

in maximising the gain through sustained production.



### Performance potential of Himsamridhi birds

Economic Trait	Performance	
	Farm	Farmer's Flock
Day old chick weight (g)	35-39	---
Body weight at 8 weeks (g)	400-550	400-600
BW (20weeks) Male (g)	1750-1900	1400-1700
BW (20weeks) female (g)	1400-1550	1250-1400
Age at first egg (days)	130-140	170-190
Age at 50% EP(days)	158-187	200-210
Egg weight (40 weeks) gm	52-55	50-53
Annual Egg production	160-180	140-170



### Supply:

The Day old chicks and fertile eggs of Himsamridhi birds are available at All India Coordinated Project on Poultry Breeding, (Rural Poultry) Centre, Department of Animal Genetics and Breeding College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, CSKHPKV Palampur as per requirement. 6-8 weeks grower chicks are also available specifically for tribal areas of Chamba, Kinnaur and Lahual-Spiti



For Further enquiry please visit university website [www.hiillagric.ac.in/AGB](http://www.hiillagric.ac.in/AGB) or contact Head (Animal Genetics and breeding) Phone 01894-230321



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# HIMSAMRIDHI

A location specific Dual purpose poultry/chicken variety suitable for backyard poultry production in regions of Himachal Pradesh



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Native chicken having coloured plumage are reputed for several unique characteristics like being good foragers, efficient mothering instinct and requiring minimal care to grow. These birds are more suited to raise under village conditions. In the small scale rural chicken farming production in rural area is comparatively lower but backyard poultry contributes in the manner that they act as very good source of quality protein to landless and marginal farmers and supplement their income apart from providing quality protein for family consumption.

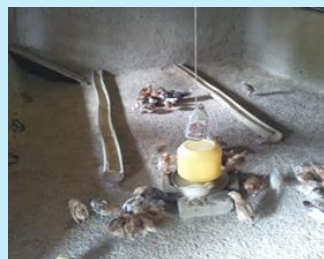
The people of Himachal Pradesh traditionally practice cattle, sheep and goat rearing and keep chicken as a source of supplementary income. Village poultry farming is the cornerstone of poultry farming in the state but its growth is limited due to high seasonal mortality, low productivity and suboptimal management

Keeping in view the agro climatic conditions of the state it is evident that the local/native chicken germplasm should be used as a base germplasm in any breeding programme for sustainable chicken production in the state. To achieve the above objectives of developing location specific variety under the aegis of All India Coordinated Research Project on Poultry Breeding (Rural Poultry Unit), of Department of Animal Genetics and Breeding, College of Veterinary and Animal Science CSKHPKV Plumper has developed dual purpose layer type variety suitable for backyard poultry production. The salient features of the developed variety are:

- Coloured plumage: the developed variety has attractive multicolour plumage which is usually the most sought for characteristics among the consumer base of rural poultry
- It has better egg production and growth potential as compared to native(desai) birds
- Well adapted to local agro ecosystem and accepted by farmers involved in village level poultry farming
- Performs satisfactorily on low plane of nutrition it has low cost of production
- Eggs are brown shelled and fetch premium price

### Management of Himsamridhi birds

**Brooding:** initially brooding (up to 4-6 weeks) is essential for to provide comfortable temperature, relative humidity and protection from predators. Before procurements of chicks prepare for brooding using appropriate brooders (special fabricated wooden brooders cost effective and suitable for village farming can be used). Spread 2-3 inch layer of litter material such as wooden straw and cover it properly with newspaper. In winter especially in higher hills region of state source of heat (bukhari) should be arranged. Ensure proper disinfection of chick feeders and waters (plastics /steel utensils/ fabricated bamboo feeders etc.) using commonly available potassium permanganate solution etc.



**Feeding management:** after collection of birds from hatchery they should be offered gur solution (10%) within 30 minutes of arrival at farm. Daliya or crushed maize should be offered for initial two three days thereafter for better performance balanced fortified starter feed should be offered up to period of 6 weeks. During grower stage foraging, kitchen waste can be offered in combination with grains/ supplementary feeds. During laying periods calcium supplementation/grit is essential for production of shells with good quality.



**Health care:** The bird has demonstrated better immunity but still Palampriya birds under free range management at farmer' flock

Vaccine	Strain	Age	Dose and route
Marek's disease	HVT	1 d	At Hatchery S/C
New Castle disease	Lasota	5 d	One drop Eye
Infectious bursal disease	Georgia	14 d	One drop oral
New Castle disease	R2B	9 wk	0.5 ml S/C
Fowl Pox	Pox	12 wk	0.2 ml S/C

Deworming using albendazole/piperazine has been recommended firstly at 4 week of age and then after every 6 month interval since parasitic load is major problem in free range scavenging.

### Performance of Himsamridhi birds (Field units)



Birds are managed under rural poultry farming system at farmer's flock. After initial brooding period birds develop scavenging behaviour and can be easily maintained by providing free range scavenging along with leftover kitchen waste and supplementary feeding. Supplementary feeding with available grain such maize, wheat barley and broken rice not only ensure optimum growth but also