

Krishibro

Table 2. Vaccination Schedule

Age,d	Vaccine	Dose	Route
1	Marek's Disease	0.20 ml	Sub cutaneous
7	Newcastle Disease (Lasota)	One drop	Eye
14	IBD (Intermediate)	One drop	Oral
28	Newcastle Disease (Lasota)	One drop	Eye

Feeding

This bird can Perform well on diets containing relatively low nutrient concentration as compared to other commercial broilers available in the market. Besides, these chicks can adapt well to diets containing low cost and locally available alternate feed ingredients. Diet containing about 2800 kcal ME/kg and 18.5% crude protein with moderate levels of other nutrients would be sufficient to achieve optimum body weight at market age. Thus considerable savings can be made on feed cost with resultant greater net profit.

Supply:

Fertile eggs: Fertile eggs of *Krishibro* are available at this Directorate on all working days on payment basis. Eggs should be stored in cool place till they are set for hatching. About 10-12 eggs can be set under *Desi* broody hen for better hatchability.

Day old chicks: Chicks are available on advance payment. Payment can be made through Demand Draft (DD) drawn in favour of "Directorate of Poultry Research" and should be sent to "The Director, Directorate of Poultry Research, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad – 500 030". Provide your contact address and telephone number for correspondence. After receiving the DD, the Directorate will intimate the supply date. The customers are required to receive the birds from the Directorate.

Krishibro chicks and fertile eggs are also available from our Poultry Seed Project Centres located in several states. For further details please visit our website www.pdonpoultry.org



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The phenomenal growth of poultry production has increased consumption of eggs and chicken meat in urban areas and their surroundings. Due to lack of effective marketing system, these products are not readily available in majority of rural/tribal areas and therefore, cost of these products is higher and consumption is low in rural/tribal areas compared to the urban pockets. Consumption of carbohydrates rich cereals as staple food which are poor source of protein leads to protein deficiency in vulnerable population in rural/tribal areas. Low protein diet may result in poor growth and reduced disease resistance in pregnant women, feeding mothers and children. Adopting rural poultry farming in a small scale in rural/tribal areas would increase the availability of high quality protein and supplemental income. Poultry farming in rural/tribal areas utilizing chicken varieties which demand low input in terms of nutrition and management and platform better under diversified agro climatic conditions would be beneficial for the overall growth of rural/tribal population.

The intensive commercial broiler production depends mostly on white plumaged birds. Though the performance of these birds is extremely good, the acceptability of birds having multicolour feather pattern is better in rural areas due to aesthetic aspect, native look, and cultural and religious reasons. The coloured birds are generally sold at a premium compared to commercial white broilers. Directorate on Poultry Research has developed an attractive multicoloured and hardly meat type chicken called *Krishibro*. These birds can survive and perform well under sub-optimal management conditions prevailing in rural/tribal areas. Rearing of these birds is similar to that of commercial broiler, but they need low input in terms of nutrition and health cover. *Krishibro* attains about 1.5 kg body weight with a feed conversion ratio of about 2.0 at 6 weeks of age (Table 1).



Table 1. Performance of *Krishibro*

Parameter	At 42 d of age
Body weight, g	1500
Feed conversion efficiency	2.0
Mortality, %	<3
Dressing, %	70

Advantages:

- Attractive multicoloured plumage
- Better survivability
- Low feed cost
- Well adapted to tropical/harsh climate on low plane of nutrition
- Alleviates protein malnutrition in vulnerable groups
- Sold at premium prices
- Provide scope for women empowerment

Rearing:

Provide the required temperature and protection from predators

Poultry house & Equipment

- Clean all equipment in the poultry house
- Clean the floor and walls by sweeping, brushing and scraping



- Burn the floor, sidewalls and mesh using a flame gun
- Wash the poultry house with hot water with pressure
- Spray the poultry house with broad-spectrum disinfectant

Preparing the nursery unit: Spread the clean litter material (groundnut husk paddy husk/saw dust) uniformly on the floor with 2-3 inches thickness. Spread the newspaper in the brooder to prevent the young chicks from eating the litter. Arrange the feeders and drinkers alternatively.

Brooders: Electrical bulbs can be used. The movement of chicks can be restricted nearer the heat source with the help of chick guard. The chick guard should be located 3 feet away from the edge of the brooder hover.

Water: Water should be clean, fresh and cool and should be easily accessible to the birds. Drinkers should be located within 1 meter of the heat source. Provide one water point for every 100 chicks.

Feed: Feed should be provided in feeders spread out uniformly through out the brooding area. Ensure easy access to the feed to all the birds. Feed should be offered 2-3 times a day. Only 70% of the feeders should be filled at each time remove any litter material from the feeders on daily basis. As the birds grow, increase the floor, water and feeder space as required.

Healthcare: This variety has better immunity but they need to be vaccinated as per schedule given in Table 2.

Litter: Sufficient quality of litter/husk should be provided (2-3 inches from the floor). The litter should be turned frequently to avoid caking up. The wet litter should be immediately removed and replaced with fresh and dry litter material. During rainy season/wet climate, mix lime powder or single super phosphate with litter to keep it dry.

Management

Krishibro birds have attractive colour plumage and are well adapted to tropical weather condition. The chicks need brooding care during initial 3-4 weeks and continuous lighting till market age. During rearing period, the bird must be vaccinated against Marek's Newcastle and IBD diseases. Availability of plenty of clean and fresh water is essential throughout the life and it is recommended to give a dose of antibiotic during the first five days through drinking water. On the first day, the chicks may be given some electrolyte or anti stress medication in water should be provided both before and after vaccination. The survivability of these birds up to 6 weeks of age is upto 97%.