

Poultry - How many can I have at my property?

The number of chickens and poultry you can have is dependent on the size of your property. The number of animals you can keep is regulated by council's local law. Animals must be kept in a way that does not cause a noise, smell or wandering nuisance to others.

If you own or keep 100 or more birds that are raised for human consumption (e.g. poultry), or the production of eggs for human consumption (e.g. poultry) you must comply with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* including identification and movement records.

If you are seeking an approval for an additional animal, please talk to a Council Officer in the first instance, before lodging any application. Council is reviewing it's keeping of animal provisions in its local laws (rules for keeping animals).

Don't know the size of your property or want to know more about getting **an approval** for additional animals? Contact council on 07 3205 0555 for assistance.

For information on other animal types please visit www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au

Poultry

Chickens (excludes roosters/cockerels)		
Property size	How many can I have?	
	As of right	With approval by Council
Properties of less than 300m ²	0	No additional
Properties of 300m ² or greater, up to 599m ²	3	No additional
Properties of 600m ² or greater, up to 1000m ²	6	No additional
Properties of 1,001m ² or greater up to 3,000m ²	12	No additional
Properties of 3,001m ² or greater up to 10,000m ²	20	No additional
Properties of 10,001m ² or greater	30	More than 30 with approval

Roosters/cockerels		
Property size	How many can I have?	
	As of right	With approval by Council
Properties of less than 6,000m ²	0	No additional
Properties of 6,001m ² or greater, up to 20,000m ²	0	1
Properties of 20,001m ² or greater	1	No additional

Geese/turkey/guinea fowl/peacock		
Property size	How many can I have?	
	As of right	With approval by Council
Properties of less than 20,000m ²	0	No additional
Properties of 20,001m ² or more	10	No additional

Duck		
Property size	How many can I have?	
	As of right	With approval by Council
Properties of less than 3,000m ²	0	No additional
Properties of 3,001m ² or greater up to 10,000m ²	10	No additional
Properties of 10,001m ² or greater	20	More than 20 with approval

Ratites (ostrich/emu or similar)		
Property size	How many can I have?	
	As of right	With approval by Council
Properties of less than 20,000m ²	0	No additional
Properties of 20,001m ² or more	0	Yes. Number subject to approval

Primary Producers

Prohibitions and the requirement for an approval for the keeping of animals do not apply to animals maintained or kept for the purpose of primary production.

Primary producer

(a) means a person primarily engaged in the occupation of a —

(i) dairy farmer; or

(ii) wheat, maize or cereal grower; or

(iii) cane grower; or

(iv) fruit grower; or

(v) grazier; or

(vi) farmer, whether engaged in general or mixed farming, cotton, potato, or vegetable growing, or poultry or pig raising; and

(b) includes a person engaged in primary production.

Minimum standards for keeping animals

Animals must be kept in accordance with the requirements of any code of practice approved by resolution of the local government.

If you own or keep any of the following, you must comply with the requirements of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* including identification and movement records and be registered with Biosecurity Queensland as a biosecurity entity:

- 100 or more birds that are raised for human consumption (e.g. poultry), or the production of eggs for human consumption (e.g. poultry) or have been released into free flight since they started being kept in captivity (e.g. pigeons)

When you register as a biosecurity entity, you'll receive a unique Property identification code (PIC) for stock, birds/poultry or a unique Hive identification number (HIN) to mark your beehives.

Animal enclosures

- Enclosures built specifically for the keeping of animals are to be maintained to an acceptable structural condition to ensure that the animals cannot escape; and
- Uneaten food scraps, manure and any other material likely to become offensive (i.e. faeces, soiled bedding, litter) and create a nuisance must be collected at least daily and if not immediately removed from the premises, must be kept in a suitable vermin proof container prior to disposal; and
- Vermin and pests including fleas, flies, ticks, lice, and rodents, must be controlled in and around the enclosure; and
- Run off from animal enclosure(s) must not be allowed to discharge to any adjoining property.

Animal identification

- Birds, excluding poultry, must have an identifying leg band or be micro-chipped.

Minimum distance from boundary

- Roofed or fully enclosed (caged) structure for the housing of animals must be a minimum 1.5 metres from any property boundary.

Minimum standards for keeping particular animals

The minimum standards for keeping particular animals are identified in the table below:

Species or breed of animal	Minimum standards for keeping particular animals
Racing pigeons	Racing pigeons must be confined to their home loft after their designated race or exercise period.
Ratites (ostrich, emu, and other similar birds)	A person must not on any premises keep ratites in densities greater than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Chicks 0 to 12 weeks of age - a shed density of not more than 3 chicks per m² with an additional outside run of 5m² per chick; or (ii) Juveniles 12 weeks to 6 months of age – a maximum density of not more than two per m² with an additional outside run of 40m² per chick; or (iii) Yearlings 6 months to 18 months of age – a maximum density of not more than 100 per hectare; or (iv) Mature ratites over 18 months of age – a maximum density of not more than 18 per hectare.