

S2. Livestock on allotments

The 1950 Allotment Act allows hens and rabbits to be kept on allotments, for the tenants own use [1]. However to ensure that the principle use of allotments is growing fruit and vegetables most local authorities either limit the proportion of a plot or the number of plots that animals can be kept on. Any other animals, including bees, can only be kept with the landlord's permission, Bristol City Council allows hens, rabbits and bees on their allotments, but only if permission is obtained from the Allotments Officer [2]. Community gardens or privately managed sites may allow a wider range of animals. In 2019, 16% of local authority allotment sites had an area for livestock [3]. The National Allotment Society (NSALG), and personal observation by the authors, suggest about a third of sites include provision for livestock. All livestock require a supply of fresh mains water for drinking, washing food and drink containers and for cleaning or bathing.

The typical requirements of the most commonly kept animals are listed below, but it is better to supply water in excess. In UK, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) sets welfare standards for all farmed animals [4]. If plot holders keep more than one species (e.g., chickens & geese) and/or larger herd/flock their total water consumption will increase.

Table S2. Water requirements of some livestock that are commonly kept on allotments.

Animal	Typical Daily Consumption Drinking per Animal (Litres)	Flock/Herd Size for Well-being	Daily Water Drinking (Litres)	Weekly Replacement Swimming Water (Litres)	Cleaning per Week (Litres)	Annual Water Consumption for Herd/Flock (Litres)
Chickens (<i>cockerels usually not allowed</i>)	1	12	12	NA	34	6148
Geese (~ 10% of time on water)	5	3	15	157 [5]	191	15407
Ducks (~ 10% of time on water)	2	6	12	157 [5]	191	14312
Turkeys	3	6	18	NA	44	8858
Pigeons	0.05	12	0.6	NA	34	1987
Rabbits	0.3	6	1.8	NA	34	2425
Goats	12 [6]	3	36	NA	128	19796
Rheas	6	3	18	NA	44	8858

References

1. Allotments Act 1950. Available online: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1950/31/pdfs/ukpga_19500031_en.pdf (accessed on 3 January 2021).
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3. Priestly, W. State of the market survey 2019 Local Authority Allotment Services. ASPE: Manchester, UK, 2019.
4. Gov.UK Guidance, Animal Welfare. Available online: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/animal-welfare> (accessed on 3 January 2021).
5. RSPCA Knowledge Base. Available online: <https://kb.rspca.org.au/knowledge-base/how-should-i-keep-and-care-for-my-pet-ducks/> (accessed on 3 January 2021).
6. How Much Water do Goats Need Daily. Available online: <https://goats.extension.org/goat-nutrition-water/> (accessed on 3 January 2021).