



MIFFS

Michigan Food & Farming Systems

Supporting the Many Faces of Farming

JUNE 2025

WELCOME TO OUR Monthly Newsletter



Greetings Subscriber!

The 2025 growing season is officially in full swing; we wish everyone a safe, productive, and peaceful summer.

With summer wildfires growing in strength, air quality can be less than ideal for people and animals. MDARD has issued a statement from the State Veterinarian's Office on Air Quality and Animal Health which you can read [here](#), it contains a few tips for keeping your animals protected and healthy.

As temperatures rise, so do the risk of heat related illness and injury. Farmers, gardeners and anyone who works outside regularly should have a safety plan in place for high temperature work days in order to avoid risk. Here's a helpful [article](#) about working in the heat safely.

For access to our database of other resources please visit our [website](#) and follow our social media pages on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Happy Planting!

In Solidarity,
the MIFFS Team

Highlight This Month!

MOFFA 2025 FARM TOUR SERIES

KICKS OFF IN FLINT, MI JUNE 22, 2025

This is your opportunity to reconnect with your food and the farmers who work so hard to make it all happen! Find out why organic, local, and ecologically grown food is so important to your health and the planet!

All tours and workshops are free and open to the public, but registration is required so we have an idea how many to expect. Register [here](#).





Educational Opportunities

WEBINARS, TRAININGS & CONFERENCES

EDUCATION



Funding Opportunities

GRANTS, LOANS &
RESOURCES

FUNDING



Employment Opportunities

JOBS, INTERNSHIPS &
FELLOWSHIPS

EMPLOYMENT



What breed of chicken should I get?

by Katie Ockert, Michigan State University Extension – April 01, 2025

Selecting the breed of chicken that you want to raise can be a difficult decision because there are so many options. There are several factors to consider when choosing the right breed for your small farm.

Many people are considering raising chickens in their backyards as a way of connecting with animals and becoming more self-sufficient. Chickens are a great option; they require a small space, require a low level of labor and can supply both meat and egg proteins. There are many considerations to make before diving into becoming a backyard chicken owner. One of those considerations is what kind of chickens are you going to raise?

There are several different breeds and varieties of chickens which all possess their own unique characteristics when it comes to the product they provide (meat, eggs or both), their temperament, the environmental factors they thrive in, size, egg color, egg size and lifespan. Deciding what your priorities are will help you determine what the most important characteristics are for choosing a breed. Using the [Michigan State University Chicken Breed Chart to Help Choose Your Chicken](#) can be a tool to assist you in finding the right breed for your needs. Many hatcheries also have good descriptions of the breeds and their characteristics in their online and print catalogs.

There are several factors to consider when choosing the right breed for your small farm.

[Read the full article here.](#)

Support Our Mission

Connecting beginning and historically underserved farmers to each other and resource opportunities; ensuring social justice, environmental stewardship, and profitability.

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