

Scratch and Peck Feeds

Yes! Our Starter feed is suitable for Ducklings!!

Ducks eat (and drink!) more than chickens and have different growth/development phases so while chicken feed isn't a *perfect* match for their different protein, niacin, and calcium needs; with a little niacin supplementation our Chick Starter is great for their first three weeks when their protein requirements are 19% - 21%.

Too much protein can cause leg and wing deformities and kidney and liver damage. Too little niacin can cause serious leg deformities and can result in undersized birds.

Niacin supplementation is important during the starter/grower phases, but not required once they begin laying eggs. 27 mg of niacin is recommended until maturity at which point it lowers to 20 mg. Our feeds contain 22.5 mg of niacin. You can supplement by adding brewer's yeast to their feed for an excellent source of niacin. One tablespoon of yeast contains approximately 5 mg of niacin.

You'll see a huge spike in growth (and food consumption) at week three so protein should be decreased to approximately 17% between three and nine weeks - unless you are raising broilers and want maximum growth. Our chicken Grower is fine during this phase.

Ducks are close to their adult weight by nine weeks and grow slowly between 9-20 weeks so continue to feed them Grower feed during this phase. On average, ducks will begin laying at around 20 weeks so you can start feeding them Layer feed at around 17-18 weeks.

****NEVER** feed medicated starter because ducklings eat more than chicks and can become seriously ill from the medication overdose.