



**Metzer
Farms**

Your favorite family hatchery

In business since 1972

Welcome to

Metzer Farms was started in 1972 by my father, Olin Metzer, when he began using ducks to control the snails in his sheep pastures. As time went by, he began selling ducklings to local feed stores and duck eggs to the local Asian market. I came back to the farm in 1978 after graduating from the University of California, Davis to turn his hobby into a business. The farm grew each year as new products were added: more breeds of ducks, geese, fresh duck eggs, salted duck eggs, blown eggs and guineas. After graduating from Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo, my son, Marc, worked abroad in Korea and then locally in the fresh vegetable industry before joining the business in 2014.

As always, we are excited about what is happening at Metzer Farms. We are offering chickens for the very first time. We have an excellent white Cornish Cross broiler and a red broiler, the Rolin S, for all your chicken broiler needs. With the addition of these broiler chickens, we can better serve the pastured poultry industry and other small and intermediate sized farms that sell to farmers' markets, local restaurants, CSA's, and butchers. Not only can we supply you with day-old chickens, ducks, guineas and geese for your meat markets, we also have three types of ducks bred for exceptional egg production.

We utilize the best genetics available and raise our breeders in a more traditional system. Our replacement duck and goose breeders are on pasture as much as possible during rearing. All of our growing and layer buildings are open sided and all birds are on the floor - cages are never used.

We believe in an environmentally friendly approach on our farm. We have installed solar panels on our newest grower building that will produce 75% of our farm and hatchery's electrical needs and we use our six bicycles for transportation around the farm. A grass strip was planted behind our goose pens to filter runoff water from our farm and all of our manure and bedding is composted and utilized to increase soil fertility on local farms.

Our future plans are to hatch layer chickens for both white and brown eggs. We also plan to start another farm to not only enable us to increase production but to allow us to split our breeding stock between the two farms to better protect our genetics. This will then necessitate a new and larger hatchery! Most importantly, these changes are designed to better enable us to achieve our primary goal of providing our customers with exceptional service and exceptional poultry.

Thank you for your time and I hope we can be of service to you.

John Metzer Marc Metzer



Meat Birds



GRIMAUD HYBRID

The Grimaud Hybrid is the largest commercial Pekin duck developed by Grimaud Freres of France. They call it their Star 53 strain and it has been bred for fast growth rate, excellent meat confirmation and a very low feed conversion rate that produces one pound of live weight gain for every 2.35 pounds of feed. Our Pekins are a hardy bird that will do well in all types of housing and on pasture.



DUCLAIR

We developed the Duclair for those chefs wanting a unique, smaller sized duck with a proportionally larger breast and less skin and fat. It is very similar, except for its color, to the famous Duclair duck of France.



CORNISH CROSS

This Cobb 500 Cornish Cross has exceptional feed conversion and growth rate. This chicken will produce the best uniformity for processing with lean, tender breast meat. They can be processed as a cornish game hen in as few as 4 weeks, a fryer at 7 weeks or a roaster at 10 weeks.



ROLIN S

The Rolin S is an intermediate growth chicken which will thrive on the range. This is a great choice for those looking for characteristics of both the economical cornish cross and the slow growing, colored heritage breeds. With a great feed conversion rate and healthy growth rate, this bird is sure to please your customers



EMBDEN

The Embden is the most popular goose breed grown commercially for meat in North America and Europe as it is a large, fast growing goose. These are hatched from March through July. Much of our genetics is from the Hutterite Colonies of Montana and Canada which have been breeding Embden geese for over 100 years.



FRENCH PEARL GUINEA

Guinea fowl produce a white meat similar to chicken but is leaner and tastes much like pheasant. Grown to 12 weeks, these birds will average 4.0 pounds live and dress out at 3.0 pounds. These guineas have also been developed by Grimaud Freres of France. As they do fly, pastured production is difficult unless you cover their pens.

Egg Birds



GOLDEN 300 HYBRID

The Golden 300 is a strain we developed by crossing different breeds of high egg laying ducks to produce an excellent egg producing duck. This is a sex-linked bird which can be sexed visually at any age. The males are shades of black and the females are shades of brown. They are typically calmer than the Khaki Campbell.



WHITE LAYER

The White Layer is an all white bird that we developed from the Golden 300 Hybrid. The only production difference between the White Layer and Golden 300 is that the White Layer lays a slightly smaller percentage of blue/green eggs.



KHAKI CAMPBELL

The Khaki Campbell is a heritage breed that was originally bred for egg production in England and Holland in the early 1900's. It has been used ever since by those wanting to use a pure bred duck for egg production.





Meat Production Table

	Grimaud Hybrid	Duclair	Cornish Cross	Rolin S	Embden	French Pearl
	Duck	Duck	Chicken	Chicken	Goose	Guinea
Age at Slaughter	49 days	84 days	49 days	63 days	112 days	84 days
Live Weight	8.0 lbs.	5.3 lbs.	7.4 lbs.	6.8 lbs.	15.7 lbs.	4.0 lbs.
Eviscerated Weight	5.6 lbs.	3.6 lbs.	5.6 lbs.	4.8 lbs.	11.5 lbs.	3.0 lbs.
Feed Conversion	2.4	3.2	1.8	2.4	5.0	3.0
Mortality	2.5%	3.2%	3.5%	2.5%	4%	7%
Breast Filet	21.2%	24%	24.5%	22.5%		23.8%
Skin and Fat in Carcass	30.2%	26.7%				
Availability	Year round	Year round	Year round	Year round	March-July	Year round

These are results published by the breeder. Results vary according to management and their environment.

Egg Production Table

	Golden 300 Hybrid	White Layer	Khaki Campbell
	Duck	Duck	Duck
Egg Production			
40 Weeks of Lay	230	230	195
52 Weeks of Lay	290	290	240
Average Egg Weight	82 grams, 2.9 oz.	82 grams, 2.9 oz.	76 grams, 2.7 oz.
Mortality During Lay	3.00%	3.00%	4.00%
Age at 5% Production	22 weeks	22 weeks	20 weeks
Egg Color	5% Blue/Green 95% White	1.5% Blue/Green 98.5% White	5% Blue/Green 95% White
Feed Consumption/Day/ Female	.4 lbs.	.4 lbs.	.36 lbs.
Availability	February-December	Year round	February-December





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