plumage pattern Mostly solid, sometimes dull or patchy or spotted or striped
- Skin colour White  
Shank colour White  
Ear lobe colour Red  
Comb colour Red  
Eye ring colour reddish brown
2. Comb  
Type Single  
Size Large in cocks and small in hens
3. Other specific visible traits Naked neck and frizzle  
character is also observed in very few birds.

## III. PERFORMANCE

1. Egg production characteristics

Age at first egg (months)	6.99 (range 6.58-7.57)
Annual egg production	62 (range 54-67)
Clutch size (days)	4-5

### 6. Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average
Weight (g)	Albumen 21.64±0.12 Yolk 15.35±0.08 Shell 5.14±0.06 Egg 42.06±0.17
Shell colour (% of eggs)	Light Brown 62.4 Brown 37.6
Shell thickness (m)	30.4 ± 0.10
Yolk colour	Light - Deep yellow
Albumen quality	Thick
Albumen index	0.102±0.01
Yolk index	0.445±0.19
Haugh units	81.64±0.32
Blood spots %	6.34
Meat spots %	6.99

### 3. Reproduction characteristics

Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other)	Usual
Fertility and hatchability (%)	
Fertility	89.93 ± 0.29 (range 87- 91)
Hatchability on fertile egg basis	88.20 ± 0.44 (range 83-89)
Hatchability on total egg basis	79.32 ± 0.34 (range 73-83)

### 4. Growth characteristics

Weight at hatching (g)	29.11 ± 0.03
Weight at 8 weeks (g)	350.55 ± 2.49
Weight at 12 weeks (g)	579.81 ± 3.67
Adult weight (kg)	1.525 ± 4.95
5. Mortality (%)	10-15% up to 1 month
6. Dressing %	65 - 74

### Source:

- Chicken breeds of India – Miri. 2005. Leaflet No 2. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

## 11. Nicobari chicken

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_3300\_NICOBARI\_12013

### I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1. Name of the breed Nicobari
2. Synonyms Takniet hyum. Takniet (in Nicobari language) means short legged and hyum means chicken.
3. Background for such a name/ origin The origin of Nicobari fowl seems to be from crosses of different exotic and indigenous fowl of Nicobari group of Islands. Named

- after the name of place of origin i.e. Nicobar group of Islands.
4. Native tract of distribution Andaman & Nicobar
  5. Estimated population 7524
  - Year 2001
  - Source NATP project on Animal Genetic Resource Biodiversity, NBAGR, Karnal
  6. a. Communities responsible for developing the breed Nicobari tribes
  - b. Description of community (Farmers/nomads/isolated/tribals) Tribals. The Nicobari tribes inhabit mainly Car Nicobar, Chowra, Bampooka, Teressa, Katchal, Camorta, Nancowrie, Trinket, Pillomillo, Little Nicobar, Kondul and Great Nicobar, where the Nicobari fowls are reared completely under free range condition. Nicobari tribes are most advanced among all the six tribes which inhabit these islands.
  7. Flock: Average size
  8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/both/others) Eggs and meat. Produces more eggs than any other indigenous breed of poultry.

**II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS**

1. Colour
  - Plumage colour Original- Brown matty coloured
  - Developed- Black or White
  - Plumage pattern Solid
  - Skin colour Pinkish white/ yellowish white
  - Shank colour Pinkish white
  - Ear lobe colour Pinkish
  - Comb colour Red
  - Eye ring colour Black/ brown/ orange
2. Comb
  - Type Mostly single, rarely pea type
  - Size Large in cocks and small in hens
3. Other specific visible traits The birds are short legged. Shank length at 10 weeks of age varies from 3.50 to 3.85 cm. They have short and thick neck, breast bulging in front, medium sized tail and long saddle feathers fitting well with tail.

**III. PERFORMANCE**

1. Egg production characteristics
  - Age at first egg (months) 6.63 (range 4.7 – 9.2)
  - Annual egg production 148.7 (range 112-237)
7. Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average	
Weight (g)	Albumen	24.41±0.54
	Yolk	18.81±0.87
	Shell	5.84±0.12
	Egg	49.06±0.91
Shell colour	White or creamy white, sometimes light brown or brownish white or pinkish white	
	Shell thickness	Mostly strong
Albumen quality	Thick	
Albumen index	0.122± 0.03	
Yolk index	0.37± 0.02	
Blood spots %	Nil	
Meat spots %	Nil	

3. Reproduction characteristics
  - Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other) Sometimes
  - Fertility and hatchability (%)
    - Fertility 87.13±3.42 (range 62-98)
    - Hatchability on fertile egg basis 82.07±1.98 (range 72-91)
    - Hatchability on total egg basis 68.87±1.32 (range 60-86)
4. Growth characteristics
  - Weight at hatching (g) 32.61±0.47 (range-25-45)
  - Weight at 8 weeks (g) 238.93±5.62 (range-145-315)
  - Weight at 12 weeks (g) 399.55±4.69 (range-172-465)
  - Adult weight (kg) Male 1.801±21.16  
Female 1.332±22.61
5. Mortality (%)
  - 0-4<sup>th</sup> weeks - 22.61
  - 5-8<sup>th</sup> weeks - 8.21
  - 9-20<sup>th</sup> weeks - 9.42
  - Laying period - 4.26
6. Carcass characters
  - Carcass characters Male Female
  - Age at slaughter (months) 9 24
  - Weight at slaughter(kg) 1.2 0.9-1.0
7. Any other information This breed is adapted to the island ecosystem having humid climate and is resistant to most of the common poultry diseases.

**Source:**

- Chicken breeds of India – Nicobari. 2006. Leaflet No 36. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.
- Chatterjee et. al. 2007. Indian Vet. J., 84:206-08.

**12. Punjab Brown chicken**

*National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)*

**Accession No.** INDIA\_CHICKEN\_1605\_PUNJABBROWN\_12014

**I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

1. Name of the breed Punjab Brown

2. Synonyms	Desi
3. Background for such a name/ origin	The breed seems to have taken its name from its native tract (Punjab) and its colour (Brown).
4. Native tract of distribution	Punjab and Haryana
5. Estimated population	-
6. Communities responsible for developing the breed	Farmers
7. Flock: Average size	8.7 (range 3-15)
8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/ both/others)	These are used both for meat as well as egg production. In Punjab, these birds are maintained both by progressive farmers as well as by poor families. While the former keep these for home consumption, the later sell live birds/chicks and eggs to earn livelihood. In Haryana, mostly these are maintained as cash reserve by few low-income families located in one part of the village. These birds are also available in the slums on the outskirts of cities and the owners are doing a good business because of readily available market.

## II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS

1. Colour	Brown
Plumage colour	Solid, sometimes spotted or striped.
Plumage pattern	
Skin colour	White
Shank colour	Yellow
Ear lobe colour	Brown
Comb colour	Red
Eye ring colour	Red
2. Comb	
Type	Single
Size	Large
3. Other specific visible traits	Males usually have black spots/stripes on neck, wings and tail. Neck is darker in colour (brown/golden) than the rest of the body. Wattles are red, large sized in males and small in females.

## III. PERFORMANCE

1. Egg production characteristics	
Age at first egg (months)	6 (range 5-7)
Annual egg production	74 (range 60-80)
Clutch size (days)	4-5
Clutch interval (days)	1-2
Laying cycle (months)	3

## 8. Egg quality traits

Parameter	Average	
Weight (g)	Albumen	24.355±0.629
	Yolk	16.235±0.476
	Shell	5.412±0.205
	Egg	46.002±1.191
Shell colour (% of eggs)	Light Brown	61
	Brown	25
	Dark brown	14
Shell thickness (m)		0.33±0.007
Yolk colour (% of eggs)	Deep yellow	39
	Yellow	54
	Light yellow	7
Albumen quality		
Albumen index		0.100±0.006
Yolk index		0.409±0.005
Haugh units		82.80±0.980
Blood spots %		Nil
Meat spots %		Nil

## 3. Reproduction characteristics

Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other)	Usual
Hatchability on total egg basis (%)	75 (range 60-80)
4. Growth characteristics	
Adult weight (kg)	Male: 2.149±0.940 Female: 1.567±0.038
5. Mortality (%)	10 - 30
6. Dressing %	60 - 70

## Source:

- Chicken breeds of India – Punjab Brown. 2005. Leaflet No 3. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

## 13. Tellichery chicken

National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources  
Karnal-132001 (Haryana)

Accession No. INDIA\_CHICKEN\_0900\_TELLICHERY\_12015

## I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

1. Name of the breed	Tellichery	
2. Synonyms	Desi	
3. Background for such a name/ origin	The breed derives its name from the name of a place 'Tellichery also known as Thalassery' in Kannur district of Kerala.	
4. Native tract of distribution	State	Districts
	Kerala	Kozhikode (Calicut)
	Kannur	Malappuram
	Pondicherry	Mahe
5. Estimated population	-	
6. Communities responsible for developing the breed	Tribals	
7. Flock: Average size	5.5 (range 2-16)	



Composition	Cocks 12%, Hens 61%, Chicks 27%
8. Utility of the breed (Eggs/meat/ both/others)	These are reared mainly for meat. Tellichery birds are also thought to have some medicinal value. These are used for preparation of ayurvedic medicines for asthma treatment. Its soup is also believed to be beneficial for treatment of anemia and worm infestation.

Annual egg production	72 (range 60-80)
Clutch size (days)	4-6
Clutch interval (days)	1-2
Laying cycle (months)	3.7 - 4
9. Egg quality traits	

**II. PHYSICAL CHARACTERS**

1. Colour	
Plumage colour	Black with shining bluish tinge
Plumage pattern	Solid
Skin colour	Grey
Shank colour	Blackish grey
Ear lobe colour	Red
Comb colour	Red
Eye ring colour	Blackish Red
2. Comb	
Type	Single
Size	Large
3. Other specific visible traits	Plumage color is black with shining bluish tinge on hackle, back and tail feathers. Few birds have golden mixed with bluish feathers on neck. Comb is erect in cocks and drooping on the rear side in hens.

Parameter		Average
Weight (g)	Albumen	20.34±0.77
	Yolk	15.00±0.47
	Shell	4.68±0.14
	Egg	40.02±0.94
Shell colour (% of eggs)	Light Brown	44.5
	Brown	33.3
	Creamy	22.2
Shell thickness (m)		29.22±0.98
Yolk colour (% of eggs)	Deep yellow	67
	Yellow	33
Albumen quality (% of eggs)	Thick	78
	Thin	22
Albumen index		0.061±0.007
Yolk index		0.32±0.017
Haugh units		69.07±3.48
Blood spots %		Nil
Meat spots %		Nil

3. Reproduction characteristics	
Broodiness (usual/sometimes/rare/other)	Usual
Hatchability on total egg basis (%)	70 - 80
4. Growth characteristics	Male      Female
Adult weight (kg)	1.62±0.16    1.24±0.10
5. Mortality (%)	Very low, almost nil
6. Any other information	
Hen makes lot of sound after laying egg. The eggs are tinted and small to medium in size.	

**III. PERFORMANCE**

1. Egg production characteristics	
Age at first egg (months)	6 (range 5-8)

**Source:**

- Chicken breeds of India – Tellichery. 2007. Leaflet No 42. National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.

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