

## Advantages of Local Heritage Poultry

- Naturally mating (some hatchery poultry must be artificially bred, as they are unable to breed naturally)
- Long, productive life spans (8-10 yrs vs. 4-6 yrs).
- Lay longer than hatchery breeds (3-4 years vs. 2-3 years).
- Selectively bred over time for robust health, good disposition, productivity and taste.
- More humane (no killing of male chicks at hatch).
- More environmentally sustainable (no shipping).
- Historical aspect, proven over time.
- Better taste.
- Part of breed preservation efforts.

Heritage Wyandotte



Hatchery Wyandotte

## Advantages of Hatchery Poultry

- Purchase price is less.
- More readily available through local retail outlets and mail order hatcheries.
- Start laying earlier than heritage breeds (16 weeks vs. 24 weeks).
- Meat breeds, such as Cornish Cross or Red Ranger, grow very fast and are slaughtered at a younger age (10 weeks vs. 16-20 weeks).
- Food costs may be less.