

White Embden Geese at One Day Old. Fuzzy and small but not white.

We have raised a few geese of many different breeds over the years. They are easy to raise but some types get loud and bossy as adults. They can get territorial.



White Embden Goslings at One Day Old. Fuzzy, small and not white

Occasionally a mature gander will threaten adults and challenge small children who enter “his” yard. Some people use them as “watch geese.”

This year customers asked if we could raise geese for their Christmas dinners.

It seemed like a good idea, so I started twelve goslings three weeks ago.

White Embden geese are the most popular meat goose.

They are healthy, grow fast, and have white plumage.

In fact, most birds raised for commercial meat have been selected to have white feathers.

The commercial breeds of chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys are all white.

White birds are easier to pluck.

A few small white feathers are less noticeable than dark feathers. If you have ever plucked birds, you know.

White Embden goslings have a dark appearance at hatching but gradually become white.

That change is apparent in the goslings of the photo, although I have some doubts about the darkest bird in the foreground.

Geese prefer good grazing over grains.

These geese graze much of the day and consume very little feed otherwise.

They are around three pounds at three weeks of age.

That is probably 20 to 30 times their birth weight.

Incredible.



Twelve White Embden Goslings on Grass at three weeks.

The geese are protected by several fences.

The most important fence is a woven fence made of fabric cords that has metal ribbon wire wrapped within.

Those metal strands are designed to be electrified.

That electric mesh works amazingly well to deter ground predators.

A fabric mesh similar to that used to hold game birds in is suspended overhead.

That mesh deters eagles and other raptors.

So far, all twelve are alive and well. Tom.