

<u>UKRAINIAN CLAY</u> (Ukrainskaya glinistaya)

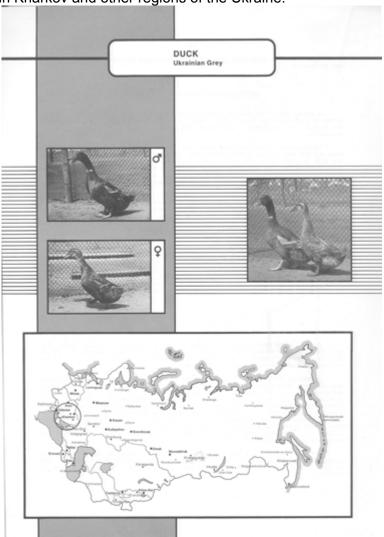
A breed group of limited distribution developed at the Ukrainian Poultry Breeding Institute from local ducks. Small flocks are kept on private plots and at the farm of the Institute. There were 360 birds in 1980; current data are not available.

In appearance Ukrainian Clay ducks are similar to Ukrainian Grey ducks. The head and the neck of the drakes are of dark chestnut-brown colour, shot with bronze; the bill is light olive-coloured; the breast and the body are brown, light on the lower part of the body and darker on the back. The shanks are orange-red. The ducks have a chestnut-brown head with two dark stripes; the bill is dark olive-coloured; the neck and body are light brown, yellow in summer. The shanks are of the same colour as in the male.

The economic value of the breed group is similar to that of the Ukrainian White but egg production and the live weight of the young are lower. Egg production is 120-125 eggs per cycle. The birds mature at the age of 6 months. The live weight of 5-month-old drakes is 3.0 kg and that of ducks is

2.8 kg. The 50-day-old ducklings weigh almost 2.0 kg. Egg weight is 78-80 g and the hatching rate is 65-70%.

Fertility and hatchability are 88-90 and 68-72% respectively. The survival rate of the ducklings is 94% and that of adult birds is 96%. Ukrainian Clay ducks have good adaptability to local conditions and a low carcass fat content'. The breed group is maintained in a gene conservation flock. The reduction in numbers is due to the introduction of the more productive Pekin ducks which are raised both on commercial poultry farms and on small private plots. At present Ukrainian Clay ducks are raised on Borki Experimental Farm of the Ukrainian Poultry Breeding Institute and by farmers in Kharkov and other regions of the Ukraine.



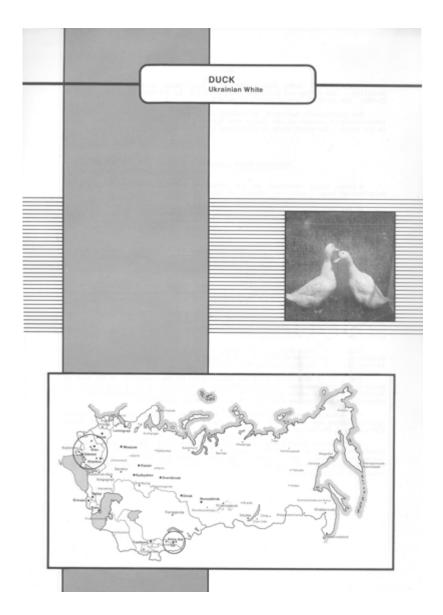
UKRAINIAN GREY (Ukrainskaya seraya)

A breed group developed at the Ukrainian Poultry Breeding Institute from local grey ducks. In 1974 these ducks numbered 17 700; by 1980 their numbers had fallen drastically to 2200 birds. At present Ukrainian Grey ducks are raised on a few collective farms and private plots in the Ukraine. Ukrainian Grey ducks have a strong constitution with a well-developed musculature. They are active and good foragers. They have a small head; a broad and deep body, and strong legs. The plumage is similar to that of mallards. The drakes have a dark grey or almost black head, shot with greenish colour, or dark brown with a white collar. The back is black-brown; the breast is red-brown; the lower part of the body is light grey. The wings are grey-brown with iridescent blue specula framed by black and white stripes; the bill is olive-coloured. The ducks have a dark brown head with two black stripes; the bill is dark olive-coloured, with a black tip. The neck, back, breast and the lower part of the body are brown; the wings are dark brown with blue specula.

The live weight of drakes is 3.3 kg and that of ducks is 2.9-3.0 kg. Egg production is 110-120 eggs per cycle. The duration of a cycle is 5.5 months. Egg weight is 80-90 g. Ducks mature at the age of six months. The hatching rate is 72-75%.

Ukrainian Grey ducks have sufficiently fast gains in the young and good viability. The 50-day-old ducklings weigh 2.3-2.4 kg and their survival rate is 95-96%. The survival rate of adults is 96-97%.

The considerable reduction in numbers of Ukrainian Grey ducks is due to the introduction of crosses of the Pekin duck with higher productivity and faster gains in the young. The breed group is maintained in a gene conservation flock.



<u>UKRAINIAN WHITE</u> (Ukrainskaya belaya)

A breed group developed at the Ukrainian Poultry Breeding Institute by selection of local breeds with infusion of blood of the Pekin duck. In the past this breed group was widespread. In 1974 Ukrainian White ducks numbered 26 700 birds; by 1980 their numbers had fallen to 6800. At present there is approximately the same number; they are raised on state and collective farms and on private plots in the Ukrainian and Moldavian republics.

The birds have a strong constitution and a small, slightly elongated head; the body is horizontal, long and broad, somewhat raised in front. The legs are short; shanks and feet are orange. The plumage is white. The drakes have a light yellow bill and the ducks have a dark yellow one.

The live weight of 5-month-old birds reaches 3.3 kg in drakes and 3.0 kg in ducks. Egg production is 120-130 eggs in the first cycle; the duration of the cycle is 5.5 months. Egg weight is 80-85 g. The 50-day-old ducklings weigh

2.O-2.1 kg; feed consumption is 3.3-3.4 kg per kg of gain. The hatching rate is good - 75-78%.

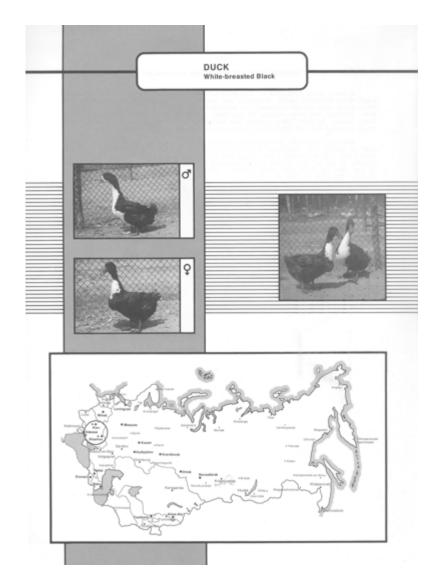
On the basis of this breed group the Ukrainian Poultry Breeding Institute has selected strains with higher productivity. The 49-day-old ducklings of these strains weigh 2.5-2.6 kg with 3.0-3.1 kg of feed consumed per kg of gain. Their egg production is 140-150 eggs per cycle.

Unlike the Pekin duck, on the basis of which commercial crosses have been developed, the Ukrainian White duck has a lower carcass fat content (22-24%), which is very important for high-quality meat production.

The ducks of this breed group are well adapted to the conditions of the area in which they were developed. The survival rate of ducklings up to 49 days of age is 98-100% and that of adult birds is 96-97%. Ukrainian White ducks can be used as a maternal line in crossing with Pekin ducks for broiler production.

The reduction in numbers of Ukrainian White ducks is due to the introduction of special strains and crosses of the Pekin duck, which have faster gains and weigh 2.9-3.0 kg at the age of 49 days.

The Ukrainian Poultry Breeding Institute is continuing selection work with this breed group using it as genetic material for development of strains with a low carcass fat content. Two strains of Ukrainian White duck are kept at the Kazakh Regional Experimental Station where studies are under way to determine its commercial value when raised in small flocks.



WHITE-BREASTED BLACK (Chernaya belogrudaya)

A breed group developed at the Ukrainian Poultry Breeding Station by crossing local White-Breasted, Khaki Campbell, and Pekin ducks. In the past the flocks of these birds were raised on commercial poultry farms and on private plots in Kharkov, Kiev, Vinnitsa and other regions of the USSR. In 1974 there were 218 White-breasted Black ducks; by 1980 their numbers had fallen to 190. Nearly the same number are still raised today, on commercial poultry farms and on farmers' private plots.

The body is broad, elongated and raised; the breast is broad and the elongated head is turned up. The legs are short, close to the rear, and moderately thick; shanks and feet are black. The wings are strong and small, close to the body. The plumage is black; the breast and abdomen are partly white. In drakes the upper part of the neck is blue shot with violet; the wing specula are shot with green or violet. The bill is dark in colour. White-breasted Black ducks have adequate productivity. The live weight of

the drakes is 3.6-3.8 kg and that of the ducks is 3.0-3.3 kg. The 60-day-old

ducklings weigh 2.0 kg. Egg production is 120-130 eggs. Birds mature at the age of 6 months. The eggs are white and weigh 80-90 g. The survival rate of ducklings is 90-92% and that of adults is 95-96%.

White-breasted Black ducks have a high viability; they are good dabblers. The fertility and hatchability are 94 and 63-65% respectively.

White-breasted Black ducks serve as a genetic reserve for developing new breeds and strains for semi-extensive conditions.