

Gestation and Mating Tables

	Proper Age for First Mating	Period of Fertility (yrs.)	Number of Females for One Male	Period of Gestation (days)	
				AVERAGE	RANGE
Ewe	90 lbs. or 1 yr.	6		147 / 151 ¹	142–154
Ram	12–14 mos., well matured	7	50–75 ² / 35–40 ³		
Mare	3 yrs.	10–12		336	310–370
Stallion	3 yrs.	12–15	40–45 ⁴ / Record 252 ⁵		
Cow	15–18 mos. ⁶	10–14		283	279–290 ⁷ 262–300 ⁸
Bull	1 yr., well matured	10–12	50 ⁴ / Thousands ⁵		
Sow	5–6 mos. or 250 lbs.	6		115	110–120
Boar	250–300 lbs.	6	50 ² / 35–40 ³		
Doe goat	10 mos. or 85–90 lbs.	6		150	145–155
Buck goat	Well matured	5	30		
Bitch	16–18 mos.	8		63	58–67
Male dog	12–16 mos.	8	8–10		
Queen cat	12 mos.	6		63	60–68
Tom cat	12 mos.	6	6–8		
Doe rabbit	6 mos.	5–6		31	30–32
Buck rabbit	6 mos.	5–6	30		

¹For fine wool breeds. ²Hand-mated. ³Pasture. ⁴Natural. ⁵Artificial. ⁶Holstein and beef: 750 lbs.; Jersey: 500 lbs. ⁷Beef; 8–10 days shorter for Angus. ⁸Dairy.

Incubation Period of Poultry (days)

Chicken	21
Duck	26–32
Goose	30–34
Guinea	26–28

Average Life Span of Animals in Captivity (years)

Cat (domestic)	14	Goat (domestic)	14
Chicken (domestic)	8	Goose (domestic)	20
Dog (domestic)	13	Horse	22
Duck (domestic)	10	Rabbit (domestic)	6

	Estral/Estrous Cycle (including heat period)		Length of Estrus (heat)		Usual Time of Ovulation	When Cycle Recurs if Not Bred
	AVERAGE	RANGE	AVERAGE	RANGE		
Mare	21 days	10–37 days	5–6 days	2–11 days	24–48 hours before end of estrus	21 days
Sow	21 days	18–24 days	2–3 days	1–5 days	30–36 hours after start of estrus	21 days
Ewe	16½ days	14–19 days	30 hours	24–32 hours	12–24 hours before end of estrus	16½ days
Goat	21 days	18–24 days	2–3 days	1–4 days	Near end of estrus	21 days
Cow	21 days	18–24 days	18 hours	10–24 hours	10–12 hours after end of estrus	21 days
Bitch	24 days	16–30 days	7 days	5–9 days	1–3 days after first acceptance	Pseudo-pregnancy
Cat		15–21 days	3–4 days, if mated	9–10 days, in absence of male	24–56 hours after coitus	Pseudo-pregnancy