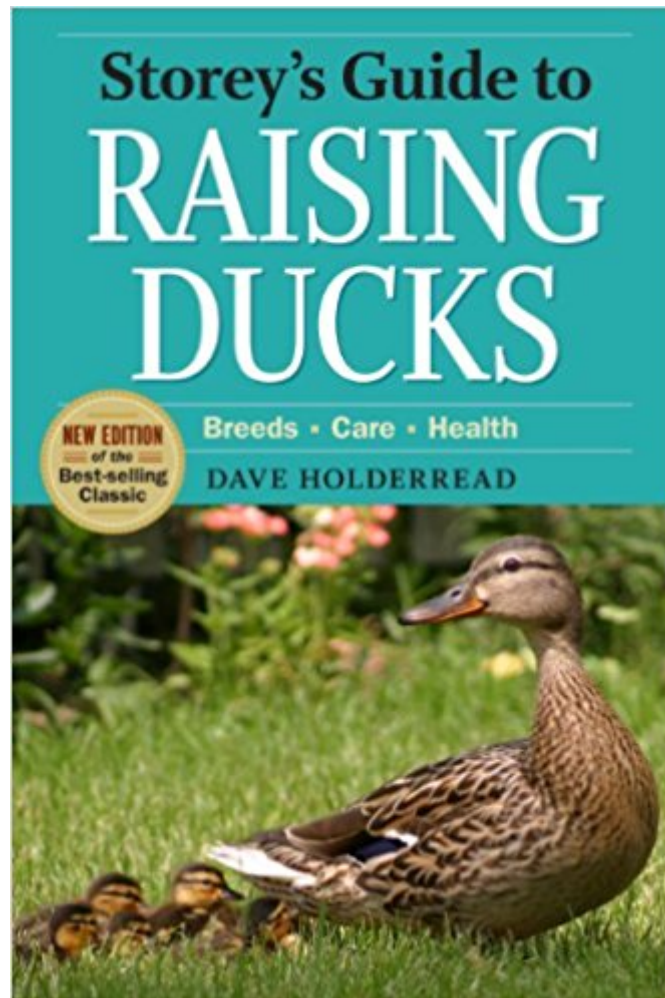




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# Storey's Guide To Raising Ducks, 2nd Edition: Breeds, Care, Health



## Synopsis

With in-depth information on feeding, housing, behavior, and health care, this comprehensive guide also provides proven strategies for creating a profitable business plan and marketing your products. Whether you're about to acquire your first ducks or are interested in experimenting with rare breeds, Storey's Guide to Raising Ducks will help you achieve your duck-raising goals.

## Book Information

Series: Storey's Guide to Raising

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Storey Publishing, LLC; 2 edition (February 5, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1603426922

ISBN-13: 978-1603426923

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.9 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 137 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #55,698 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in Books > Medical Books > Veterinary Medicine > Bovine Medicine #9 in Books > Medical Books > Veterinary Medicine > Food Animals #32 in Books > Business & Money > Industries > Agriculture

## Customer Reviews

Storey has long been known as a go-to press for exemplary animal-husbandry titles, and now it is releasing some of its best-sellers in substantially revised editions to satisfy growing demand for information on their increasingly trendy topics. Almost a third of the material in this update of a 2001 title is brand new, including current guidelines for disease prevention and maintaining healthy flocks and new overviews of organic methods. Also expanded is the resource section as well as a discussion about the importance of rare breeds, a topic that fits easily into the larger movement to preserve the widest possible gene pools in plants and animals. As in the previous edition, readers will find all the basic, technical facts they need to start and maintain their own fowl-raising operation, beginning with "choosing the right duck" and throughout, sidebars from experienced voices offer sobering advice on such topics as thwarting predators ("Just one raccoon visit can wipe out your entire flock"). Extensive charts and a scattering of photos round out this essential guide. --Gillian Engberg --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this

title.

A perfect choice for many farmers, ducks produce eggs and meat efficiently, thrive in inclement weather, help control insect and snail populations, and they're also entertaining and beautiful. From selecting the breed that's right for you to rearing, housing, and caring for your birds, Storey's Guide to Raising Ducks provides essential advice and practical know-how you need to keep a thriving flock. The revised and updated second edition includes:

- \*Expanded coverage of 23 domestic North American breeds
- \*Preview of natural and artificial incubation
- \*Revised and expanded guide to duck colors
- \*Up-to-date information on disease prevention and treatment
- \*Guidelines for showing
- \*Tips on rare breed conservation

If you only buy one book about raising ducks, this is the one you want. This book helped me choose a breed, design a predator-resistant duck house and duck yard, and create a healthy feeding/watering plan. With its help, I raised mail-order ducklings to a healthy laying flock--losing only 1 out of 9 ducklings. It is a VERY PRACTICAL guide written by a man who has tons of experience breeding, raising, and showing ducks of many different breeds. It has probably some of the best breed descriptions (although, of course, not lots of beautiful color photos) in any duck book I've read. His duck feeding, watering, and housing guides are in-depth and practical. I refer to them frequently as the needs of my flock change. I find if I'm running into trouble--it's usually because I disregarded one of his suggestions. His health section has tips to prevent illness in the first place, and treatment suggestions keeping in mind the real world value of your average duck. There is a short section on butchering/ recipes too, as well as showing.

I love the "Storey's Guide to Raising..." books. They are just packed with great information. I'm getting ready to start my backyard ranch and these books will be indispensable. I'll list all of the chapter headings for each of the books I got to give you an idea of the information you'll be getting. Here's the list for Ducks:

- Why Ducks
- External Features and Behavior
- Choosing the Right Duck
- Bantam Breeds
- Lightweight Breeds
- Mediumweight Breeds
- Heavyweight Breeds
- The Importance of Preserving Rare Breeds
- Hybrid Ducks
- Understanding Duck Colors
- Acquiring Stock
- Incubation
- Rearing Ducklings
- Managing Adult Ducks
- Understanding Feeds
- Butchering
- Health and Physical Problems
- Showtime

This book also contains Acknowledgements, a Foreword, Glossary, and Appendix which includes; Mixing Duck Rations, Symptoms of Vitamin and Mineral Deficiencies in Ducks, Predators, Duck Recipes, Using Feathers and Down, Duck Breekers and

Hachery Guide, Sources of Supplies and Equipment, and Organizations and Publications. Like I said, packed with great information.

If you want to raise ducks, are thinking about raising ducks, dream about raising ducks, or just like to read about ducks, this is the book you need. This book is the Everything you always wanted to know about ducks written by one of the preeminent experts on ducks, covering topics such as genetics, housing, feed, and many others. Admittedly Mr Holderread is not the liveliest writer in all the world but he knows his stuff, and that is what I came for. It may well be true that in farming there is no teacher quite like experience but I have referred to these pages many times to help me to formulate feed, avoid potentially serious problems by understanding certain behavioral characteristics, and make sound management decisions not just for the ducks but my other birds also. I am quite certain that my ducks and probably my other birds too derived great benefit from the information gathered from these pages, and possibly live healthier and happier lives.

Five years after purchase and I still readily reference this from my bookshelf. Originally purchased as a personal reference while working as a naturalist at a waterfowl wildlife refuge where I was assisting in tending habitats and care for wild waterfowl and injured-secured wild or domestic waterfowl. A year later, I brought home an abandoned, domestic muscovy duckling from work -- who then needed a friend and purchased a domestic khaki campbell duckling. I've used this book and Kimberley Link's "The Ultimate Pet Duck Guidebook" (which is crazily priced at the moment of writing, but I purchased when \$10 used) as my reference guides in duck keeping and they are the only two I own on the topic. They both cover some similar material but also vast other amounts individually. Both have become a great set to lend to new duck owners before they go out and buy any guides or reference material for themselves.

I had ducks growing up but am basically getting ducks for the first time now that we have 2 kids and live in the country. I plan on getting 3-4 and just need a quick easy reading book that I can reference to quickly if needed. This book is great because it has a ton of info. But there's so much info that I don't need in it and each topic is covered in great detail. I got a little bored with the book and just skimmed through the specific topics I was looking for. I'm disappointed there's no color pictures and not a lot of pictures to help with descriptions. It's not a very fun book. This book seems like it would be excellent for someone wanting to be a duck farmer rather than just having a couple pet ducks. I recommend the book, Duck Eggs Daily by Lisa Steele for people who want to have a few pet ducks.

So far, so good. I have been doing a lot of research online regarding raising ducklings. This book came recommended by many breeders. The book is packed with information. Some of which I can skip over.. IT goes into other breeds of ducks that I do not own and first aid. Things that I many need to know in the future. I do wish that the book when more in detail of actual brands that the author uses. Adding Niacin or not adding Niacin with different types of crumble is confusing to me. I'm still researching this subject online. Maybe a comparison between the food brands. Manna Pro vs Purina, vs chick feed. I have definitely learned a lot from this book.

Needless to say, a great book, but I'd recommend also buying The Ultimate Pet Duck Guidebook, which has some info that this book doesn't. With both in hand, you'll be set!

I have this guide for chickens and it's been my main source of information for the past five years. Now that we are getting some ducks I knew exactly which book I wanted to purchase. Informative and easy to navigate.

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