



## FAST-GROWING RABBIT BREEDS AND THEIR PRODUCTIVITY INDICATORS

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**Annotation.** *This article is about the fast-growing of rabbits and their productivity. Fast-growing rabbit breeds are typically distinguished by their ability to reach maturity quickly and reproduce in large numbers. These breeds are commonly used in agriculture for meat and fur production due to their rapid growth and high productivity.*

**Keywords:** *Rabbit meat, dietetic meat, fat, protein, cholesterol, lean, state standards, breeds, obesity categories.*

In rabbit breeding, a breed is a group of animals that share common ancestry, have similar productive traits, body structure, physiological characteristics, and productivity, and can consistently pass these traits from generation to generation. The breed should consist of an average of around 2,000 breeding females in terms of offspring.

Purebred animals should be bred in optimal conditions. In newly introduced environments, the characteristics of the breeds may change due to climatic and socio-economic factors. However, with proper nutrition and care, purebred animals can retain their beneficial traits for the farm. Continuous improvement of the breeds is based on perfect selection and grading, as well as proper use of well-known lines and families.

Rabbit breeds are classified according to their productivity traits as follows: meat breeds, meat-and-skin breeds, and breeds that produce wool. Additionally, there are breeds classified based on the length of their fur: medium-haired, long-haired, as well as breeds for wool production and decorative purposes.

The White Giant rabbit breed belongs to the meat-and-skin category. This breed was developed in the 19th century through continuous breeding efforts in the regions along the Belgium-Germany border. The primary focus was on selecting and grading white-colored rabbits from the Flandr breed, emphasizing their meat production and rapid growth characteristics. Rabbits of this breed have long and compact bodies, a flat back, a well-filled rump, a wide chest, an average-sized head, and a strong constitution. Their meat production is average, they mature quickly, and have dense fur. A female rabbit of this breed can raise an average of 8 kits. At 2 months old, the kits weigh between 1.5-2 kg, and at 4 months old, they reach a live weight of 2.6 kg. They are recommended for meat production (broiler production). Adult rabbits typically weigh around 5 kg, although in some farms, their weight can reach up to 6.4 kg.



### **White Giant**

The California is a meat-type breed of rabbit. It is of medium size, with a white color, except for dark brown markings that appear on the tips of the ears, sometimes on the nose, paws, and tail.



In the USA, it was created by crossbreeding the New Zealand White, Russian Chinchilla, and large Shinsilla breeds. The crossbred offspring, produced from breeding these varieties internally, resulted in a breed combining the rapid growth and meatiness of the New Zealand White, and the dense fur characteristics of the Russian Chinchilla.

The breed has a strong constitution, though sometimes with delicate bones, and is meaty and well-filled. It weighs between 4-5 kg. At birth, it weighs an average of 45g, 2 months old it weighs 1.9-2.3 kg, 4 months old it weighs 2.7-3.4 kg, and at 5 months old, it reaches 4.2 kg. After this age, its growth slows down.

The slaughter yield is 56-60%, with the meat yield from the body being 82-85%, bones 13-15%, and fat content at 1.8-1.5%. The breed is moderately prolific, averaging 8 kits per litter. The kits are born fully white, and dark markings appear later, resembling the Russian Chinchilla breed.

The breed was introduced to the CIS region in 1971 from England and Hungary. It is widespread in Ukraine and Russia, and is also present in Uzbekistan.

Both meat-type breeds have fur covering between the fingers and paws, making them well-suited for housing in wire cages.



### **Colifornian rabbit**

**Conclusion.** Fast-growing breeds typically reach maturity within 10-12 weeks and have a very high annual reproduction rate. These breeds are efficient for meat and fur production and are capable of providing high productivity under various



conditions. Proper care, nutrition, and attention are crucial for ensuring the growth and reproduction of these breeds.

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