



Tips of quail management.

Quail probably the smallest avian species used for production of table eggs and meat. Because of prolific egg production and meat yield, it attains the status of viable commercial poultry enterprises. Quail has unique qualities of hardiness and adaptability to diversified agro-climatic condition. Several attributes of this species making it ideal for rural poultry production for creation of rural employment for solving gender issue in employment and to provide supplemental income and protein requirement to rural farmers.

Salient features of quail:-

- Low space requirement (5– 6 adult quail can be reared in one sq. ft.)
- Short generation interval (3– 4 generation in a year)
- Fast growth (170–190 gm body weight at 5th week)
- Low feed consumption (550–600 gm of feed / bird up to 5th week)
- Early maturity (egg production starts at 6–7 weeks of age)
- High rate of egg laying (280 eggs in a year / bird)
- Low cost of production
- Resistant to common diseases of chicken
- Meat and egg is a table delicacy, nutritious
- Quail has an aphrodisiac effect.

Chicken Egg vs. Quail Egg:-

- Chicken eggs are considerable larger
- Quail eggs are packed with vitamins and minerals.
- Even with their small size, their nutritional value is three to four times greater than chicken eggs.
- Quail eggs contain 13 percent proteins compared to 11 percent in chicken eggs.
- Quail eggs also contain 140 percent of vitamin B1 compared to 50 percent in chicken eggs.
- In addition, quail eggs provide five times as much iron and potassium.
- Unlike chicken eggs, quail eggs have not been know to cause allergies or diathesis.
- Actually they help fight allergy symptoms due to the ovomucoid protein they contain.

Health Benefits:-

- Regular consumption of quail eggs helps fight against many diseases.
- They are a natural combatant against digestive tract disorders such as stomach ulcers.
- Quail eggs strengthen the immune system, promote memory health, increase brain activity and stabilize the nervous system.
- They help with anemia by increasing the level of hemoglobin in the body while removing toxins and heavy metals.
- The Chinese use quail eggs to help treat tuberculosis, asthma, and even diabetes.

- If you are a sufferer of kidney, liver, or gallbladder stones quail eggs can help prevent and remove these types of stones.

Complementary Benefits:-

- ✓ Children eating quail eggs are less inclined to suffer from infectious diseases than other children do.
- ✓ In men, quail eggs provide the prostate gland with phosphorus, proteins, and vitamins that can be a powerful stimulant for sexual potency.
- ✓ Women find that the egg improves skin color and strengthens hair. This is why quail eggs are in facial and in hair care products.

LAY OUT OF HOUSE

Orientation:-

- East West-in hot climate & North South-in cold climate
- Should not open to sea side- in coastal area & Should not located on or near top of the hill- in hilly area

Size:-

- Length-does not influence; Width-should not more than 9 m
- If more than 9 m chimneys or ridge ventilation is must

Roof:-

- Shed type-3-4 m wide; Gable & Pagoda type-9 m; Over hang-1.5 m

Walls:-

- Height of side wall-2.5-3.0 m above the ground; Mid height-4-5 m
- Lower part should be solid & rest may be wire mesh(1x1")

Floor:-

- 2-3 ft above the ground with cement/concrete & good drainage system

Door:-

- two doors at two solid long axis ends; In compartments door should be 0.7 m wide X1.8 m height.

Light: -2 ht from the ground

Raising quail on floor

Up to 3 week

- Brooder guard-30 cm high
- Floor space-75 cm² hover & 75 cm² run space up to 3wk
- Feeder space-2 cm/bird
- Water space-1 cm/bird
- Light-24 hrs for first 2 wk & Thereafter-12 hrs

Adult

- Floor-200-250cm² /bird
- Linear feeder space-2.5-3.0 cm/bird
- Linear waterer space-1.5-2.0 cm/bid
- Litter thickness-10 cm
- Laying nest-one nest/5-6 quails

Sexing of Quail

- Sexing at day old is possible but difficult
- Auto-sexing at 3 weeks by plumage color
- Male-brownish red (cinnamon) breast feather
- Female-tan (grey) feathers marked with black speckles
- Vent sexing is also possible after ASM
- Through squeezing the vent milk color semen will discharge from phalus

Raising quail in Cages

- Size:-up to 3week
- Multideck or single deck.
- Each deck should be
 - Length-120cm
 - Width-60 cm
 - Height-25 cm

Rearing: up to 5-6 week

- 60 cm width
- 60 cm depth
- 25 cm height
- 1 cmX2.5 cm of 14 SWG

Cage for adult-above 6 week

- Length-60-90 cm
- Width-60 cm
- Height-25 cm from front & 17 cm from back
- Floor gradient-8 cm in 60 cm

Feed & Feeding of quail:-

Nutrients	Starter (0-3 wk)	Grower (4-6 wk)	Layer/Breeder (7 wk onward)
ME(Kcal/kg)	2750	2750	2650
Protein (%)	25-27	22-24	20-22
Calcium (%)	1.0	0.8	3.0
Phos phorous (%)	0.45	0.45	0.45

Recommended feed allocation for quails:-

Age (wk)	Feed consumed(g)
1	5
2	12

3	15
4	18
5	20
6 & above	25

Diseases of quail:-

A Japanese quail suffers from various diseases like chicken. They are quite resistant to RD, Fowl pox, ascaridiasis etc.

- **Ulcerative enteritis:-**the causative agents are Corynebacterium perdicum, clostridium perfringes and other gram positive and negative bacilli and rods of bacteria. In acute form mortality may go up to 100% in young quails. Its occurrence is more on litter than wire. Birds die without any typical sings with feed in crops. The important symptoms are watery droppings with urates, Birds became dull, humped up, ruffled feather, partially opened eyes. Important lesions are ulceration in intestine and ceaca. Hemorrhagic enteritis in the upper part of intestine seen. Liver lesions vary from yellow spots to yellowish areas of necrosis along the edge of liver. Spleen may be enlarged and hemorrhagic. This can treated with bacitracin, streptomycin, chloromycetin.
- **Bronchitis:-** caused by filterable virus serologically distinct from infectious bronchitis. Disease characterized by tracheal rales, sneezing and coughing but no nasal discharge. It may cause 80% mortality in young birds. Here prevention is better than cure.
- **Aspergillosis:-** caused by aspergillus fumigatus.
- **Coccidiosis:-** Sporadic cases have been observed but not so aggressive like chicken.
- **RD-Sporadic cases** have been observed. But the same has been controlled through lasota vaccination.
- **Vaccination:-** No vaccination is required for quails. But some sporadic RD cases have been reported. In such cases, it recommended for Lasota vaccination through drinking water is essential in RD prone areas.

Legal issues:-

Initially Japanese quail was under wild Life (Protection) Act up to 1972. Ministry of Environment & Forest (GoI) vide letter No.3-22/84 FRY (WL) dated 27.06.1997 delegated the power of issuing licenses for Japanese quail hatcheries to the officers of the Department of Animal Husbandry (GoI) not below the rank of Assistant Livestock Officer and Officers of the State Animal Husbandry Department not below the rank of Veterinary Assistant Surgeon under the Wild Life (protection) Act, 1972. Keeping in view of its potential in the country, Department of AHD&F (Ministry of Agriculture) started commercial farming of domesticated quails. In between, quail growers faced a lot of legal problems, harassment; even some farmers closed their activities. Finally, Ministry of Environment & Forest vide their Notification S.O.3653(E) and vide letter F.No.1-15/2013-WL dated 6th December, 2013 deleted the Japanese quails from Wild Life Act. Now it is free to farming as other poultry birds.