

Araucana

An active rumpless chicken with ear tufts and naturally blue eggs.

Origin
Chile



HEN
1.60–2.00 kg



ROOSTER
2.00–2.50 kg

PURPOSE

Eggs & exhibition

blue eggs and distinctive breed type

STARTS LAYING

22–26 weeks

depends on strain and season

EGG

50–60 g

European hatching minimum: 50 g

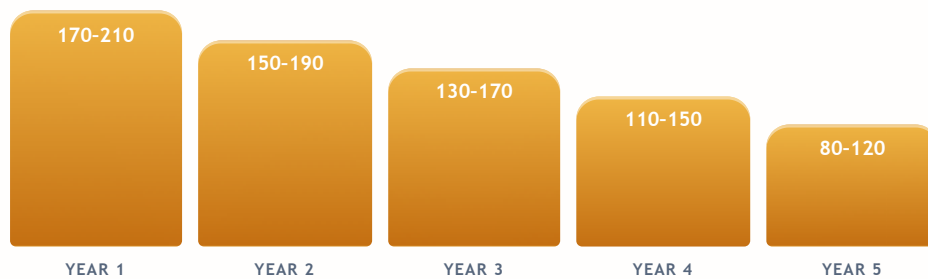
BROODINESS

Moderate

some hens make capable mothers

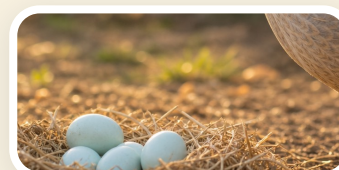
ESTIMATED LAYING IN A BACKYARD FLOCK

Eggs through the first five laying years



WHAT DO THE EGGS LOOK LIKE?

Blue shell



Colour: blue to turquoise pigment runs through the shell rather than sitting only on its surface.

TEMPERAMENT AND BEHAVIOUR

Curious, alert and energetic

- **Active and observant** - enjoys ranging and foraging for part of the day.
- **Usually friendly with regular handling** - but less placid than a heavy breed.
- **A capable flyer** - so a low fence may not contain every bird.
- **Buy from a careful breeder** - because many blue-egg crosses are sold under the Araucana name.

CONDITIONS THAT SUIT THE BREED

Space to range, dry ground and a secure run

- **Generally hardy in cold weather** - and the small pea comb is less exposed to frost.
- **Benefits from an interesting run** - with cover and room to stay active.
- **Use a higher or roofed fence** - when birds repeatedly clear the boundary.
- **Provide shade and fresh water in summer** - especially for active birds.



Not every blue-egg chicken is an Araucana. The original type is rumpless, ear-tufted and pea-combed. National standards differ, so ask which standard a breeder is working to before you buy.