

Black Copper Marans

A substantial French breed famous for large eggs with mahogany to chocolate shells.

Origin
France



HEN
2.60–3.20 kg



ROOSTER
3.50–4.00 kg

PURPOSE

Dual-purpose

dark eggs and useful body weight

STARTS LAYING

24–28 weeks

heavier strains mature steadily

EGG

65–80 g

adult hens may reach 70-80 g

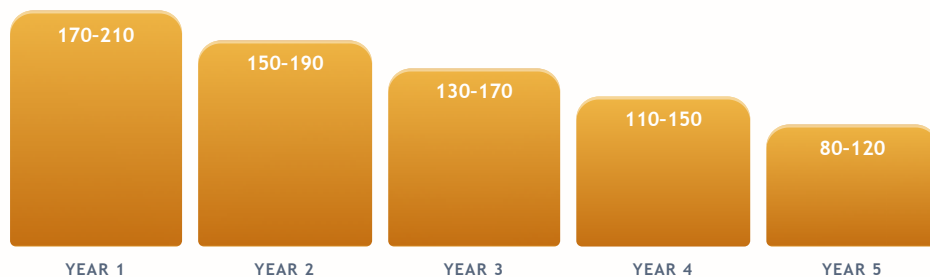
BROODINESS

Low– moderate

varies by strain and individual hen

ESTIMATED LAYING IN A BACKYARD FLOCK

Eggs through the first five laying years



WHAT DO THE EGGS LOOK LIKE?

Mahogany to chocolate



Colour: deep russet-mahogany to chocolate; the French standard requires at least level 4 on the MCF scale.

TEMPERAMENT AND BEHAVIOUR

Steady, substantial and self-assured

- Usually calm around people - and practical in a backyard flock.
- Heavy but still willing to range - and forage when given enough space.
- Roosters can be confident - so select for calm behaviour as well as colour.
- Strain quality matters greatly - for body type, shell colour and laying ability.

CONDITIONS THAT SUIT THE BREED

A dry coop and clean ground under feathered shanks

- Keep lightly feathered shanks out of deep mud - to reduce dirty, damaged feathers.
- Handles cold weather well - when the coop is dry and properly ventilated.
- Use strong, fairly low roosts - for these substantial birds.
- Provide shade and airflow in summer - especially for dark-plumaged birds.



The darkest shell does not last all season. Colour is usually strongest early in a laying cycle and may fade later. Breed from birds that combine correct type with repeatedly dark eggs, not from one impressive sample.