

White Silkie

Origin
Asia

A gentle, dark-skinned, five-toed chicken with silky plumage and a powerful broody instinct.



HEN
1.30–1.60 kg



ROOSTER
1.60–2.00 kg

PURPOSE

Ornamental & broody

calm nature and excellent mothering

STARTS LAYING

26–32 weeks

often later than laying breeds

EGG

35–45 g

small, white to cream

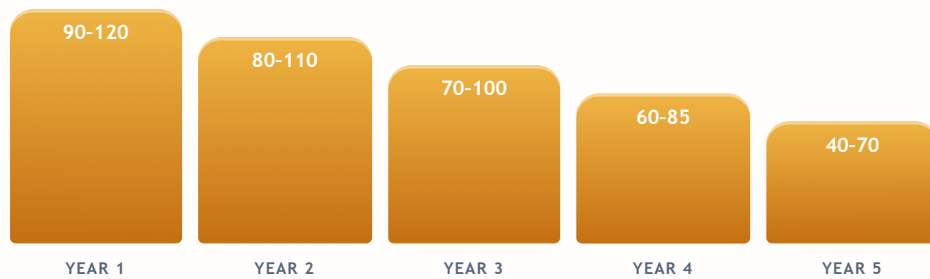
BROODINESS

Very high

broody spells reduce annual egg totals

ESTIMATED LAYING IN A BACKYARD FLOCK

Eggs through the first five laying years



WHAT DO THE EGGS LOOK LIKE?

White to cream



Colour: small eggs with white, cream or softly tinted beige shells.

TEMPERAMENT AND BEHAVIOUR

Exceptionally gentle and maternal

- **Calm and usually easy to tame** - a good fit for a quiet family flock.
- **An excellent broody and mother** - often used to hatch eggs from other breeds.
- **Can be bullied by large, fast hens** - so watch access to feed and water.
- **The crest must not block the eyes** - or the bird struggles to find feed, water and danger.

CONDITIONS THAT SUIT THE BREED

Dry footing and shelter from prolonged rain

- **Silky feathers are not waterproof** - so provide a roofed, dry part of the run.
- **Low roosts and easy ramps** - are safer for small birds that fly poorly.
- **Check feathers around the eyes** - and trim carefully if vision is restricted.
- **Best kept with gentle flock mates** - rather than constant competition at the feeder.



Fluffy does not mean waterproof. Silkies handle cool weather better than they look, but wet silky feathers lose insulation quickly. Dry bedding, a covered run and clear vision matter more than an overheated coop.