Gallus gallus **System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Aves	Galliformes	Phasianidae

Common name

yar (Breton), kip (Dutch), gallina (Catalan), oilasko (Basque), puddu (Sardinian), gall bankiva (Catalan), galinha (Portuguese), slepice (Czech), gaina (Romanian), gallo comune (Italian), kilhog (Breton), gjeli (Albanian), Gà rừng jabou (Vietnamese), pilence kokoška (Bulgarian), frango (Portuguese), arg (Estonian), kura (Polish), puddone (Sardinian), ayam hutan (Malay), kukko (Finnish), eean (Manx), gallo bankiva (Spanish), poulet (French), pollo (Spanish), pollastre (Catalan), pščanec (Slovenian), pragozdna kokoš (Slovenian), cearc (English, Ireland), oilo (Basque), punaviidakkokana (Finnish), sekishokuyakei (Japanese), kesykana (Finnish), haushuhn (German), pulschain (Romansh), pui (Romanian), hen kiark (Manx), domestic fowl (English), høne (Norwegian), hænsn (Icelandic), puna-džunglikana (Estonian), calis (Latvian), junglefowl (English), bankivahuhn (German), bankivahane (Norwegian), bankivahoen (Dutch), red junglefowl (English), csirke (Hungarian), cyw (Welsh), coq bankiva (French), cipka (English), caboniscu (Sardinian), høsn (Faroese), Röd djungelhöna (Swedish), caboni (Sardinian), ayam hutan merah (Indonesian Bahasa), cyplenok (Russian), kurjetko (English), koko (English), wild chicken (English), moa (Hawaiian), kurje (English), fellus (Maltese), kur bankiwa (Polish), kura divá (Slovak), kur bankivský (Czech), piliç (Turkish), kurica (Russian), pile (Croatian), kurka (Ukrainian), kuryca (Belarusian), hin (Frisian), tigiega (Maltese), galo (English, Ireland), kurjo (English), vuonccis (Northern Sami), feral chicken (English), kyckling (Swedish), manok-ihalas (Cebuano), kokoška (Macedonian), malkureome (Palauan), vista (Latvian), tavuk (Turkish), kylling (Norwegian), poul (English, Haiti), wild junglefowl (English), poleç (Friulian), bankivine viéta (Lithuanian), bankivahøne (Danish), bankivska kokoš (Slovenian), galiña (English, Ireland), höna (Swedish)

Synonym

Gallus domesticus

Similar species

Summary

Gallus spp. include the many forms of domesticated chicken which have been bred and distributed widely across the world as an important food source. In addition to potentially spreading disease to other avian fauna, as generalist feeders, *Gallus* spp. may also negatively impact upon native flora and fauna.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Species Description

Gallus spp. are highly variable medium sized birds capable of short ranged flight. While there are many different forms of *Gallus* spp. , a number of characteristics are considered to indicate a pure *G. gallus* individual. These are the presence of an \"eclipse\" plumage in the males, absence of a comb and wattles in the female, slender dark legs, tail posture, call characteristics, and a generally wild and wary behaviour (Peterson & Brisbin, 1999). Sexual dimorphism is common in this genus, with males being generally larger, with a larger comb and wattles.

Notes
Gallus gallus is thought to have provided the genetic stock for various domesticated breeds of chicken *Gallus* spp. which are widely distributed across the world. As the subspecies are capable of interbreeding, it is possible that the original pure genetic strain of *G. gallus* could actually be extinct or critically endangered (Peterson & Brisbin, 1999). A survey of 745 museum specimens suggests that most wild populations of *G. gallus* have been contaminated by introgression of genes from domesticated and feral chickens (Peterson & Brisbin, 1999).

Uses
Gallus gallus has been bred to produce many different domesticated variants which are used and widely distribued as a source of food (Pyle & Pyle, 2009).

Nutrition
Gallus spp. are generalist feeders on a wide range of invertebrates and vertebrates as well as plants and seeds.

General Impacts
Gallus spp. also can carry a number of diseases which may be harmful to other avian fauna such as Newcastle Disease (NDV), *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, and the proventricular parasite *Dispharynx* sp. on the Galapagos Islands (Gottdenka *et al.*, 2005).
In populations of *Gallus* spp. bred for food, there are risks of carrying disease causing pathogens such as *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Salmonella* spp. (Dubey, 2009). Although not confirmed, there were also fears that *Gallus* spp. could be a vector for the H5N1 avian bird flu (Daily Gazette, 2006).
Having a highly generalist diet, *Gallus* spp. could negatively impact native invertebrates and verbrates as well as native plants (Varnham, 2006). Feral *Gallus* spp. are also known to be a pest on farms, damaging crops and potentially spreading disease to domesticated *Gallus* spp. populations (Varnham, 1996; Daily Gazette, 1998.).
In high numbers, *Gallus* spp. can become a human nuisance due to the noise made by males.
They are potential risks to aircraft near airports (Daily Gazette, 1998).

Management Info
Physical control: Feral individual *Gallus* spp. are often controlled via shooting or trapping as carried out on Bermuda and the Cayman Islands (Varnham, 2006). On the Cayman Islands, trapped feral individuals were then distributed to people who kept chickens (Varnham, 2006).
Chemical control: On Lord Howe Island, *Gallus* spp. were one of the species identified to be put at risk from use of brodifacoum for rodent eradication (Lord Howe Island Board, 2009). However, no information could be found regarding chemical control programs for *Gallus* spp.. On Bermuda, chemical control was not considered due to the risk of non-target effects on other avian fauna and farmer's crops (Daily Gazette, 2006).

Pathway
Gallus spp. have been widely distributed and bred as a food source for humans (Pyle & Pyle, 2009).

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Pubblication date: 2010-06-09

ALIEN RANGE

[1] ANGUILLA
[1] BERMUDA
[1] CAYMAN ISLANDS
[1] GUAM
[1] MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF
[1] NAURU
[1] PALAU
[1] UNITED STATES
[3] AUSTRALIA
[2] BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY
[1] ECUADOR
[1] MARSHALL ISLANDS
[1] MONTSERRAT
[1] NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
[1] TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

Red List assessed species 10: CR = 1; EN = 2; VU = 4; LC = 3;

Atelopus guanujo **CR**
Gallirallus philippensis andrewsi **LC**
Larus fuliginosus **VU**
Megapodius nicobariensis **VU**
Rhinophis oxyrhynchus **LC**
Cnemaspis kandiana **LC**
Iguana delicatissima **EN**
Megapodius bernsteinii **VU**
Phalacrocorax harrisi **VU**
Spheniscus mendiculus **EN**

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Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.
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