

# Chicken tractor capacity?

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We recently received some abandoned chickens that were left behind when someone moved out of a rent house that a friend does the maintenance for. They're still finding some occasionally, but so far we have nine surviving bantams, two large, and one in-between sized. The larger ones seem content to stay in the garden fence, but at least one bantam has already wandered off and disappeared.

What I've thrown together from scrap wood and a couple rolls of chicken wire is loosely based on the A-frame chicken tractor design; roughly 12x4ft, no floor, and tall enough for me to crawl through. Right now it's just wire all around, but next week, I'll be enclosing the back 4ft, with some sort of nesting boxes, adding a small door there, and putting wheels on it.

How many bantams can something like this support, assuming it will be moved fairly often? How often should be enough?

Any other suggestions on this project? Our two main goals are reducing the grasshoppers, and taming the overgrown remains of the former garden.

I know I should know more about the breeds, but I grew up raising free-ranging chickens, and as long as grain and bugs went in one end, and eggs and fertilizer came out the other, they were all just big or little, hen or rooster.