



HATCHING EGG MANAGEMENT

Once an egg is laid, its hatching potential can only be maintained not improved. To ensure optimum hatchability and chick quality, it is vital to keep eggs in an ideal condition between laying and hatching.

Hatching Eggs

Fertile eggs are collected from healthy chicken, which are free from diseases.

A ratio of 1 cock to 10 hens recommended for optimal fertility

Provide laying nest with nesting materials to facilitate clean egg collection. Use of floor eggs depresses hatchability



Select eggs from a mature healthy stock aged 25 weeks and above

Eggs should be collected at least thrice a day to avoid damages and dirt.

Eggs should be collected on clean egg trays and arranged with the sharp end facing downwards.

After collection, eggs should be graded and put in a cool store at a temperature not more than 20°C for less than 10 days. The longer the eggs are stored the lower the hatchability

Remove unsuitable egg from hatching through grading. These are; Dirty, Cracked/broken, Too Big or Small, eggs with poor shells, grossly misshapen and Blood stained eggs

Egg Management

Store the eggs in a separate room where the temperature and humidity are controlled or at best maintained. Keeps the egg handling room clean and tidy and maintain good vermin control. Do not accept dirty egg containers from outside your farm

Note that washing eggs increases bacterial infection and is therefore not recommended unless under controlled conditions.

Effects of Storing Eggs

- Storage prolongs incubation time.
- Hatchability is depressed by prolonging storage.