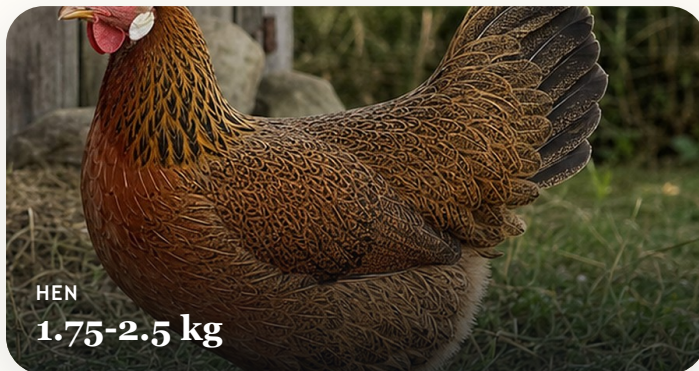


# Italianer

A light, alert and active white-egg breed, shown here as the German-developed European type.

Origin  
Italy /  
Germany



HEN  
1.75-2.5 kg



ROOSTER  
2.25-3.0 kg

## PURPOSE

### Egg breed

white eggs and excellent use of a range

## STARTS LAYING

### 20-24 weeks

depends on strain, feed, season and maturity

## EGG

### 55-65 g

white; hatching eggs commonly at least 55 g

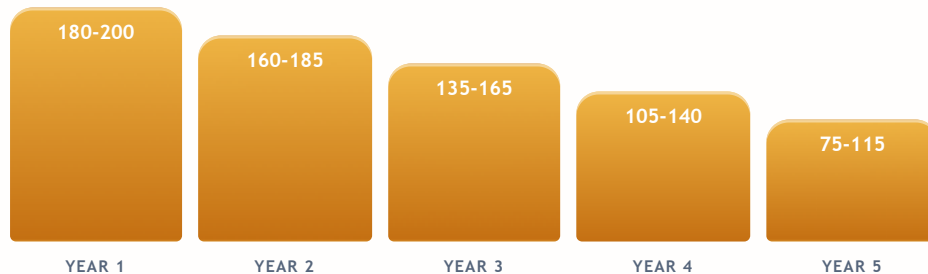
## BROODINESS

### Low

can vary between strains

## ESTIMATED LAYING IN A BACKYARD FLOCK

### Eggs through the first five laying years



## WHAT DO THE EGGS LOOK LIKE?

### White eggs



**Colour:** commonly 55-65 g after laying settles; shell colour does not reduce nutritional value.

## TEMPERAMENT AND BEHAVIOUR

### Active, intelligent and independent

- **An excellent forager** - best able to show its strengths on a roomy range.
- **Fast and watchful** - calm handling from hatch helps build confidence.
- **Capable of real flight** - low fencing is not dependable containment.
- **Select males for temperament too** - aggression is not worth keeping for attractive colour.

## CONDITIONS THAT SUIT THE BREED

### A roomy run, dry housing and comb protection

- **The large single comb** - is exposed to frost when cold combines with damp and draughts.
- **Ventilation is needed all year** - do not seal a wet coop in an attempt to keep it warm.
- **Use fencing around 1.5-1.8 m** - a light hen can clear a low boundary.
- **Provide summer shade** - with fresh water available in more than one place.



**Do not confuse a name with a standard.** Italianer and Leghorn share Italian ancestry, but several European standards maintain them separately. Before buying, ask which standard is followed, request parent weights and view complete birds.