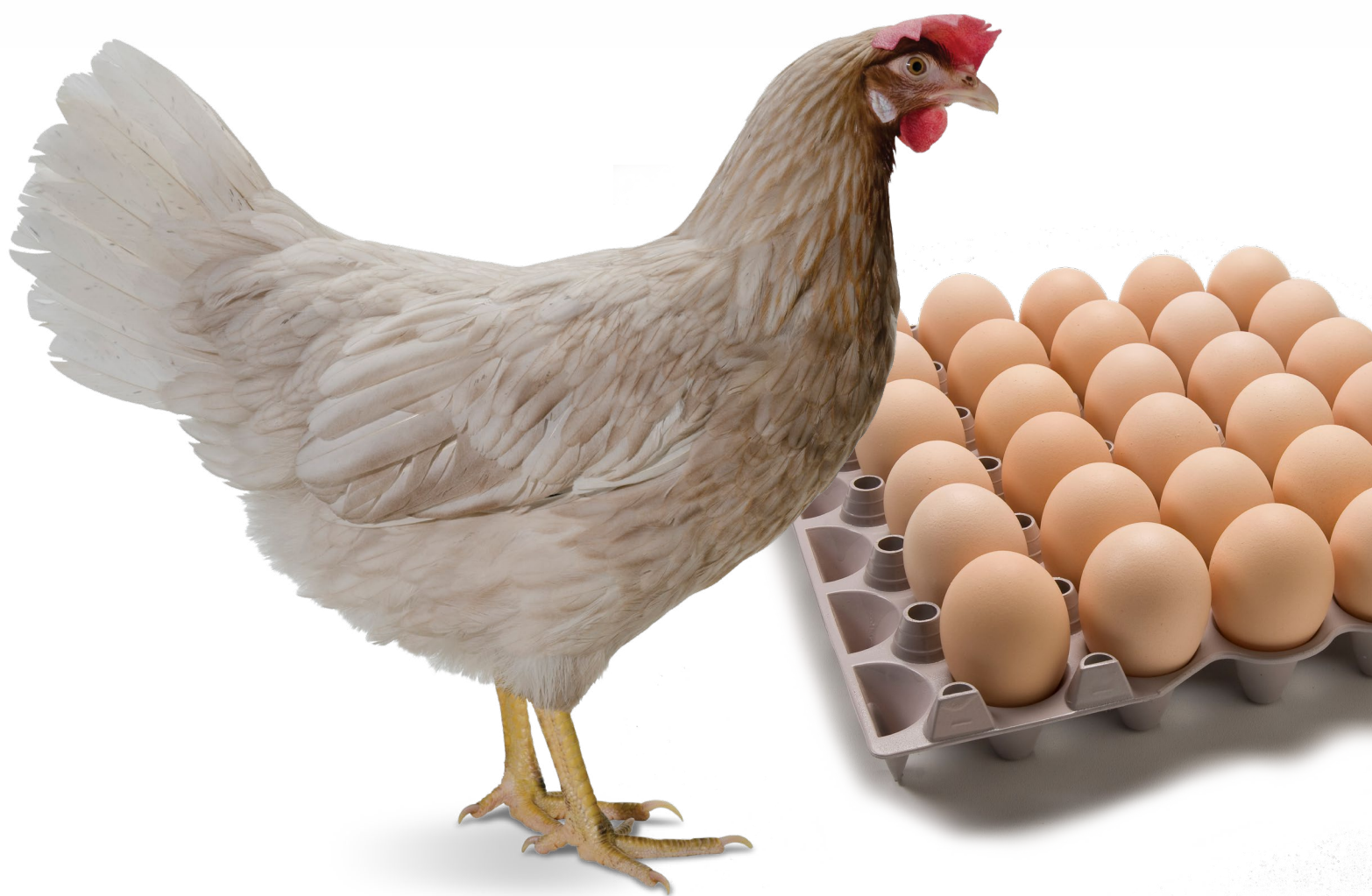


# Management Guide



***Hy-Line***<sup>®</sup>

SONIA

# USE OF THE MANAGEMENT GUIDE

The genetic potential of Hy-Line Sonia Commercial can only be realized if good poultry husbandry practices and management are used. This management guide outlines successful flock management programs for Hy-Line Variety Sonia Commercial based on field experience compiled by Hy-Line International and using an extensive commercial layer flock database of Hy-Line flocks from all parts of the world. Hy-Line International Management Guides are periodically updated as new performance data and/or nutrition information become available.

The information and suggestions contained in this management guide should be used for guidance and educational purposes only, recognizing that local environmental and disease conditions may vary and a guide cannot cover all possible circumstances. While every attempt has been made to ensure that the information presented is accurate and reliable at the time of publication, Hy-Line International cannot accept responsibility for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies in such information or management suggestions. Further, Hy-Line International does not warrant or make any representations or guarantees regarding the use, validity, accuracy, or reliability of, or flock performance or productivity resulting from the use of, or otherwise respecting, such information or management suggestions. In no event shall Hy-Line International be liable for any special, indirect or consequential damages or special damages whatsoever arising out of or in connection with the use of the information or management suggestions contained in this management guide.

Visit [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com) for an interactive online management guide.

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# Summary of Performance Standards

REARING PERIOD (TO 17 WEEKS):	
Livability	98%
Feed Consumed	5.59–6.33 kg
Body Weight at 17 Weeks	1.46–1.48 kg
LAYING PERIOD (TO 90 WEEKS):	
Percent Peak	95–97%
Hen-Day Eggs to 60 Weeks	256–263
Hen-Day Eggs to 90 Weeks	425–434
Hen-Housed Eggs to 60 Weeks	254–260
Hen-Housed Eggs to 90 Weeks	416–425
Livability to 60 Weeks	98%
Livability to 90 Weeks	94%
Days to 50% Production (from hatch)	143 days
Average Egg Weight at 26 Weeks	59.0–61.0 g/egg
Average Egg Weight at 32 Weeks	61.2–63.2 g/egg
Average Egg Weight at 70 Weeks	63.8–65.8 g/egg
Total Egg Mass per Hen-Housed (18–90 weeks)	26.6 kg
Body Weight at 32 Weeks	1.84–1.89 kg
Body Weight at 70 Weeks	2.01–2.06 kg
Freedom From Egg Inclusions	Excellent
Shell Strength	Excellent
Shell Color at 38 Weeks	52
Shell Color at 56 Weeks	48
Shell Color at 70 Weeks	46
Haugh Units at 38 Weeks	95.0
Haugh Units at 56 Weeks	87.0
Haugh Units at 70 Weeks	83.0
Average Daily Feed Consumption (18–90 weeks)	101–106 g / day per bird
Feed Conversion Rate, kg Feed/kg Eggs (20–60 weeks)	1.88–1.97
Feed Conversion Rate, kg Feed/kg Eggs (20–90 weeks)	1.88–1.99
Feed Utilization, kg Egg/kg Feed (20–60 weeks)	0.48–0.50
Feed Utilization, kg Egg/kg Feed (20–90 weeks)	0.47–0.48
Feed Consumption per Dozen Eggs (20–60 weeks)	1.42–1.45 kg
Feed Consumption per Dozen Eggs (20–90 weeks)	1.31–1.45 kg
Skin Color	Yellow
Condition of Droppings	Dry
Feather Color	Varies (see note below)

Feather color can vary from white to dark brown and in various patterns. Hy-Line does not select for feather color or feather pattern; as a consequence, a wide range in feather color and patterns is observable. See photo on p. 10.

Performance Summary data is based on results obtained from customers around the world. Please send your results to [info@hyline.com](mailto:info@hyline.com). An easy to use record-keeping program, **Hy-Line International EggCel**, can be found at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

# Performance Tables

## Rearing Period

AGE (weeks)	MORTALITY Cumulative (%)	BODY WEIGHT (kg)	FEED INTAKE (g / bird per day)	CUMULATIVE FEED INTAKE (g to date)	WATER CONSUMPTION (ml / bird / day)	UNIFORMITY (Cage)
1	0.5	0.07 – 0.08	12 – 14	84 – 98	18 – 28	>85%
2	0.7	0.11 – 0.12	18 – 22	210 – 252	27 – 44	
3	0.8	0.19 – 0.20	23 – 27	371 – 441	35 – 54	
4	0.9	0.28 – 0.29	27 – 31	560 – 658	41 – 62	>80%
5	1.0	0.38 – 0.39	31 – 35	777 – 903	47 – 70	
6	1.1	0.49 – 0.50	35 – 39	1022 – 1176	53 – 78	
7	1.2	0.59 – 0.60	39 – 43	1295 – 1477	59 – 86	
8	1.2	0.71 – 0.72	43 – 49	1596 – 1820	65 – 98	
9	1.3	0.81 – 0.82	48 – 54	1932 – 2198	72 – 108	
10	1.3	0.91 – 0.92	52 – 60	2296 – 2618	78 – 120	
11	1.4	1.01 – 1.02	57 – 65	2695 – 3073	86 – 130	
12	1.5	1.11 – 1.12	62 – 70	3129 – 3563	93 – 140	>85%
13	1.6	1.18 – 1.19	66 – 74	3591 – 4081	99 – 148	
14	1.7	1.24 – 1.25	69 – 77	4074 – 4620	104 – 154	
15	1.8	1.31 – 1.32	71 – 79	4571 – 5173	107 – 158	
16	1.9	1.38 – 1.39	72 – 82	5075 – 5747	108 – 164	>90%
17	2.0	1.44 – 1.45	73 – 83	5586 – 6328	110 – 166	

## Laying Period

AGE (weeks)	% HEN-DAY Current	HEN-DAY EGGS Cumulative	HEN-HOUSED EGGS Cumulative	MORTALITY Cumulative (%)	BODY WEIGHT (kg)	FEED INTAKE (g / bird / day)	WATER CONSUMPTION <sup>1</sup> (ml / bird / day)	HEN-HOUSED EGG MASS Cumulative (kg)	AVG. EGG WEIGHT <sup>2</sup> (g / egg)
18	2 – 4	0.1 – 0.3	0.1 – 0.3	0.0	1.45 – 1.50	73 – 84	102 – 140	0.0	45.0
19	11 – 15	0.9 – 1.3	0.9 – 1.3	0.1	1.47 – 1.52	81 – 88	120 – 164	0.1	47.0
20	30 – 40	3.0 – 4.1	3.0 – 4.1	0.1	1.52 – 1.57	89 – 91	134 – 182	0.2	50.0
21	65 – 70	7.6 – 9.0	7.5 – 9.0	0.2	1.59 – 1.64	94 – 96	141 – 192	0.4	52.5
22	83 – 88	13.4 – 15.2	13.3 – 15.2	0.2	1.70 – 1.75	98 – 100	147 – 200	0.8	55.0
23	90 – 94	19.7 – 21.8	19.6 – 21.7	0.2	1.72 – 1.77	100 – 104	150 – 208	1.1	56.5
24	91 – 95	26.0 – 28.4	26.0 – 28.3	0.3	1.74 – 1.79	101 – 105	152 – 210	1.5	58.0
25	92 – 96	32.5 – 35.1	32.4 – 35.0	0.3	1.76 – 1.81	102 – 107	153 – 214	1.9	59.0
26	94 – 97	39.1 – 41.9	38.9 – 41.8	0.4	1.78 – 1.83	103 – 108	155 – 216	2.3	60.0
27	94 – 97	45.6 – 48.7	45.5 – 48.6	0.4	1.79 – 1.84	104 – 109	156 – 218	2.7	60.5
28	94 – 97	52.2 – 55.5	52.0 – 55.3	0.4	1.80 – 1.85	104 – 109	156 – 218	3.1	61.0
29	95 – 97	58.9 – 62.3	58.7 – 62.1	0.5	1.81 – 1.86	104 – 109	156 – 218	3.5	61.5
30	95 – 97	65.5 – 69.1	65.3 – 68.8	0.5	1.82 – 1.87	104 – 109	156 – 218	3.9	61.7
31	94 – 97	72.1 – 75.9	71.8 – 75.6	0.6	1.83 – 1.88	104 – 109	156 – 218	4.3	62.0
32	94 – 96	78.7 – 82.6	78.4 – 82.3	0.6	1.84 – 1.89	104 – 109	156 – 218	4.7	62.2
33	94 – 96	85.3 – 89.3	84.9 – 88.9	0.6	1.85 – 1.90	104 – 109	156 – 218	5.1	62.4
34	94 – 96	91.8 – 96.0	91.4 – 95.6	0.7	1.86 – 1.91	104 – 109	156 – 218	5.6	62.6
35	94 – 95	98.4 – 102.7	97.9 – 102.2	0.7	1.86 – 1.91	104 – 109	156 – 218	6.0	62.8
36	94 – 95	105.0 – 109.3	104.5 – 108.8	0.8	1.87 – 1.92	104 – 109	156 – 218	6.4	63.0
37	93 – 95	111.5 – 116.0	110.9 – 115.4	0.8	1.87 – 1.92	104 – 109	156 – 218	6.8	63.2
38	93 – 95	118.0 – 122.6	117.4 – 122.0	0.9	1.88 – 1.93	104 – 109	156 – 218	7.2	63.3
39	93 – 94	124.5 – 129.2	123.8 – 128.5	0.9	1.89 – 1.94	104 – 109	156 – 218	7.6	63.4
40	93 – 94	131.0 – 135.8	130.3 – 135.0	1.0	1.90 – 1.95	104 – 109	156 – 218	8.0	63.5
41	92 – 94	137.5 – 142.4	136.6 – 141.5	1.0	1.91 – 1.96	103 – 108	155 – 216	8.4	63.6
42	92 – 94	143.9 – 149.0	143.0 – 148.0	1.1	1.92 – 1.97	103 – 108	155 – 216	8.8	63.7
43	92 – 94	150.4 – 155.5	149.4 – 154.5	1.1	1.93 – 1.98	103 – 108	155 – 216	9.3	63.8

<sup>1</sup> The chart shows an expected range of feed and water consumption at normal environmental temperatures of 21–27°C. As the environmental temperature increases above this range, water consumption may increase up to double the amounts shown.

<sup>2</sup> Egg weights after 40 weeks of age assume phase feeding of protein to limit egg size.

# Performance Tables *(continued)*

AGE (weeks)	% HEN- DAY Current	HEN-DAY EGGS Cumulative	HEN-HOUSED EGGS Cumulative	MORT- ALITY Cumulative (%)	BODY WEIGHT (kg)	FEED INTAKE (g / bird / day)	WATER CONSUMP- TION <sup>1</sup> (ml / bird / day)	HEN- HOUSED EGG MASS Cumulative (kg)	AVG. EGG WEIGHT <sup>2</sup> (g / egg)
44	92 – 94	156.8 – 162.1	155.7 – 161.0	1.2	1.94 – 1.99	103 – 108	155 – 216	9.7	63.9
45	91 – 93	163.2 – 168.6	162.0 – 167.5	1.2	1.95 – 2.00	103 – 108	155 – 216	10.1	64.0
46	91 – 93	169.5 – 175.1	168.3 – 173.9	1.3	1.96 – 2.01	103 – 108	155 – 216	10.5	64.1
47	91 – 93	175.9 – 181.7	174.6 – 180.3	1.3	1.97 – 2.02	102 – 108	153 – 216	10.9	64.2
48	90 – 91	182.2 – 188.0	180.8 – 186.6	1.4	1.98 – 2.03	102 – 108	153 – 216	11.3	64.3
49	90 – 91	188.5 – 194.4	187.0 – 192.9	1.4	1.99 – 2.04	102 – 108	153 – 216	11.7	64.4
50	90 – 91	194.8 – 200.8	193.2 – 199.1	1.5	1.99 – 2.04	102 – 108	153 – 216	12.1	64.5
51	89 – 90	201.0 – 207.1	199.4 – 205.3	1.5	1.99 – 2.04	102 – 108	153 – 216	12.5	64.5
52	89 – 90	207.3 – 213.4	205.5 – 211.5	1.6	1.99 – 2.04	102 – 108	153 – 216	12.9	64.5
53	89 – 90	213.5 – 219.7	211.6 – 217.7	1.7	1.99 – 2.04	102 – 108	153 – 216	13.3	64.5
54	88 – 89	219.7 – 225.9	217.7 – 223.8	1.8	1.99 – 2.04	102 – 108	153 – 216	13.7	64.5
55	88 – 89	225.8 – 232.1	223.7 – 230.0	1.8	1.99 – 2.04	102 – 108	153 – 216	14.1	64.5
56	88 – 89	232.0 – 238.4	229.7 – 236.1	1.9	2.00 – 2.05	102 – 108	153 – 216	14.5	64.6
57	87 – 88	238.1 – 244.5	235.7 – 242.1	2.0	2.00 – 2.05	102 – 108	153 – 216	14.9	64.6
58	87 – 88	244.2 – 250.7	241.7 – 248.1	2.0	2.00 – 2.05	102 – 108	153 – 216	15.2	64.6
59	87 – 88	250.3 – 256.8	247.6 – 254.2	2.1	2.00 – 2.05	102 – 108	153 – 216	15.6	64.6
60	86 – 87	256.3 – 262.9	253.5 – 260.1	2.2	2.01 – 2.06	102 – 108	153 – 216	16.0	64.6
61	86 – 87	262.3 – 269.0	259.4 – 266.1	2.3	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	16.4	64.7
62	86 – 87	268.3 – 275.1	265.3 – 272.0	2.4	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	16.8	64.7
63	85 – 86	274.3 – 281.1	271.1 – 277.9	2.4	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	17.2	64.7
64	85 – 86	280.2 – 287.1	276.9 – 283.8	2.5	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	17.5	64.7
65	85 – 86	286.2 – 293.2	282.7 – 289.6	2.6	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	17.9	64.7
66	84 – 85	292.0 – 299.1	288.4 – 295.4	2.7	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	18.3	64.8
67	84 – 85	297.9 – 305.1	294.1 – 301.2	2.8	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	18.7	64.8
68	84 – 85	303.8 – 311.0	299.8 – 306.9	3.0	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	19.0	64.8
69	83 – 84	309.6 – 316.9	305.4 – 312.6	3.1	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	19.4	64.8
70	83 – 84	315.4 – 322.8	311.1 – 318.3	3.2	2.01 – 2.06	101 – 107	152 – 214	19.8	64.8
71	83 – 84	321.2 – 328.7	316.7 – 324.0	3.3	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	20.1	64.9
72	82 – 83	327.0 – 334.5	322.2 – 329.6	3.4	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	20.5	64.9
73	82 – 83	332.7 – 340.3	327.7 – 335.2	3.5	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	20.9	64.9
74	82 – 83	338.5 – 346.1	333.3 – 340.8	3.7	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	21.2	64.9
75	81 – 82	344.1 – 351.8	338.7 – 346.3	3.8	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	21.6	64.9
76	81 – 82	349.8 – 357.6	344.2 – 351.9	3.9	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	21.9	64.9
77	81 – 82	355.5 – 363.3	349.6 – 357.4	4.0	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	22.3	64.9
78	80 – 81	361.1 – 369.0	355.0 – 362.8	4.2	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	22.6	64.9
79	80 – 81	366.7 – 374.6	360.3 – 368.2	4.3	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	23.0	64.9
80	79 – 80	372.2 – 380.2	365.6 – 373.6	4.4	2.01 – 2.06	100 – 107	150 – 214	23.3	65.0
81	79 – 80	377.7 – 385.8	370.9 – 378.9	4.6	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	23.7	65.0
82	78 – 79	383.2 – 391.4	376.1 – 384.2	4.7	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	24.0	65.0
83	78 – 79	388.6 – 396.9	381.3 – 389.4	4.8	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	24.3	65.0
84	77 – 78	394.0 – 402.4	386.4 – 394.6	5.0	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	24.7	65.0
85	77 – 78	399.4 – 407.8	391.5 – 399.8	5.1	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	25.0	65.0
86	76 – 77	404.7 – 413.2	396.6 – 404.9	5.3	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	25.3	65.0
87	76 – 77	410.1 – 418.6	401.6 – 410.0	5.4	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	25.7	65.0
88	75 – 76	415.3 – 423.9	406.5 – 415.0	5.6	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	26.0	65.0
89	75 – 76	420.6 – 429.2	411.5 – 420.0	5.7	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	26.3	65.0
90	74 – 75	425.7 – 434.5	416.4 – 425.0	5.9	2.01 – 2.06	99 – 106	149 – 212	26.6	65.0



# Cage Brooding Recommendations

## Transportation to the Farm

- Use a truck designed for transportation of chicks from hatchery to farm.
- Truck should be environmentally controlled, maintaining 26–29°C at 70% relative humidity (measured inside chick box); with a minimum air flow of 0.7 m<sup>3</sup> per minute.
- Provide space between stacks of chick boxes for air flow.

## Chick Placement

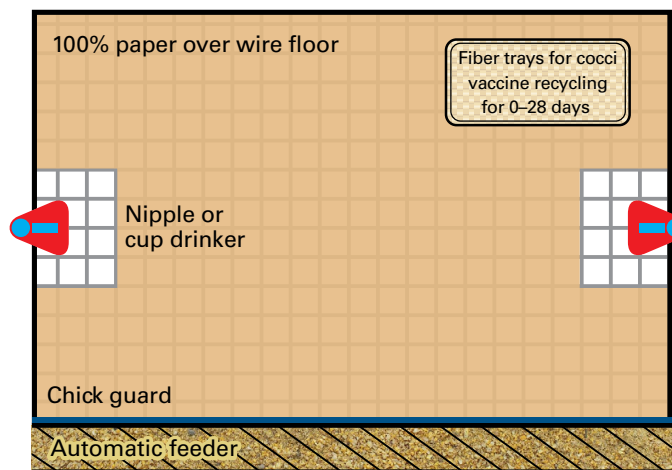
- Unload boxes quickly and gently place chicks in brooding area.
- Brood chicks in groups from similar aged breeder flocks.
- Start chicks in upper tiered cages which are usually warmer and brighter. Ensure there are no shadows on drinkers.
- Chicks from young breeder flocks should be placed in warmer and brighter areas of the house.

## House Preparation before Arrival of Chicks

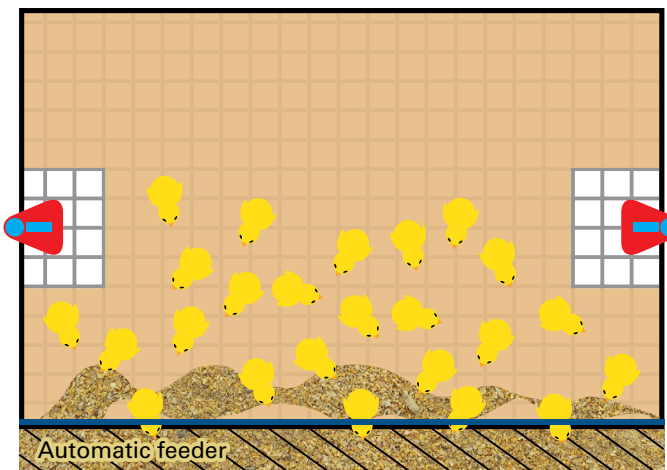
- Brooder house should be completely cleaned and disinfected well in advance of chick delivery. Confirm effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection with environmental swabs.
- Allow 2 weeks minimum downtime between flocks.
- For more information on house preparation and brooding management, see the “[Growing Management of Commercial Pullets](http://www.hyline.com)” technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).
- Establish proper house temperature of 32–35°C (air temperature measured at chick level) and 60% humidity 24 hours before chick placement.
- Pre-heat brooding houses prior to chick placement: 24 hours in normal climates, 48 hours in cool climates and 72 hours in cold climates.
- Fill automatic feed line to its highest level and adjust chick guards. Allow access to the automatic feeder from the first day.
- Bright light (30–50 lux) during 0–7 days helps chicks quickly find feed and water and adapt to the new environment.

## Brooding Management

- Place feed on cage paper 0–3 days to encourage consumption. For beak-treated chicks, feed on paper for 0–7 days.
- Place feed in front of permanent feeder to train chicks to move toward feeders.
- Remove paper at 7–14 days of age to avoid build-up of feces.
- Find optimum balance of temperature, humidity and ventilation rate for chick comfort.
- Cage floors should not be slippery or sloped.
- Use vitamins and electrolytes in chicks’ water (avoid sugar-based products to prevent growth of microorganisms).
- Chicks’ body weight should double between arrival and 7 days of age.
- Brood chicks in groups from similar aged breeder flocks.
- Modify temperature as needed to meet chicks’ comfort needs.
- Adjust brooding temperature according to relative humidity. Lower temperature should be used with higher relative humidity.
- For every 5 percentage point increase above 60% relative humidity, reduce brooding temperatures by 1°C.
- After the first week, reduce temperature weekly 2–3°C until reaching 21°C.
- Do not give cold water to chicks. Be careful when flushing water lines for chicks. Allow water time to warm up in the house so chicks are comfortable drinking.

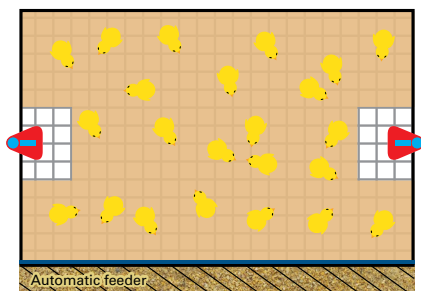


**Chick guard adjusted to allow access to feeder from first day**



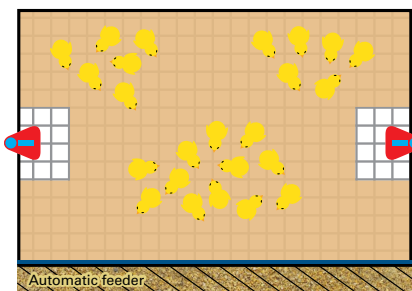
**Place feed on paper near automatic feeder to train chicks**

# Cage Brooding Recommendations *(continued)*



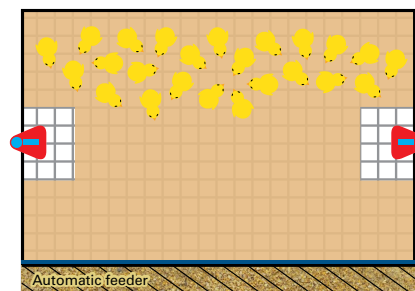
## CORRECT

Chicks evenly distributed in cage,  
active and sounding content



## COLD

Chicks gathered into groups  
sounding distressed

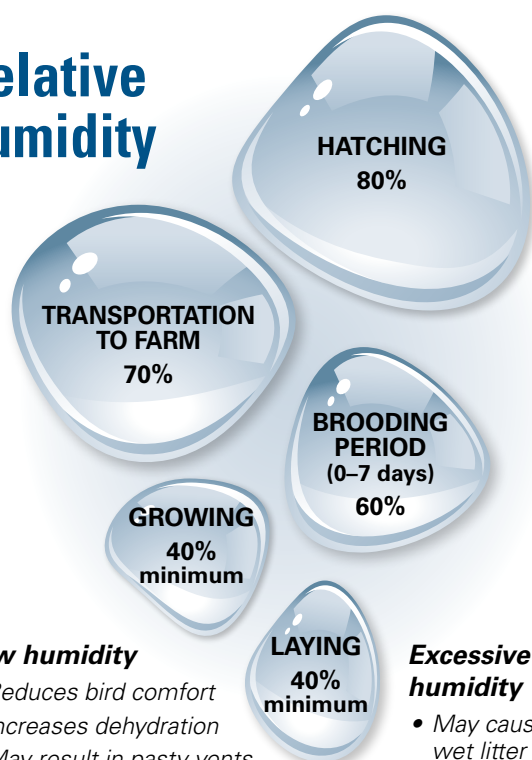


## UNEVEN VENTILATION

Chicks congregated in one part  
of cage, avoiding drafts, noise or  
uneven light distribution

AGE	0-3 days	4-7 days	8-14 days	15-21 days	22-28 days	29-35 days	36-42 days
AIR TEMP. (CAGE)	32-33°C	30-32°C	28-30°C	26-28°C	23-26°C	21-23°C	21°C
AIR TEMP. (FLOOR)	33-35°C	31-33°C	29-31°C	27-29°C	24-27°C	22-24°C	21°C
LIGHT INTENSITY	30-50 lux	30-50 lux	25 lux	25 lux	25 lux	5-15 lux	5-15 lux
LIGHT HOURS	22 hours or Intermittent Program	21 hours or Intermittent Program	20 hours	19 hours	18 hours	17 hours	16 hours

## Relative humidity



### Low humidity

- Reduces bird comfort
- Increases dehydration
- May result in pasty vents in chicks
- May increase agitation and possibility of pecking
- Adversely affects feather cover
- Increases dust

### Excessive humidity

- May cause wet litter
- Increases ammonia
- Causes poor air quality

## CROP FILL – ARE THE CHICKS EATING?

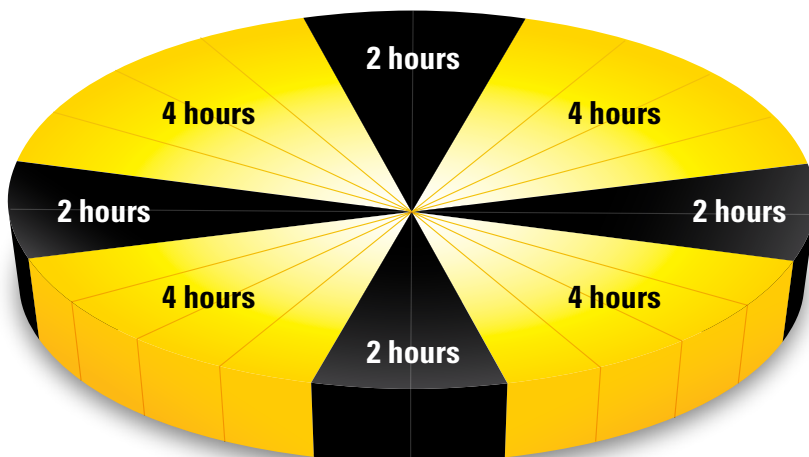
Hours after chick placement	Chicks with feed in crop	Chick with starter feed in crop	Chick without starter feed in crop
6	75%		
12	85%		
24	100%		

Brooding temperatures that are too low or too high will decrease the percentage of chicks with crop fill.

# Lighting During Brooding Period

- An intermittent lighting program is preferred. If not using an intermittent lighting program from 0–7 days, then use 22 hours of light from 0–3 days and 21 hours of light from 4–7 days.
- Do not use 24 hours of light.
- Bright light (30–50 lux) during 0–7 days helps chicks quickly find feed and water and adapt to the new environment.
- After the first week, reduce light intensity and begin slow step-down lighting program (see [Light Program for Light-Controlled Housing](#)).

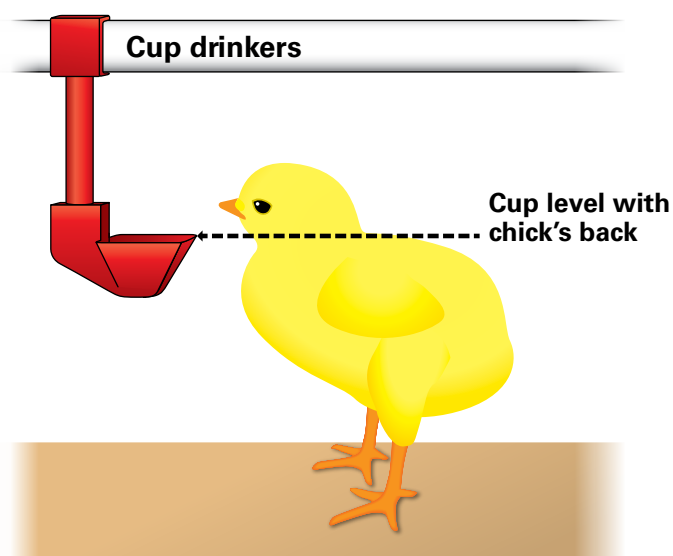
## INTERMITTENT LIGHTING PROGRAM FOR CHICKS



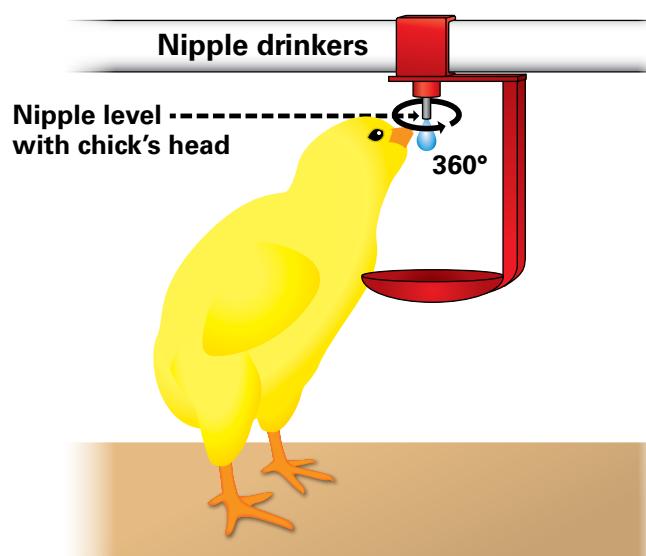
- Preferred lighting technique
- Use from 0–7 days (can be used up to 14 days of age)
- Intermittent dark periods provide rest periods for chicks
- Synchronizes chicks' activities and feedings
- Establishes more natural behavior of rest and activity
- May improve 7 day livability and pullet body weight
- May improve antibody response from vaccinations
- Some dark periods may be shortened or removed to accommodate work schedules

# Drinking Systems

- The type of drinkers used during rearing should be the same as in the layer house. Also use the same nipple type in rearing and laying house (vertical vs. 360° nipples).
- Drinking water should be tested periodically for quality and cleanliness from source and end of the water line.
- Flush water lines prior to chick arrival.
- Flush water lines weekly during rearing and production periods.
- Nipple drinkers should deliver minimum 60 ml per minute / nipple, with easy activation of the drinkers by chicks.
- Record daily flock water consumption. A drop in water consumption is often the first sign of a serious problem in the flock.



- Cup drinkers should be manually filled during 0–3 days to train chicks to drink.
- Open drinkers (bell, plasoon, supplemental chick drinkers, trough) are easily contaminated and should be cleaned daily.



- Adjust nipple water system pressure to create hanging drop to help chicks find water for 0–3 days and in layer house at transfer.
- Splash cups are useful during brooding period and in hot climates.
- 360° activated nipples make drinking easy for chicks.
- Use only 360° activated nipples for hatchery beak-treated chicks.



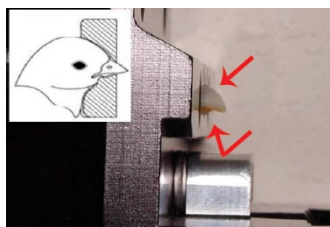
# Beak Treatment / Trimming

(Check local regulations concerning use of beak trimming)

- Hy-Line Sonia commercial layer is most successfully beak trimmed at hatch by infrared beak treatment or between 7–10 days of age by precision beak trimming. If necessary, re-trim at 6 weeks or 12–14 weeks of age.
- Hatchery beak treatment or 7–10-day beak trimming reduces feed wastage and leaves the beak less damaging to other birds.

## HATCHERY INFRARED BEAK TREATMENT (IRBT)

- This provides efficient, uniform beak treatment.
- Beak remains intact until 21–28 days of age when treated portion separates.
- Use only 360° activated nipples for IRBT chicks, as well as supplemental chick drinkers.
- For IRBT chicks, feed on paper for 0–7 days.
- For more information, see the “Infrared Beak Treatment” technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).



Infrared beak treatment can be modified according to local conditions.



Immediately following infrared beak treatment on day of hatch



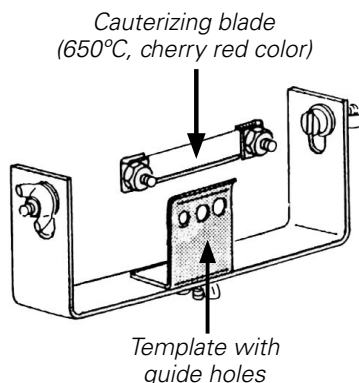
7 days after infrared beak treatment

## PRECISION BEAK TRIMMING

- Cauterize beak for 2 seconds at 650°C.
  - When cauterizing blade is not hot enough or cauterization time is < 2 seconds, beak will continue to grow unevenly.
  - If cauterizing blade is too hot or cauterization time is > 2 seconds, sensitive neuromas may form.
- Use a pyrometer to measure blade temperature, which should be approximately 650°C.
- Cauterizing blade color may be used as an approximate indicator of temperature.



- Blade temperature variation of up to 40°C is common due to external influences and cannot be detected by the human eye.
- Use a template with guide plate holes for precision beak trim of different size chicks.
- Check that beaks have been properly and evenly trimmed.

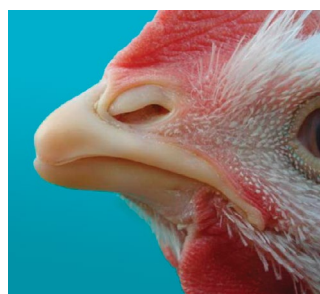


**Guide holes correspond to different size and age of chicks**

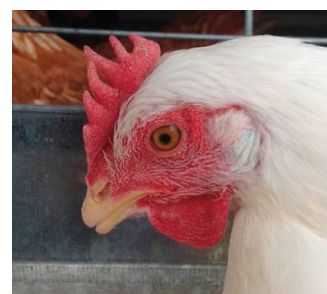
- 3.56 mm
- 4.00 mm
- 4.37 mm



Pyrometer indicating proper blade temperature of 650°C.



Properly trimmed beaks

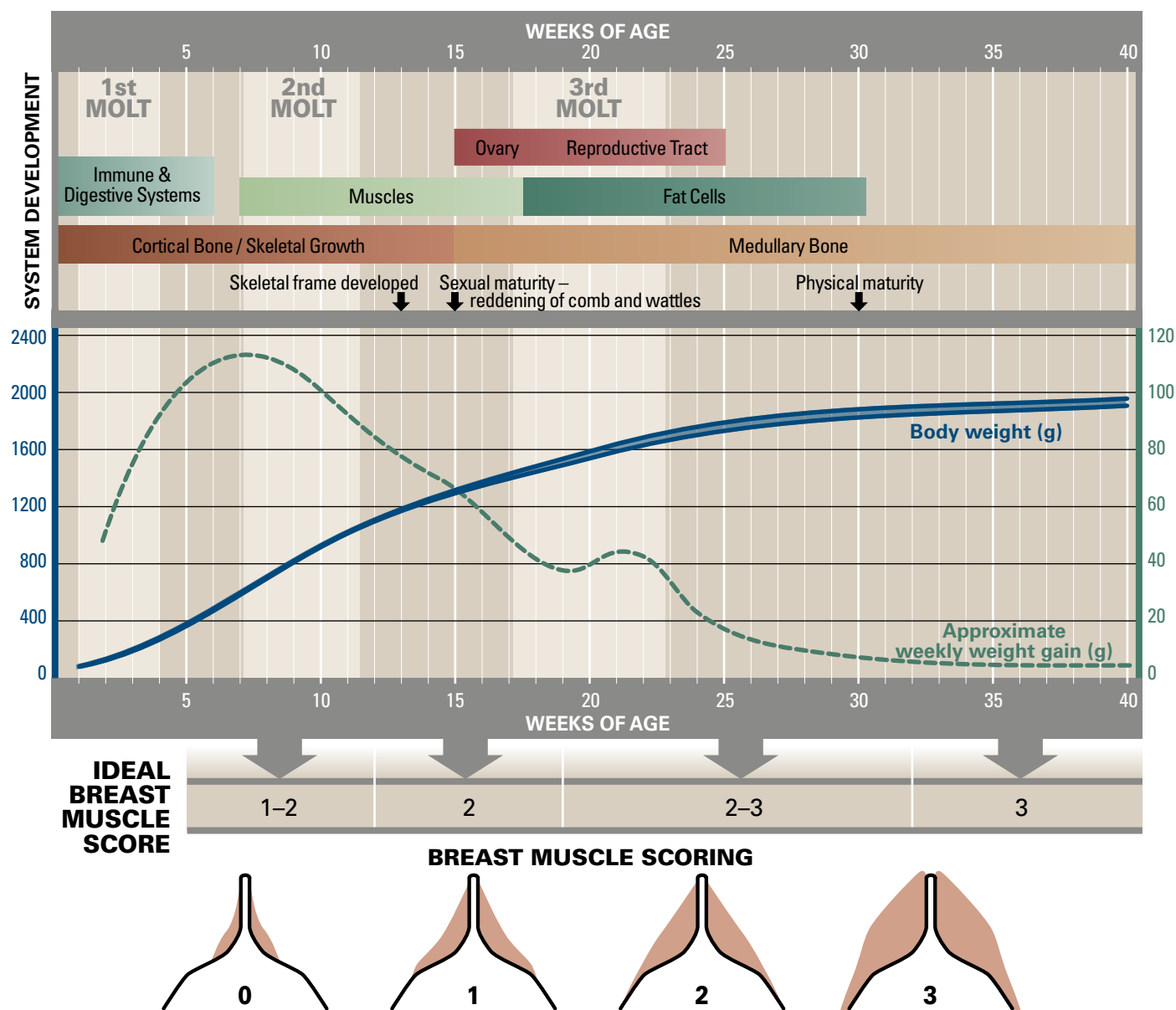


## Precautions when using IRBT or beak trimming birds:

- Water intake is the most important factor in the success of IRBT/beak trimming. Chicks require immediate and easy access to water.
- Do not beak-trim sick or stressed birds.
- Do not hurry; handle chicks carefully.
- Provide vitamins and electrolytes containing vitamin K in drinking water 2 days before and 2 days after beak trimming.
- Watch chicks after beak trimming to assess stress. Raise ambient temperature until birds appear comfortable and active.
- Keep feed at the highest level for several days after beak trimming.
- Use only well-trained crews.
- Use 360° activated nipples, supplemental chick drinkers and splash cups to encourage drinking.

# Growth and Development

- Focus on pullet rearing programs to optimize growth and development.
- The best predictor of future laying performance is the pullet's body weight and body type at the point of lay.
- A pullet flock entering into egg production at the correct body weight (1.44–1.45 kg) with uniformity higher than 90% performs best in the production period.
- It is important to achieve 6, 12, 18, 24, and 30 week body weight targets to ensure optimum development of the bird's body.
- **Manage feeding to achieve body weights 0–12 weeks in the upper range of the body weight standard. This will ensure good musculoskeletal and GIT development. Avoid high rates of body weight gains after 12 weeks to prevent excessive abdominal fat development.**
- Change rearing diets only when recommended body weight is attained. Suggested ages are a guide if target weights are achieved.
- Delay diet change if birds are underweight or have poor body weight uniformity.
- Anticipate rapid rise in ambient temperature and adjust bird's diet accordingly. Birds will eat less when exposed to a rapid temperature increase. (See the "[Understanding Heat Stress in Layers](http://www.hyline.com)" technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).)
- Stress periods require a change in diet formulation to ensure proper nutrient intake.
- Increasing dietary fiber to 5–6% beginning with developer diet can increase crop, gizzard and intestine development and capacity.



Layers with good muscle development are better able to sustain high egg production

- Monitor body weights weekly from 0–30 weeks and before scheduled diet changes.
- Body weight gains and uniformity may be negatively affected by inappropriate diet changes, bird handling, vaccination and transfer.
- Using multiple hatch dates, causing a range of chick ages, will negatively affect uniformity.
- Flocks should be at 90% uniformity at the time of transfer to the laying facility.
- During the transfer of birds from rearing to laying facilities, there will be some loss of body weight.

A white chicken is suspended upside down by its feet from a digital scale. The scale's display shows a weight of 1.410 kg. The scale is white with a digital screen and several buttons. The chicken is white with some yellowing on its feet and beak. The background is dark and out of focus.

## Space Guidelines *(check local regulations)*

*Requirements vary with type of equipment used and environmental conditions.*

## Transfer to Laying House

- **Transfer the flock to the production facility by 16 weeks of age or after administration of the last live vaccines.**
- **Delayed transfer results in overcrowding in rearing cages and loss of flock uniformity and body condition.**
- It is important that rearing and production cages use similar feed and water systems, to minimize stress.
- Any sex slips (males) should be removed around 7 weeks and at transfer.
- Supportive care to reduce stress, such as water-soluble vitamins, probiotics, vitamin C and increased dietary density, should be used 3 days before and 3 days after transfer.
- Weigh prior to transfer and monitor weight loss during transfer.
- Monitor flock water consumption frequently after transfer. Pre-transfer water consumption should be achieved within 6 hours after transfer to the laying house.
- Brighten the lights for three days after transfer until birds settle in their new environment.
- Inspect the flock and remove mortality daily.
- If mortality exceeds 0.1% per week, perform necropsies and other diagnostics to determine cause(s) of mortality.
- Transfer birds quickly to laying house. Transfer all birds the same day. Move early in the morning so birds can keep to a normal daily routine.



## Feather Color

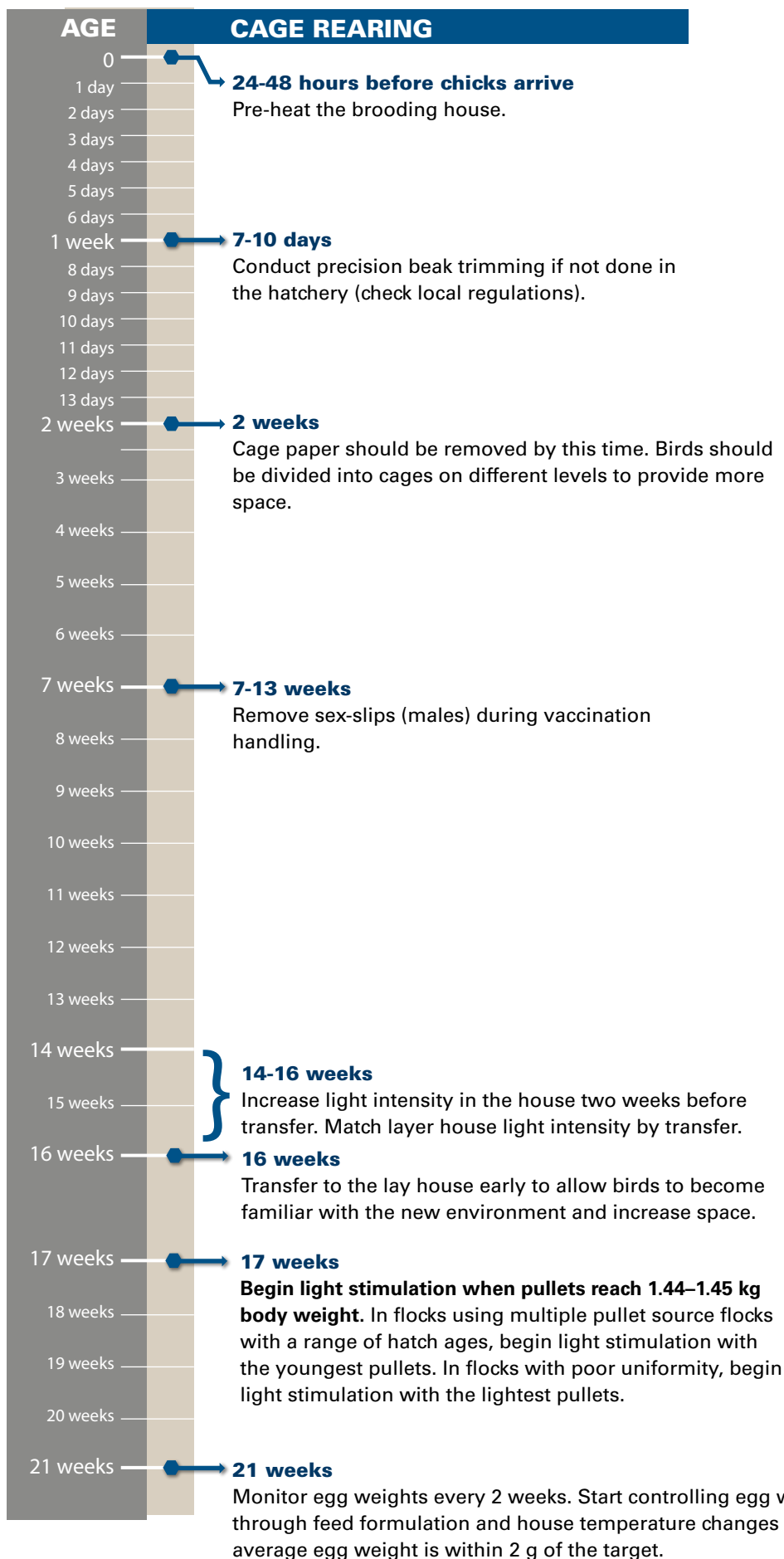


*The feather color of the Hy-Line Sonia commercial hen varies. The birds in this photo demonstrate the acceptable range of feather color.*

## Vaccination Recommendations

For more information on vaccination programs, see the [Vaccination Recommendations](https://www.hyline.com/technical-updates/vaccination-recommendations) technical update at [www.hyline.com](https://www.hyline.com).

# Management Events for Commercial Layers



## Bird Handling—BE GENTLE

- Proper handling of birds during body weight measurements, blood collection, selection, vaccination, and transfer will reduce bird stress and prevent injuries.
- Hold birds by both legs or both wings.
- Return birds to cage or floor gently.
- Use experienced personnel that have been trained in proper procedures of bird handling.
- Continually observe crews for proper handling.



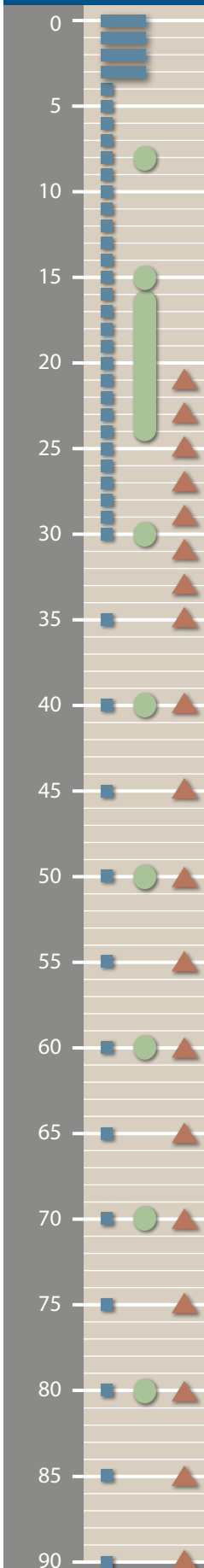
Hold no more than three birds in one hand.





# Management Events for Commercial Layers

## WEEKS OF AGE



## AGES OF BODY WEIGHT MEASUREMENTS

- Weigh separate groups of birds on each cage level due to temperature and environmental differences.
- Identify cages from the beginning and end of feed lines.
- Mark cages and use the same cage every time body weight is monitored.
- Weigh birds on the same day of the week and at the same time of day.

### 0–3 weeks

- Bulk weigh 10 boxes of 10 chicks.

### 4–29 weeks

- Weigh 100 birds individually every week.
- Weigh birds in the same cages each time for best accuracy.
- Calculate uniformity.

### 30–90 weeks

- Weigh 100 birds individually every 5 weeks.
- Weigh birds in the same cages each time for best accuracy.
- Calculate uniformity.

### When handling birds for body weights, assess:

- Keel bone—straightness and firmness
- Breast muscle score
- Body fat
- External parasites
- Clinical symptoms of disease

### CALCULATING UNIFORMITY

- Use individual bird weights.
- Uniformity calculation tool is available at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

## AGES OF SERA COLLECTION

For more information, see the “[Proper Collection and Handling of Diagnostic Samples](#)” technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

Collect 10–20 sera samples per flock for titer determination.

### 8 weeks

- Assess early vaccination technique and disease exposure.

### 15 weeks

- Collect sera before transfer to lay house to assess possible change in disease exposure.
- It is common to not send sera to the laboratory and freeze for future analysis in event of disease outbreak on lay farm.

### 16–24 weeks

- Collect sera at least 4 weeks after final inactivated vaccination to measure post-vaccination antibody response.
- It is useful to assess disease challenge after transfer to lay farm.

### 30–80 weeks

- Collect sera every 10 weeks.
- It is useful for assessing disease exposure during the laying period.

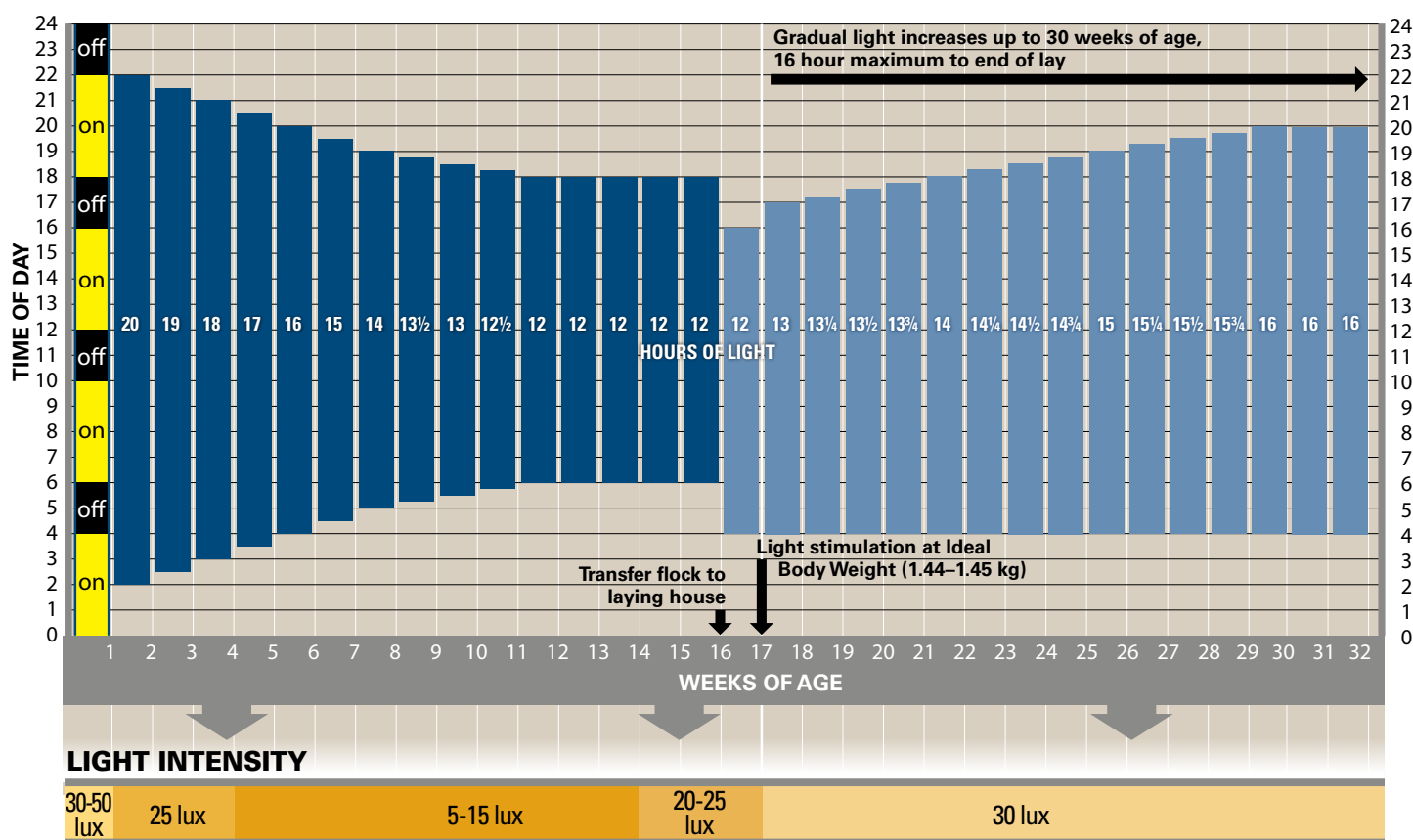
## AGES TO MONITOR EGG WEIGHTS

Weigh 100 eggs collected from egg belts in front of randomly selected cages (may be the same cages used for body weight monitoring) to ensure even distribution of egg samples. Monitor egg weights on a specific day of the week within the same 3-hour time frame.

# Good Lighting Practices

- Measure minimum light intensity at feeder on bottom tier cages, mid-way between lights.
- Keep light bulbs clean to prevent loss of light intensity.
- Prevent dark areas caused by too much distance between lights or burned-out light bulbs.
- Position lights to minimize bright and dark areas in the house.
- Shiny or white surfaces reflect light and increase light intensity.
- Take local conditions into account which may require adaptations of lighting programs.
- Light hours of rearing and production houses should be matched at transfer.
- Light intensity should gradually increase 2 weeks before flock is transferred to the laying house (but not prior to 14 weeks of age). Final rearing house light intensity should match the laying house intensity.
- Begin light stimulation when flock reaches the body weight target (1.44–1.45 kg). Delay light stimulation if the flock is underweight or has poor uniformity.
- Light stimulation period should extend into the peaking period. Achieve 16 hours of light at approximately 30 weeks.
- Alternating the height of lights improves light distribution to all cage levels.

## Light Program for Light-Controlled Housing



- Light-controlled houses are those which use light traps around fans and air inlets and complete prevent the ingress of light from the outside. Houses that are not light controlled should use lighting programs for open-sided housing.
- An intermittent lighting program for chicks is preferred. If not using an intermittent lighting program from 0–7 days, then use 22 hours of light from 0–3 days and 21 hours of light from 4–7 days.
- “Lights on” time can be varied between houses in laying flocks to facilitate egg collection on multiple flock complexes.
- If the laying flock has a large spread in hatch ages and/or poor uniformity, light stimulate the flock based on the youngest hatch date or lightest birds.
- Use warm lights (2700–3500 K) in laying flocks to ensure sufficient red spectrum light.
- For more information on poultry lighting, see the “[Understanding Poultry Lighting](#)” and “[Impact of Tarp Color on Poultry Lighting](#)” technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

# Customized Lighting Programs for Open-Sided Housing ([www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com))

The Hy-Line International Lighting Program can create custom lighting programs for your location, hatch date, and variety.

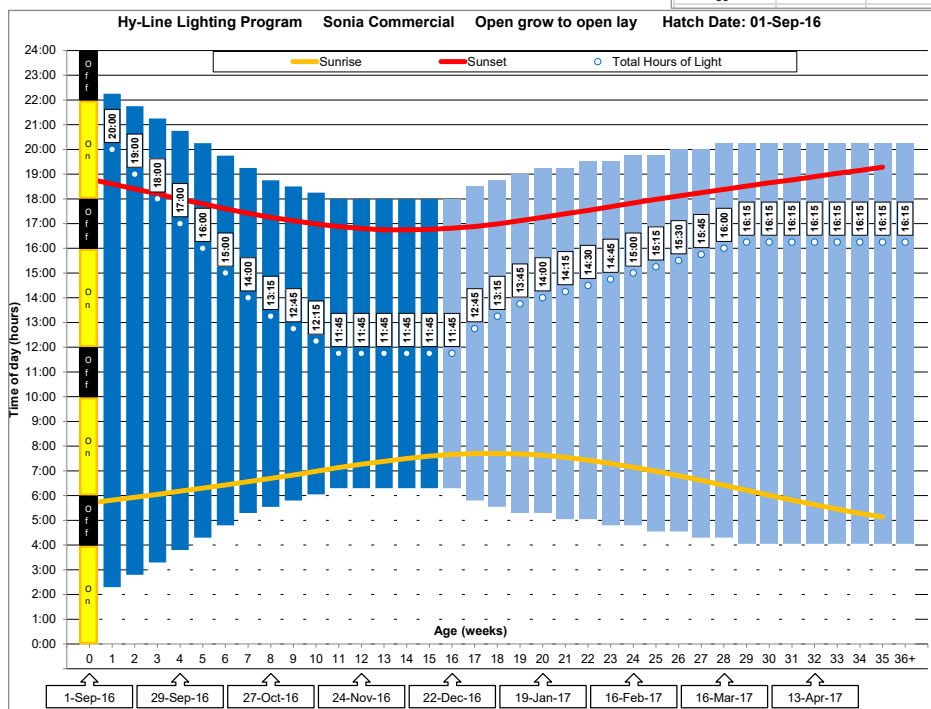
- On the first screen—enter e-mail address and select language.
- On the second screen, use dropdowns for “Select Location of Flock,” “Hatch Date,” “Variety Standards” and “Housing Style.”
- Click on “Create Lighting Spreadsheet.”
- Results will be e-mailed to you.

**Lighting Program for : IOWA / DALLAS CENTER 93° 56' W 41° 43' N**

Variety: Sonia Commercial  
House Type: Open grow to open lay  
Hatch Date: 01-Sep-16 Standard daylight time

Weeks of Age	Date	Sunrise	Lights on	Lights Off	Sunset	Total Hours of Light	Total Sunlight
0	1-Sep-16	5:42	1:45	22:45	18:48	21:00	13:06
1	8-Sep-16	5:49	2:15	22:15	18:36	20:00	12:47
2	15-Sep-16	5:56	2:45	21:45	18:24	19:00	12:28
3	22-Sep-16	6:03	3:15	21:15	18:12	18:00	12:09
4	29-Sep-16	6:11	3:45	20:45	17:59	17:00	11:48
5	6-Oct-16	6:18	4:15	20:15	17:48	16:00	11:30
6	13-Oct-16	6:26	4:45	19:45	17:36	15:00	11:10
7	20-Oct-16	6:34	5:15	19:15	17:25	14:00	10:51
8	27-Oct-16	6:42	5:30	18:45	17:15	13:15	10:33
9	3-Nov-16	6:50	5:45	18:30	17:07	12:45	10:17
10	10-Nov-16	6:59	6:00	18:15	16:59	12:15	10:00
11	17-Nov-16	7:08	6:15	18:00	16:53	11:45	9:45
12	24-Nov-16	7:16	6:15	18:00	16:48	11:45	9:32
13	1-Dec-16	7:23	6:15	18:00	16:45	11:45	9:22
14	8-Dec-16	7:30	6:15	18:00	16:45	11:45	9:15
15	15-Dec-16	7:36	6:15	18:00	16:46	11:45	9:10
16	22-Dec-16	7:40	6:15	18:00	16:49	11:45	9:09
17	29-Dec-16	7:42	5:45	18:30	16:53	12:45	9:11
18	5-Jan-17	7:42	5:30	18:45	16:59	13:15	9:17
19	12-Jan-17	7:41	5:15	19:00	17:07	13:45	9:26
20	19-Jan-17	7:38	5:15	19:15	17:15	14:00	9:37
21	26-Jan-17	7:33	5:00	19:15	17:24	14:15	9:51
22	2-Feb-17	7:26	5:00	19:30	17:32	14:30	10:06
23	9-Feb-17	7:18	4:45	19:30	17:41	14:45	10:23
24	16-Feb-17	7:09	4:45	19:45	17:50	15:00	10:41
25	23-Feb-17	6:59	4:30	19:45	17:59	15:15	11:00
26	2-Mar-17	6:48	4:30	20:00	18:07	15:30	11:19
27	9-Mar-17	6:37	4:15	20:00	18:15	15:45	11:38
28	16-Mar-17	6:25	4:15	20:15	18:23	16:00	11:58
29	23-Mar-17	6:13	4:00	20:15	18:31	16:15	12:18
30	30-Mar-17	6:01	4:00	20:15	18:39	16:15	12:38
31	6-Apr-17	5:49	4:00	20:15	18:46	16:15	12:57
32	13-Apr-17	5:38	4:00	20:15	18:54	16:15	13:16
33	20-Apr-17	5:27	4:00	20:15	19:02	16:15	13:35
34	27-Apr-17	5:17	4:00	20:15	19:09	16:15	13:52
35	4-May-17	5:08	4:00	20:15	19:17	16:15	14:09
36+			4:00	20:15		16:15	

Same lighting program with sunrise and sunset represented by yellow and red lines and suggested artificial day length indicated by blue bars



## Use of Shades in Open-Sided Housing



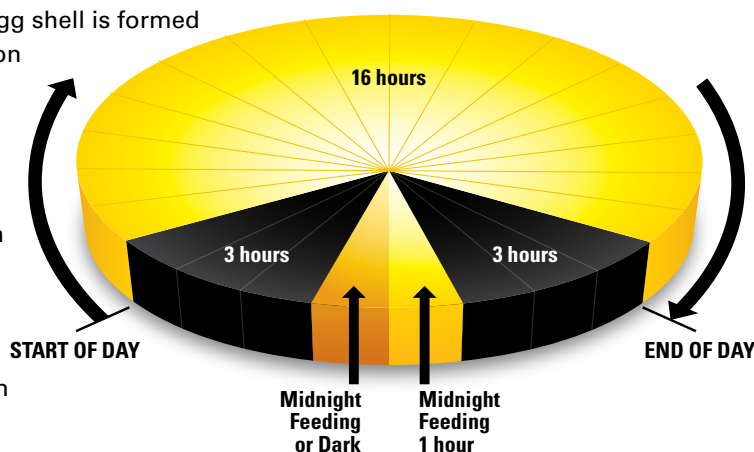
- Shades are an effective way to decrease light intensity in an open-sided house.
- Shades must be porous to allow air flow through the curtain.
- Keep shades clean and free of dust to allow air flow.
- Use stir fans when using shades.
- Avoid direct sunlight on birds by using shades or roof overhangs.
- Black shades are preferred.

## Midnight Feeding / Lighting Program

- Optional lighting technique that promotes greater feed consumption
- Used whenever more feed intake is desired in rearing or laying flocks
- Increases calcium absorption during night when most egg shell is formed
- Useful to increase feed intake during peak egg production
- Helps maintain feed consumption in hot climates
- Midnight feeding may increase feed intake 2–5 g / day per bird

### Good Practices

- Initiate the program by turning lights on for 1–2 hours in the middle of the dark period.
- Fill feeders before lights are turned on.
- There must be at least 3 hours of dark before and after the midnight feeding.
- Light provided during the midnight feeding is in addition to regular day length (i.e. 16 hours + midnight feeding).
- If midnight feeding is removed, reduce light gradually at a rate of 15 minutes per week.



## Heat Stress

For information on management of layers in heat stress conditions, see the “[Understanding Heat Stress in Layers](http://www.hyline.com)” technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

# Water Quality

- Good quality water must be available to birds at all times.
- Water and feed consumption are directly related—when birds drink less, they consume less feed and production quickly declines.
- As a general rule, healthy birds will consume 1.5–2.0 times more water than feed. This ratio increases in high ambient temperatures.
- Test water quality at least 1 time per year. The water source will determine the regularity of water testing.
  - Surface water requires more frequent testing, as it is more affected by season and rainfall patterns.
  - Closed wells taking water from aquifers or deep artesian basins will be more consistent in water quality, but are generally higher in dissolved mineral content.
- The presence of coliform bacteria is an indicator that the water source has been contaminated with animal or human waste.
- When collecting a well water sample, let the water run for 2 minutes prior to collecting the sample. Water samples should be kept below 10°C and submitted to the lab in less than 24 hours.
- Some water sources contain high levels of dissolved minerals such as calcium, sodium and magnesium. When this occurs, amounts of these minerals in water have to be considered when formulating feed.
- Ideal water pH is 5–7 to promote good water sanitation, increase feed consumption and improve upper gastrointestinal health.
- Less than optimum water quality can have a significant impact on intestinal health, which will lead to under utilization of nutrients in feed.
- A decrease in flock water consumption is often the first sign of health problems and production drops.

ITEM	MAXIMUM CONCENTRATION (ppm or mg/L)*	
Nitrate $\text{NO}_3^-$ <sup>1</sup>	25	Older birds will tolerate higher levels up to 20 ppm. Stressed or diseased challenged birds may be more sensitive to effects of Nitrate.
Nitrate Nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_3\text{-N}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	6	
Nitrite $\text{NO}_2^-$ <sup>1</sup>	4	Nitrite is considerably more toxic than Nitrate, especially for young birds where 1 ppm Nitrite may be considered toxic.
Nitrite Nitrogen ( $\text{NO}_2\text{-N}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	1	
Total dissolved solids <sup>2</sup>	1000	Levels up to 3000 ppm may not affect performance but could increase manure moisture.
Chloride ( $\text{Cl}^-$ ) <sup>1</sup>	250	Levels as low as 14 mg may be problematic if sodium is higher than 50 ppm.
Sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	250	Higher levels may be laxative.
Iron ( $\text{Fe}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	<0.3	Higher levels result in bad odor and taste.
Magnesium ( $\text{Mg}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	125	Higher levels may be laxative. Levels above 50 ppm may be problematic if sulphate levels are high.
Potassium ( $\text{K}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	20	Higher levels may be acceptable depending on sodium level, alkalinity and pH.
Sodium ( $\text{Na}$ ) <sup>1,2</sup>	50	Higher concentration is acceptable but concentrations above 50 ppm should be avoided if high levels of chloride, sulphate or potassium exist.
Manganese ( $\text{Mn}$ ) <sup>3</sup>	0.05	Higher levels may be laxative.
Arsenic ( $\text{As}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	0.5	
Fluoride ( $\text{F}^-$ ) <sup>2</sup>	2	
Aluminum ( $\text{Al}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	5	
Boron ( $\text{B}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	5	
Cadmium ( $\text{Cd}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	0.02	
Cobalt ( $\text{Co}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	1	
Copper ( $\text{Cu}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	0.6	Higher levels result in bitter taste.
Lead ( $\text{Pb}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	0.02	Higher levels are toxic.
Mercury ( $\text{Hg}$ ) <sup>2</sup>	0.003	Higher levels are toxic.
Zinc ( $\text{Zn}$ ) <sup>1</sup>	1.5	Higher levels are toxic.
pH <sup>1</sup>	5–7	Birds may adapt to lower pH. Below pH 5 may reduce water intake and corrode metal fittings. Above pH 8 may reduce intake and reduce effectiveness of water sanitation.
Total bacteria counts <sup>3</sup>	1000 CFU/ml	Likely to indicate dirty water.
Total Coliform bacteria <sup>3</sup>	50 CFU/ml	
Fecal Coliform bacteria <sup>3</sup>	0 CFU/ml	
Oxygen Reduction Potential (ORP) <sup>3</sup>	650–750 mEq	The ORP range at which 2–4 ppm of free chlorine will effectively sanitize water at a favorable pH range of 5–7.

\*Limits may be lower as interactions exist between magnesium and sulphate; and between sodium, potassium, chloride and sulphate.

<sup>1</sup> Carter & Sneed, 1996. Drinking Water Quality for Poultry, Poultry Science and Technology Guide, North Carolina State University Poultry Extension Service. Guide no. 42

<sup>2</sup> Marx and Jaikaran, 2007. Water Analysis Interpretation. Agri-Facts, Alberta Ag-Info Centre. Refer to <http://www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app84/rwqit> for online Water Analysis Tool

<sup>3</sup> Watkins, 2008. Water: Identifying and Correcting Challenges. Avian Advice 10(3): 10-15 University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service, Fayetteville



# Air Quality

## Air Movement (m<sup>3</sup> / hour per 1000 birds)

AMBIENT TEMP (°C)	WEEKS OF AGE					
	1	3	6	12	18	19+
32	340	510	1020	2550	5950	4650–9350
21	170	255	510	1275	2550	4250–5100
10	120	170	340	680	1870	2550–3400
0	70	130	230	465	1260	850–1300
-12	70	100	170	340	500	600–850
-23	70	100	170	340	500	600–680

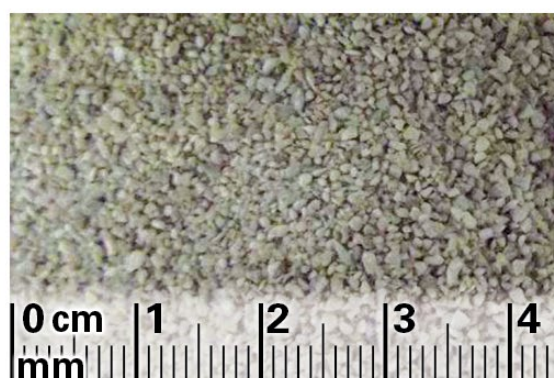
Acknowledgment: Dr. Hongwei Xin, Professor, Department of Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering and Department of Animal Science, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA

- Production house should be at 18–25°C and 40–60% humidity.
- The general rule for determining required fan capacity—4 m<sup>3</sup> of air movement / kilogram of body weight per hour.
- Ventilation is essential to:
  - Remove moisture from house
  - Remove excessive heat
  - Provide each bird with an adequate supply of oxygen
  - Remove carbon dioxide produced by birds
  - Remove dust particles
  - Dilute aerosolized pathogenic organisms
- Allowable levels of gases at floor level in the house are: ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) < 25 ppm; carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) < 5000 ppm; carbon monoxide (CO) < 50 ppm.

# Calcium Particle Size

PARTICLE SIZE	STARTER, GROWER, DEVELOPER	PRE-LAY	WEEKS 17–37	WEEKS 38–48	WEEKS 49–62	WEEKS 63+
Fine (0–2 mm)	100%	50%	50%	45%	40%	35%
Coarse (2–4 mm)	–	50%	50%	55%	60%	65%

- The appropriate particle size depends on the solubility of limestone.
- Dietary calcium levels may need to be adjusted based on limestone solubility.
- Limestone dark in color is geologically older, containing more impurities (typically magnesium) and is generally lower in solubility and calcium availability.
- Oyster shell and other marine shells are good sources of soluble calcium.



*Fine calcium (0–2 mm)*



*Coarse calcium (2–4 mm)*

*Photos courtesy of Longcliff Quarries Ltd.*

## Feed Particle Size (Grist)

A sieve shaker separates feed sample into categories based on particle size.

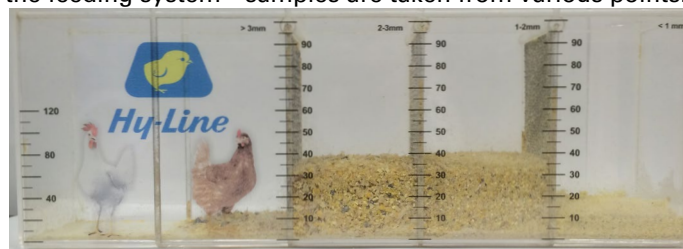
- Use on the farm to check feed particle size from the feed mill—sample taken on delivery or from feed bins.
- Use to assess the uniformity of feed particle size throughout the feeding system—samples are taken from various points.

### Too many fine feed particles:

- Feed intake and nutrient absorption decreases
- Dust in house increases

### Too many coarse feed particles:

- Birds selectively eat large particles
- Risk of feed separation increases



*Hy-Line Sieve Shaker*

### Optimal Feed Particle Profile

PHASE/ PARTICLE SIZE	STARTER CRUMBLE	STARTER MASH	GROWER (>6 WEEKS)	EARLY PRODUCTION (60:40 coarse: fine limestone ratio)	LATE PRODUCTION (75:25 coarse: fine limestone ratio)
< 1 mm	1–3 mm Crumble with uniform size, at least 90% PDI and less than 15% fine particles	25%	15%	10%	10%
1–2 mm		40%	35%	33%	25%
2–3 mm		30%	40%	43%	50%
> 3 mm		5%	10%	14%	15%
<b>Average Micron Size</b>	—	1650	1950	2110	2200

For more information, see the “[Feed Granulometry](https://www.hyline.com/Feed-Granulometry)” technical update at [www.hyline.com](https://www.hyline.com).

### Best Practices

- A 3–4 hour gap between mid-day feedings allows birds to consume fine particles. Daily consumption of fine feed particles is important for a balanced nutrient intake.
- Add a minimum of 0.5% liquid oil/fat in mash diets to incorporate and retain small particles in feed.
- Use larger particle size meal or crumble to increase intakes in hot climates.

## Vitamins and Trace Minerals

- As the vitamin / trace mineral premix is often found in fine feed particles, a minimum level of 0.5% added liquid oil / fat in mash diets binds small particles in feed.

ITEM <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>	IN 1000 KG COMPLETE DIET	
	Rearing Period	Production Period
Vitamin A, IU	10,000,000	8,000,000
Vitamin D <sub>3</sub> <sup>5</sup> , IU	3,300,000	3,300,000
Vitamin E, g	30.00	25.00
Vitamin K (menadione), g	3.50	3.00
Thiamin (B <sub>1</sub> ), g	2.20	2.50
Riboflavin (B <sub>2</sub> ), g	6.60	5.50
Niacin (B <sub>3</sub> ) <sup>6</sup> , g	40.00	30.00
Pantothenic acid (B <sub>5</sub> ), g	10.00	10.00
Pyridoxine (B <sub>6</sub> ), g	4.50	5.00
Biotin (B <sub>7</sub> ), mg	100.00	75.00
Folic acid (B <sub>9</sub> ), g	1.00	0.90
Cobalamine (B <sub>12</sub> ), mg	23.00	23.00
Manganese <sup>7</sup> , g	100.00	100.00
Zinc <sup>7</sup> , g	85.00	80.00
Iron <sup>7</sup> , g	30.00	40.00
Copper <sup>7</sup> , g	15.00	8.00
Magnesium <sup>7</sup> , g	600.00	500.00
Iodine, g	1.50	1.20
Selenium <sup>7</sup> , g	0.25	0.25

<sup>1</sup> Minimum recommendations for rearing and laying periods. Local regulations may limit dietary content of individual vitamins or minerals. Levels of 150-200mg/kg of Vitamin C can be beneficial during periods of stress.

<sup>2</sup> Store premixes according to supplier's recommendations and observe 'use by' dates to ensure vitamin activity is maintained. Inclusion of antioxidant may improve premix stability.

<sup>3</sup> Vitamin and mineral recommendations vary according to activity.

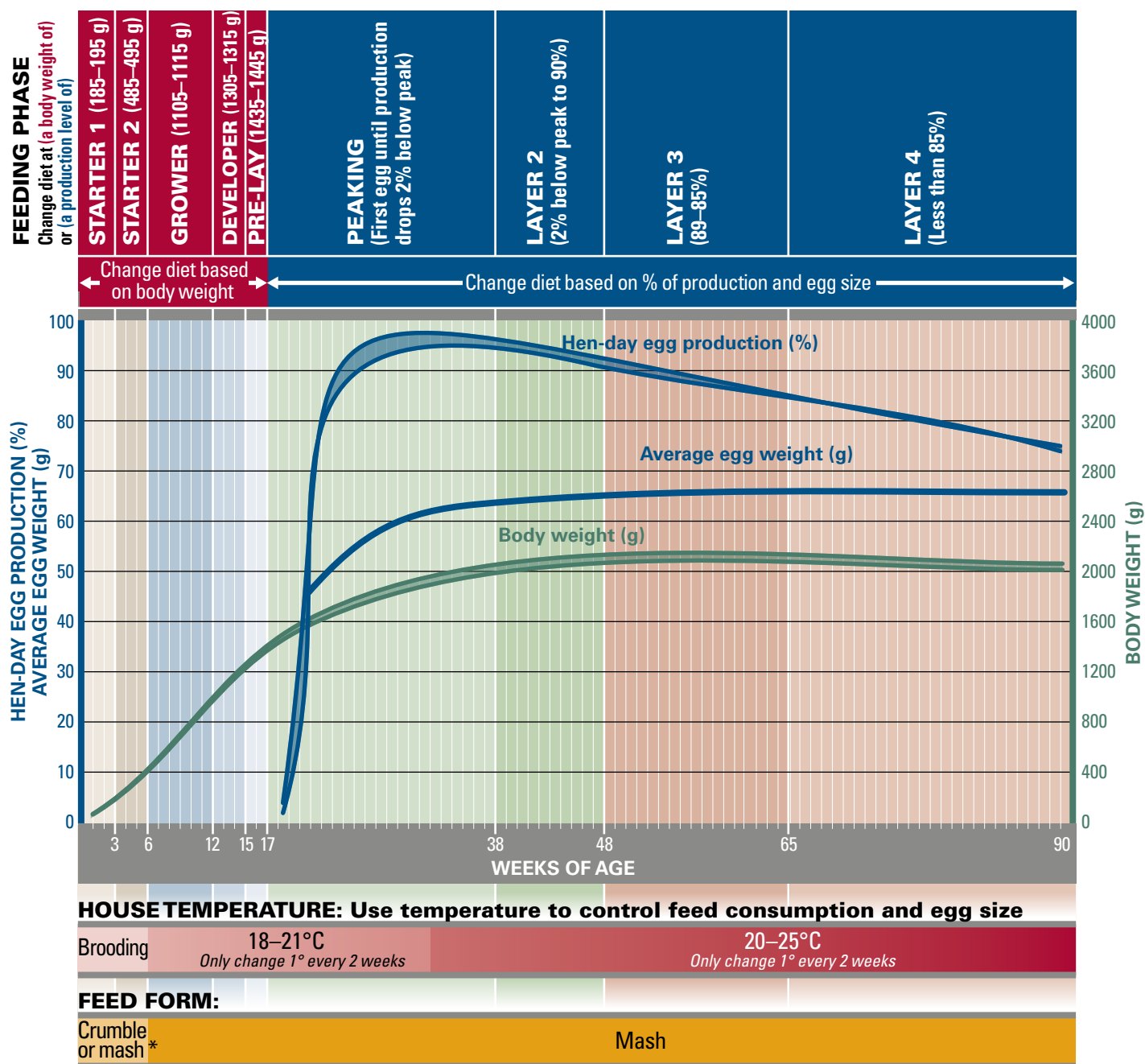
<sup>4</sup> Where heat treatment is applied to diet, higher levels of vitamins may be required. Consult with vitamin supplier regarding stability through individual production processes.

<sup>5</sup> A proportion of Vitamin D<sub>3</sub> can be supplemented as 25-hydroxy D<sub>3</sub> according to supplier's recommendations and applicable limits.

<sup>6</sup> Higher levels of Niacin are recommended in non-cage systems.

<sup>7</sup> Greater bioavailability and productivity may be possible with use of chelated mineral sources.

# Phase Feeding to Meet the Sonia's Nutritional Needs



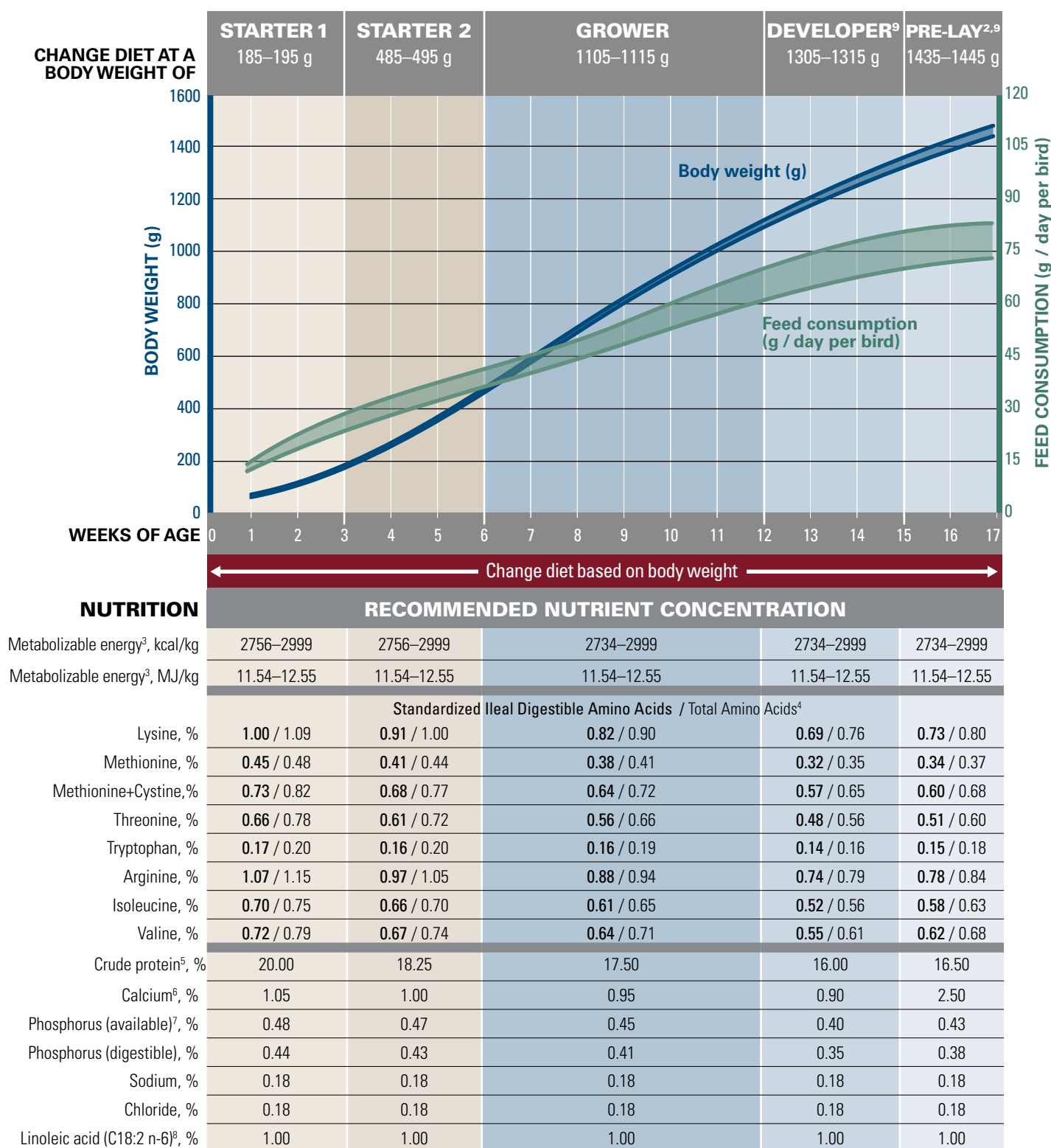
## Control of Ambient House Temperature

- At housing, an ambient temperature of 18–20°C is desired. Increase house temperature about 1°C every 2 weeks until reaching 25°C, assuming ventilation systems are able to maintain adequate air quality at these temperatures.
- Lower (colder) house temperatures after peak will lead to greater feed intakes and may be counterproductive to egg-weight control, as well as optimal feed efficiency and adult hen body weights.
- Place temperature sensors to measure temperature inside of cage. The temperature in walkways is significantly colder than the temperature inside cages, especially in stack deck belted house systems.
- High environmental temperatures have a depressing effect on feed intake.

## Controlling Egg Weight

- Closely monitor egg weight of each flock and make nutritional changes as needed to ensure optimal egg weight.
- If smaller eggs are desired, egg weight should be controlled at an early age.
- Egg-weight control is achieved by limiting amino acid consumption and ensuring that feed intake is not too high.
- Monitor egg weight every 2 weeks until 35 weeks of age, then every 5 weeks. Start controlling egg weight when average egg weight is within 2 g of target.
- For more information, see the “[Optimizing Egg Size in Layers](#)” technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

# Rearing Period Nutritional Recommendations<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> All nutrient requirements are based on the feed ingredient table at the back of this guide.

<sup>2</sup> Do not feed Pre-Lay Diet earlier than 15 weeks of age. Do not feed Pre-Lay later than first egg as it contains insufficient calcium to support egg production. Implementing a pre-lay diet can be challenging in mixed-age flocks. If it's not possible to use the Pre-Lay diet, the calcium content of the last stage rearing diet (developer) must be increased to 1.4%.

<sup>3</sup> Recommended energy range is based on raw material energy values shown in feed ingredient table at back of this guide. It is important that target concentrations of dietary energy are adjusted according to energy system applied to raw material matrix.

<sup>4</sup> Recommendation for Total Amino Acids is only appropriate to corn and soybean meal diet. Where diets utilize other ingredients, recommendations for Standardized Ileal Digestible Amino Acids must be followed.

<sup>5</sup> Diets should always be formulated to provide required intake of amino acid. Concentration of crude protein in diet will vary with raw material used. Crude protein value provided is an estimated typical value only.

<sup>6</sup> Calcium should be supplied as fine calcium carbonate (mean particle size less than 2 mm). Coarse limestone (2–4 mm) can be introduced in Pre-Lay Diet at up to 50% of total limestone.

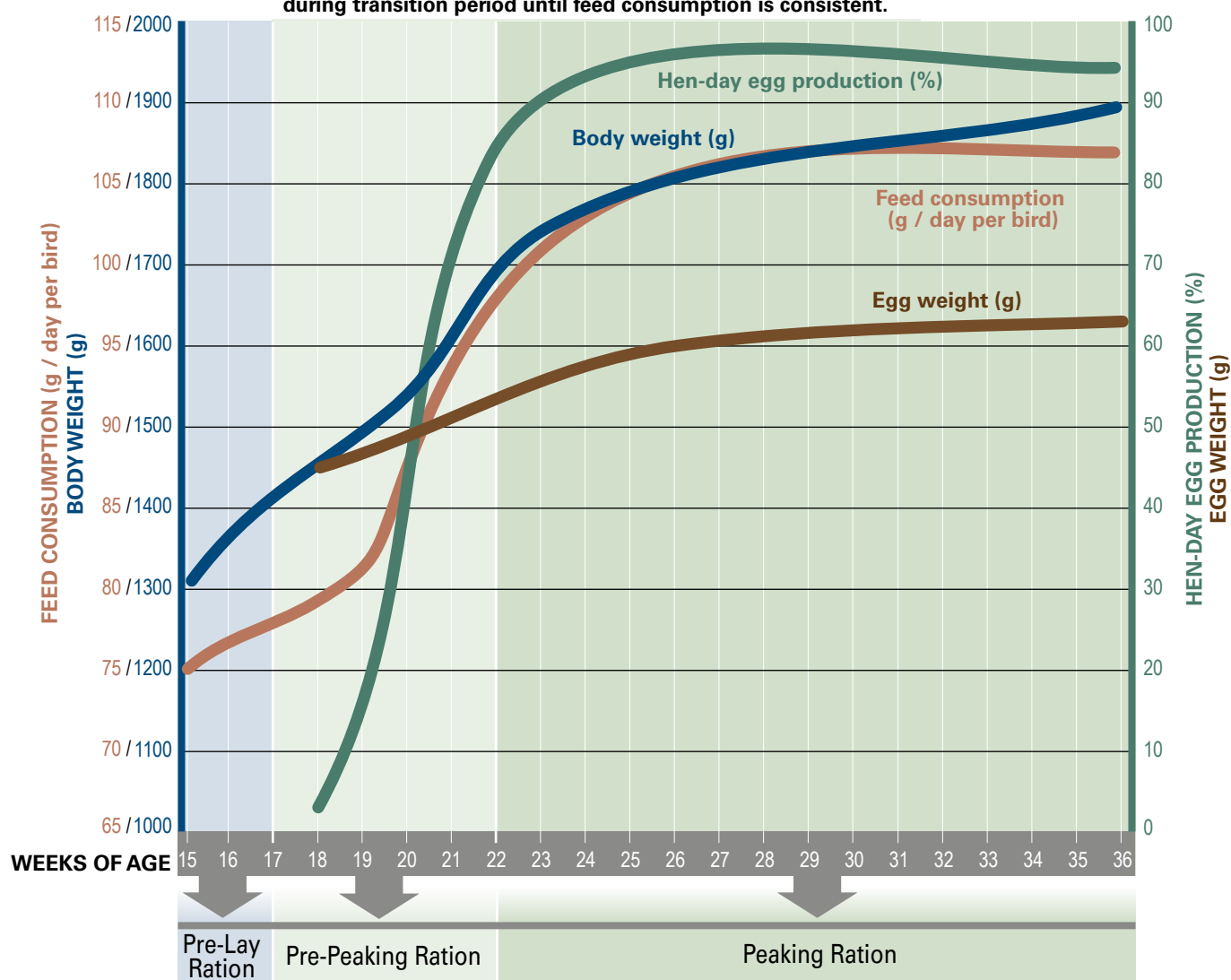
<sup>7</sup> Where other phosphorus systems are used, diets should contain recommended minimum level of available phosphorus.

<sup>8</sup> Oil levels can be increased to 2.0% in starter diets when given as a mash to control dust and increase feed palatability.

<sup>9</sup> Avoid excessive body weight gain after 12 weeks.

# Transition Period from Rear to Peak Egg Production

Frequently formulate to changing feed consumption during transition period until feed consumption is consistent.



## Pre-Lay Ration

- Plan to feed for a maximum of 10–14 days before point of lay.
- Feed when most pullets show reddening of combs.
- It is important to increase medullary bone reserves.
- Begin introducing large particle calcium in Pre-Lay Diet.
- Discontinue pre-lay feeding with the commencement of egg production.

## Transition Period

- **Avoid excessive weight gain during the transition period.**
- **Body weight gain from 18–25 weeks should not exceed 22%.**
- Occurring during the transition period:
  - Rapidly increasing egg production
  - Increasing egg size
  - Increasing body weight
- Feed consumption may increase slowly during transition:
  - In underweight birds
  - In flocks lacking uniformity
  - During high environmental temperatures
- Poor uniformity prolongs the transition period and may result in low peak and poor persistency of egg production.
- Monitor feed intake carefully during transition and adjust dietary nutrient concentration according to actual feed intakes.

## Pre-Peaking Ration

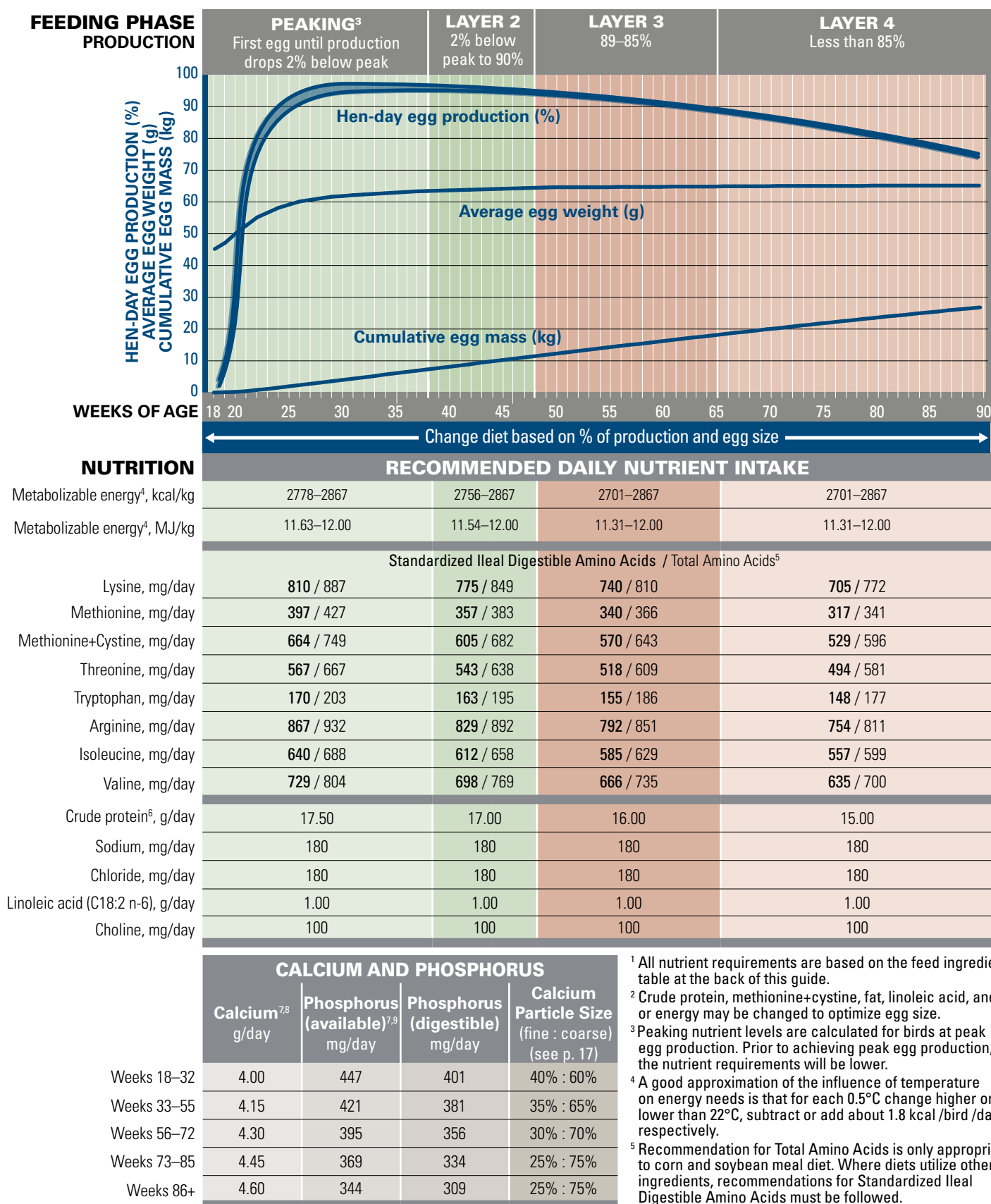
- Formulations for low feed intakes (88–95 g/day/bird) should be given as the flock enters egg production to better meet nutrient requirements.
- Begin Pre-Peaking Diet with onset of lay (1% egg production).
- Pre-Peaking Diet is given until average feed consumption reaches 95 g/day/bird.

## Peaking Ration

- Birds should continue to grow during peaking period. Poor nutrition during this period can lead to loss of body weight and soft bones.
- Feed intake may be reduced if birds are not accustomed to extra large particle calcium (i.e. not using a Pre-Lay Diet).
- Monitor keel bone development during the peaking period. For more information on keel bone scoring, see the [“Understanding the Role of the Skeleton in Egg Production”](#) technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).



# Production Period Nutritional Recommendations<sup>1,2</sup>



# Dietary Nutrient Concentrations for Production Period<sup>1,2</sup> *(According to Phase and Feed Intake)*

FEEDING PHASE PRODUCTION	PEAKING <sup>3</sup> First egg until production drops 2% below peak						LAYER 2 2% below peak to 90%						LAYER 3 89–85%						LAYER 4 Less than 85%								
NUTRITION	RECOMMENDED CONCENTRATION																										
Metabolizable energy <sup>4</sup> , kcal/kg	2778–2867						2756–2867						2701–2867						2701–2867								
Metabolizable energy <sup>4</sup> , MJ/kg	11.63–12.00						11.54–12.00						11.31–12.00						11.31–12.00								
	FEED CONSUMPTION (*Typical Feed Consumption)																										
g/day per bird	90	95	100*	105	110	100	105	110*	115	120	100	105	110*	115	120	100	105	110*	115	120							
	Standardized Ileal Digestible Amino Acids																										
Lysine, %	0.90	0.85	0.81	0.77	0.74	0.78	0.74	0.70	0.67	0.65	0.74	0.70	0.67	0.64	0.62	0.71	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.59							
Methionine, %	0.44	0.42	0.40	0.38	0.36	0.36	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.30	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.30	0.28	0.32	0.30	0.29	0.28	0.26							
Methionine+Cystine,%	0.74	0.70	0.66	0.63	0.60	0.61	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.50	0.57	0.54	0.52	0.50	0.48	0.53	0.50	0.48	0.46	0.44							
Threonine, %	0.63	0.60	0.57	0.54	0.52	0.54	0.52	0.49	0.47	0.45	0.52	0.49	0.47	0.45	0.43	0.49	0.47	0.45	0.43	0.41							
Tryptophan, %	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.16	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.12							
Arginine, %	0.96	0.91	0.87	0.83	0.79	0.83	0.79	0.75	0.72	0.69	0.79	0.75	0.72	0.69	0.66	0.75	0.72	0.69	0.66	0.63							
Isoleucine, %	0.71	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.58	0.61	0.58	0.56	0.53	0.51	0.59	0.56	0.53	0.51	0.49	0.56	0.53	0.51	0.48	0.46							
Valine, %	0.81	0.77	0.73	0.69	0.66	0.70	0.66	0.63	0.61	0.58	0.67	0.63	0.61	0.58	0.56	0.64	0.60	0.58	0.55	0.53							
	Total Amino Acids <sup>5</sup>																										
Lysine, %	0.99	0.93	0.89	0.84	0.81	0.85	0.81	0.77	0.74	0.71	0.81	0.77	0.74	0.70	0.68	0.77	0.74	0.70	0.67	0.64							
Methionine, %	0.47	0.45	0.43	0.41	0.39	0.38	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.32	0.37	0.35	0.33	0.32	0.31	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.30	0.28							
Methionine+Cystine,%	0.83	0.79	0.75	0.71	0.68	0.68	0.65	0.62	0.59	0.57	0.64	0.61	0.58	0.56	0.54	0.60	0.57	0.54	0.52	0.50							
Threonine, %	0.74	0.70	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.64	0.61	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.61	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.51	0.58	0.55	0.53	0.51	0.48							
Tryptophan, %	0.23	0.21	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.15							
Arginine, %	1.04	0.98	0.93	0.89	0.85	0.89	0.85	0.81	0.78	0.74	0.85	0.81	0.77	0.74	0.71	0.81	0.77	0.74	0.71	0.68							
Isoleucine, %	0.76	0.72	0.69	0.66	0.63	0.66	0.63	0.60	0.57	0.55	0.63	0.60	0.57	0.55	0.52	0.60	0.57	0.54	0.52	0.50							
Valine, %	0.89	0.85	0.80	0.77	0.73	0.77	0.73	0.70	0.67	0.64	0.74	0.70	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.70	0.67	0.64	0.61	0.58							
Crude protein <sup>6</sup> , %	19.44	18.42	17.50	16.67	15.91	17.00	16.19	15.45	14.78	14.17	16.00	15.24	14.55	13.91	13.33	15.00	14.29	13.64	13.04	12.50							
Sodium, %	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.15							
Chloride, %	0.20	0.19	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.15							
Linoleic acid (C18:2 n-6), %	1.11	1.05	1.00	0.95	0.91	1.00	0.95	0.91	0.87	0.83	1.00	0.95	0.91	0.87	0.83	1.00	0.95	0.91	0.87	0.83							
	CALCIUM AND PHOSPHORUS CHANGES BASED ON FEED INTAKE																										
Feed Consumption, g/day per bird	Weeks 18–32						Weeks 33–55						Weeks 56–72						Weeks 73–85								
	85	90	95	100	105	110	115	95	100	105	110	115	95	100	105	110	115	95	100	105	110	115	95	100	105	110	115
	Calcium <sup>7,8</sup> , %	4.71	4.44	4.21	4.00	3.81	3.64	3.48	4.37	4.15	3.95	3.77	3.61	4.53	4.30	4.10	3.91	3.74	4.68	4.45	4.24	4.05	3.87	4.84	4.60	4.38	4.18
Phosphorus (available) <sup>7,9</sup> , %	0.53	0.50	0.47	0.45	0.43	0.41	0.39	0.44	0.42	0.40	0.38	0.37	0.42	0.39	0.38	0.36	0.34	0.39	0.37	0.35	0.34	0.32	0.36	0.34	0.33	0.31	0.30
Phosphorus (digestible), %	0.47	0.45	0.42	0.40	0.38	0.36	0.35	0.40	0.38	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.38	0.36	0.34	0.32	0.31	0.35	0.33	0.32	0.30	0.29	0.33	0.31	0.29	0.28	0.27

<sup>1</sup> All nutrient requirements are based in the feed ingredient table at the back of this guide.

<sup>2</sup> Crude protein, methionine+cystine, fat, linoleic acid, and / or energy may be changed to optimize egg size.

<sup>3</sup> Peaking nutrient levels are calculated for birds at peak egg production. Prior to achieving peak egg production, the nutrient requirements will be lower.

<sup>4</sup> A good approximation of the influence of temperature on energy needs is that for each 0.5°C change higher or lower than 22°C, subtract or add about 2 kcal /bird /day, respectively.

<sup>5</sup> Recommendation for Total Amino Acids is only appropriate to corn and soybean meal diet. Where diets utilize other ingredients, recommendations for Standardized Ileal Digestible Amino Acids must be followed.

<sup>6</sup> Diets should always be formulated to provide required intake of amino acid. Concentration of crude protein in diet will vary with raw material used. Crude protein value provided is an estimated typical value only.

<sup>7</sup> Calcium and available phosphorus requirements are determined by flock age. When production remains higher and diets are fed for longer than ages shown, it is recommended to increase to calcium and phosphorus concentrations of next feeding phase.

<sup>8</sup> Calcium carbonate particle size recommendation varies throughout lay. Refer to Calcium Particle Size Table. Dietary calcium levels may need to be adjusted based on limestone solubility.

<sup>9</sup> Where other phosphorus systems are used, diets should contain recommended minimum level of available phosphorus.

# Disease Control

A flock of pullets or layers can only perform up to its genetic potential when disease influence is minimized. The diseases of economic importance vary widely between locations, but in every case the challenge is to identify and control those diseases.

## Biosecurity

Biosecurity is the best method of avoiding diseases. A good biosecurity program identifies and controls the most likely ways a disease could enter the farm.

- Human and equipment movement onto the farm should be strictly controlled.
- Visitors to the farm should be limited to those essential for its operation.
- Visits should be documented in a logbook.
- All visitors and workers should shower at a central location before entering.
- Clean boots, clothing and head cover should be provided for workers and visitors.
- Clean footbaths containing disinfectant should be placed outside entries to all poultry houses.
- If possible, avoid using outside crews or equipment for vaccination, moving, and beak trimming.
- Ideally, workers should be limited to a single house.
- For those visiting a number of flocks, flocks visited on one day should be limited. Always progress from younger to older and from healthy to sick flocks. After visiting a sick flock, no other houses should be entered.
- Removal of flocks from the farm is an opportunity for disease to be introduced, as trucks and crews have often been on other farms.
- A single-aged rearing farm using an all-in, all-out principle is best to prevent transmission of disease from older flocks to younger, susceptible flocks.
- Houses should be designed to prevent exposure to wild birds, insects and rodents.
- Quickly and properly dispose of dead chickens.

## Rodents

Rodents are known carriers of many poultry diseases and the most common reason for re-contamination of a cleaned and disinfected poultry facility. They are also responsible for house-to-house spread of disease on a farm.

- The farm should be free of debris and tall grass that provide a hiding area for rodents.
- The perimeter of each house should have a 1 m wide area of crushed rock or concrete to prevent rodents from burrowing into the house.
- Feed and eggs should be stored in rodent-proof areas.
- Bait stations should be placed throughout the house and maintained with fresh rodenticide.

## Cleaning and Disinfection

Cleaning and disinfection of the house between flocks reduces infection pressure for the next flock.

- Allow a minimum of 2 weeks downtime between flocks.
- All feed and manure should be removed from the house before cleaning.
- Thoroughly clean air inlets, fan housing, fan blades and fan louvers.
- Heating the house during washing improves the removal of organic matter.

- The house should be cleaned of organic matter with a high-pressure spray of warm water.
- Use foam / gel detergent to soak into organic matter and equipment.
- Wash the upper portion of the house before the pit.
- Use high pressure warm water to rinse.
- Allow the house to dry.
- After it is fully dry, apply foam / spray disinfectant followed by fumigation.
- Flush and sanitize water lines.
- The monitoring of poultry houses for the presence of *Salmonella*, particularly *Salmonella enteritidis*, by routine environmental testing is recommended.
- Allow the house to dry before repopulating.

## Vertically Transmitted Diseases

- Some diseases are known to be transmitted from infected breeders to progeny.
- Disease-free breeders are the first step in control of these diseases for commercial layers.
- All breeders directly under Hy-Line International's control are free of lymphoid leukosis, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, *Salmonella pullorum*, *Salmonella gallinarum*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Salmonella typhimurium* and other *Salmonella* species.
- Due to the possibility of horizontal transmission of these diseases, later generations may not remain free.
- It is the responsibility of breeding and commercial flock owners to prevent horizontal transmission of these diseases and to continue testing to be assured of a negative status.

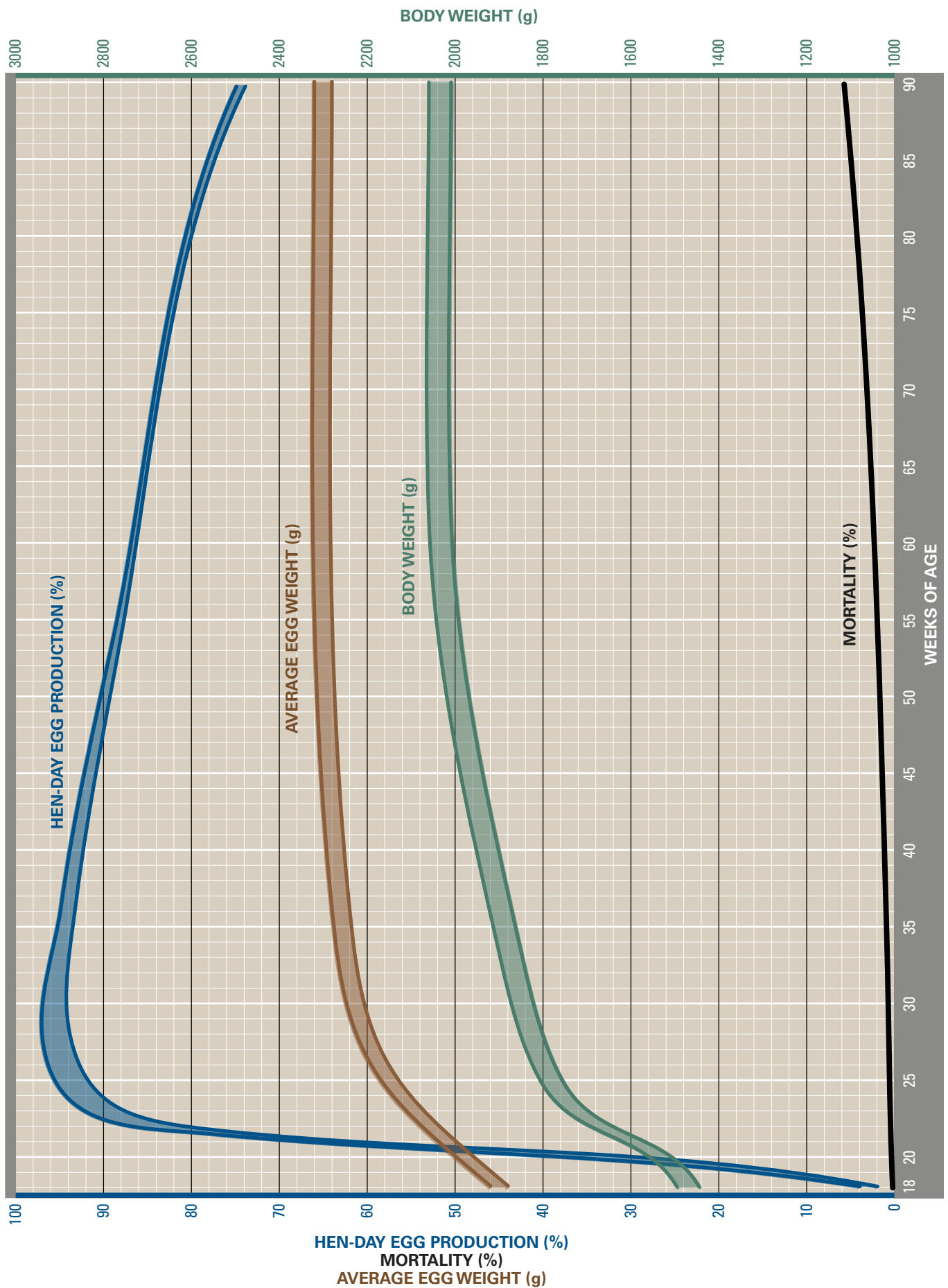


## COCCIDIA

This parasitic infection of the intestines may lead to gut damage and, in severe infestations, death. More commonly, poor control of sub-clinical infection reduces feed conversion or leaves pullets with chronic, irreversible gut damage. Pullet flocks may be uneven or underweight at housing and not perform to their full potential in lay. Control of coccidia includes the following measures (check local regulations):

- Use ionophores or chemicals on a step-down program to ensure immunity in pullets.
- Live vaccine use is an alternative to anti-coccidial drug treatments.
- Live vaccines are available that can be administered by spray in the hatchery or by feed or water application during the first few days in the brooder house.
- Control of flies and beetles, which are vectors of coccidia spread.
- Thorough cleaning and disinfection of houses reduces challenge pressure.
- Limit bird access to manure belts.
- Cocco vaccines require cycling; discuss this with the vaccine manufacturer.

# Performance Graph





# Egg Standards and Egg Size Distribution

EGG QUALITY			
AGE (weeks)	HAUGH UNITS	BREAKING STRENGTH	SHELL COLOR
20	99.7	4605	52
22	98.8	4590	53
24	98.0	4580	54
26	97.2	4570	54
28	96.4	4560	53
30	95.6	4540	52
32	94.8	4515	52
34	94.1	4490	52
36	93.3	4450	51
38	92.6	4425	51
40	91.8	4405	51
42	91.1	4375	51
44	90.4	4355	51
46	89.7	4320	50
48	89.0	4305	50
50	88.4	4280	50
52	87.8	4250	49
54	87.1	4225	49
56	86.5	4190	48
58	86.0	4170	48
60	85.4	4150	48
62	84.9	4130	47
64	84.4	4110	47
66	83.8	4095	46
68	83.3	4085	46
70	82.8	4075	46
72	82.4	4065	45
74	81.9	4055	45
76	81.5	4040	44
78	81.1	4020	44
80	80.7	3995	44
82	80.3	3985	43
84	79.9	3975	43
86	79.5	3965	42
88	79.1	3960	42
90	78.7	3955	42

EGG SIZE DISTRIBUTION—E.U. STANDARDS					
AGE (weeks)	AVERAGE EGG WEIGHT (g)	% VERY LARGE Over 73 g	% LARGE 63–73 g	% MEDIUM 53–63 g	% SMALL 43–53 g
20	50.0	0.00	0.19	25.06	74.75
22	55.0	0.00	3.77	63.39	32.84
24	58.0	0.04	13.28	73.35	13.33
26	60.0	0.24	25.48	67.88	6.40
28	61.0	0.45	32.73	62.71	4.11
30	61.7	0.70	38.17	58.20	2.93
32	62.2	1.08	42.16	54.25	2.51
34	62.6	1.35	45.26	51.34	2.05
36	63.0	1.67	48.33	48.33	1.67
38	63.3	2.16	50.33	45.92	1.59
40	63.5	2.39	51.76	44.42	1.43
42	63.7	2.98	52.79	42.87	1.36
44	63.9	3.15	54.09	41.41	1.35
46	64.1	3.75	54.95	39.98	1.32
48	64.3	4.09	56.16	38.56	1.19
50	64.5	4.45	57.25	37.23	1.07
52	64.5	4.77	56.79	37.23	1.21
54	64.5	4.77	56.79	37.23	1.21
56	64.6	5.31	56.77	36.64	1.28
58	64.6	5.31	56.77	36.64	1.28
60	64.6	5.32	56.77	36.63	1.28
62	64.7	5.87	56.71	36.06	1.36
64	64.7	5.87	56.71	36.06	1.36
66	64.8	6.44	56.61	35.51	1.44
68	64.8	6.44	56.61	35.51	1.44
70	64.8	6.90	56.59	35.01	1.50
72	64.9	7.04	56.48	34.96	1.52
74	64.9	7.04	56.48	34.96	1.52
76	64.9	7.40	56.08	34.85	1.67
78	64.9	7.40	56.08	34.85	1.67
80	65.0	8.03	55.69	34.52	1.76
82	65.0	8.03	55.69	34.52	1.76
84	65.0	8.03	55.69	34.52	1.76
86	65.0	8.39	55.19	34.50	1.92
88	65.0	8.39	55.19	34.50	1.92
90	65.0	8.39	55.19	34.50	1.92

## SHELL COLOR SCORES



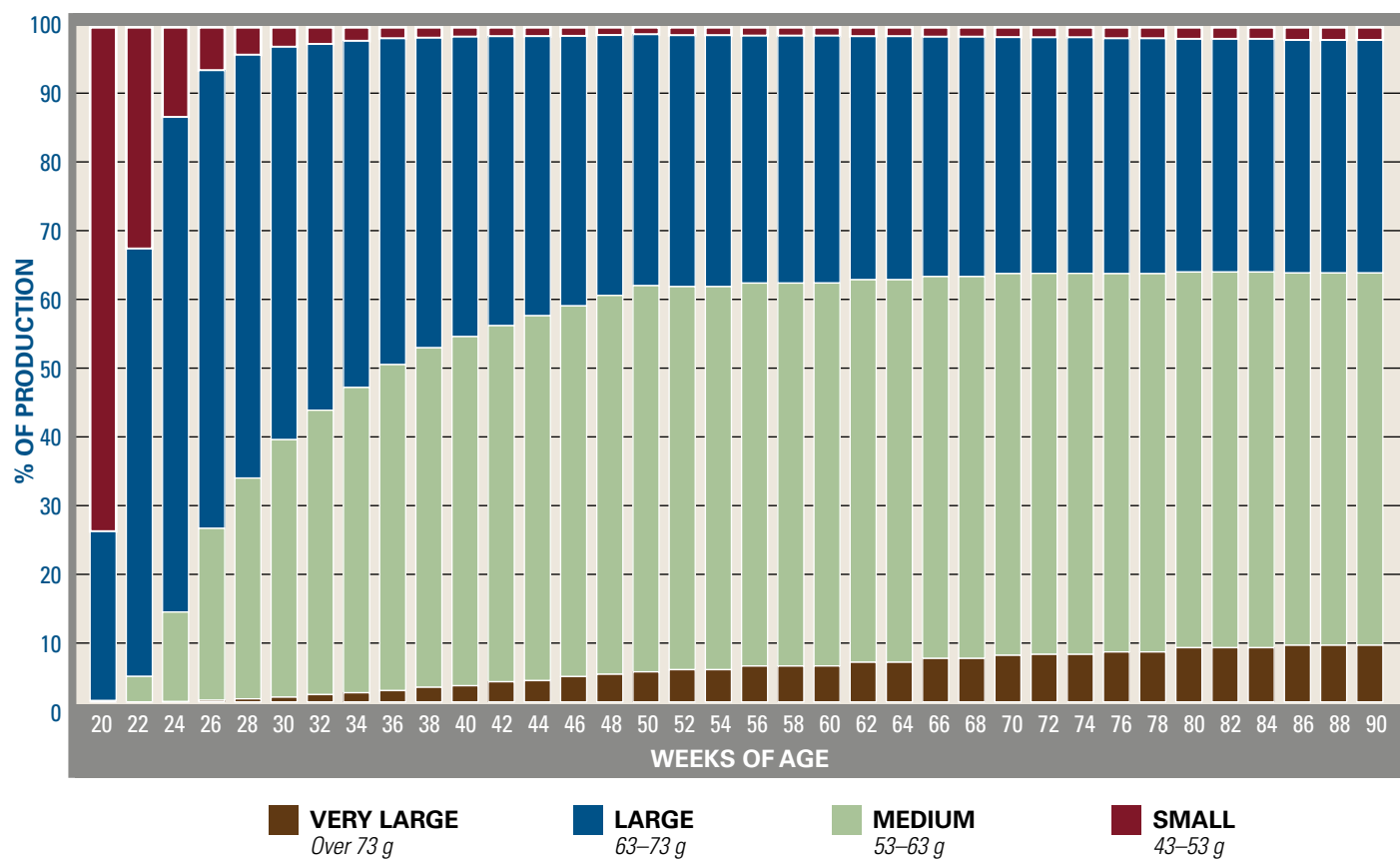
- The Sonia normally lays cream colored eggs (30–50).
- For more information on egg quality, see the “[The Science of Egg Quality](#)” technical update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

# Egg Size Distribution *(continued)*

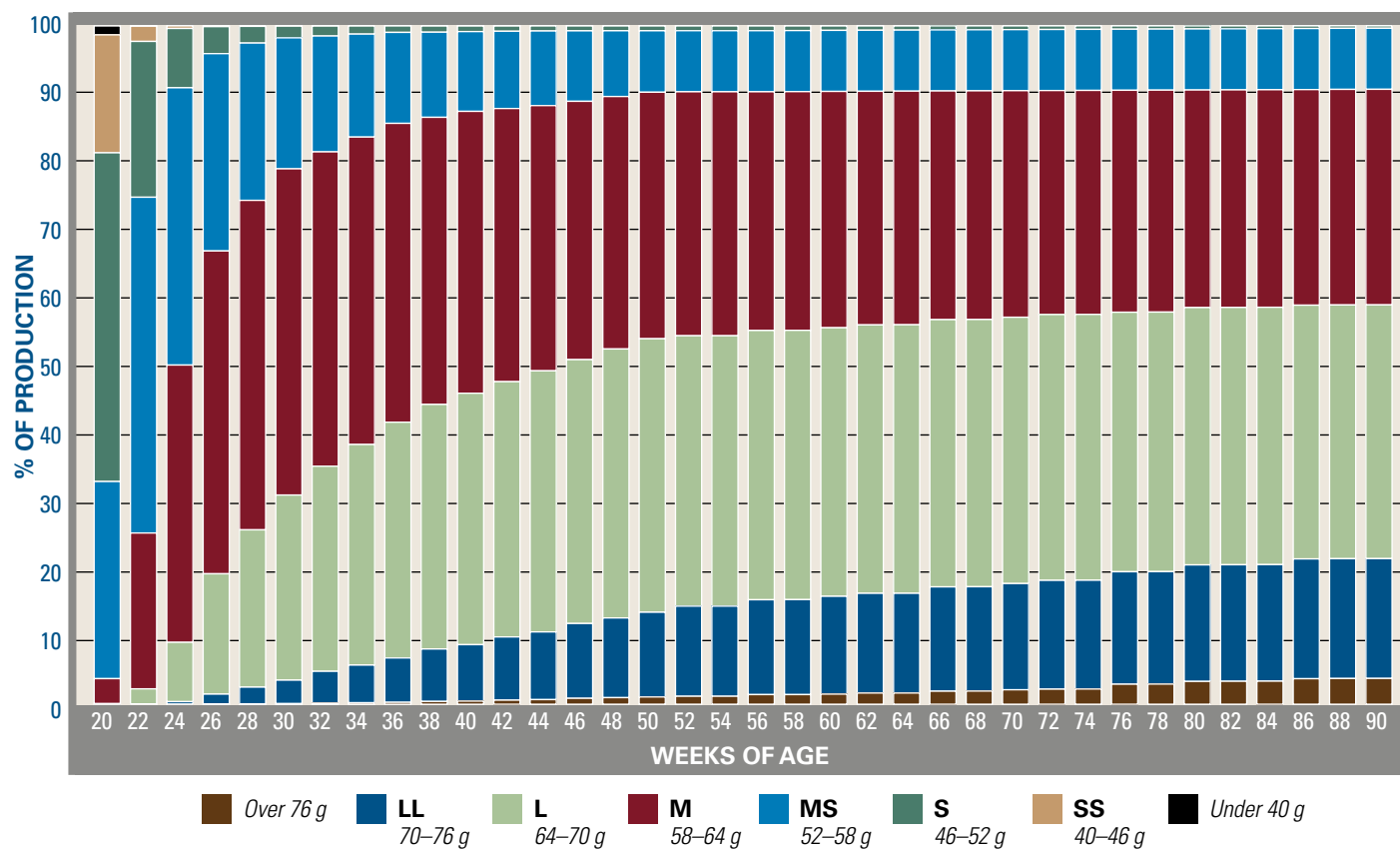
EGG SIZE DISTRIBUTION—JAPANESE STANDARDS									
AGE (weeks)	AVERAGE EGG WEIGHT (g)	% Over 76 g	% LL 70–76 g	% L 64–70 g	% M 58–64 g	% MS 52–58 g	% S 46–52 g	% SS 40–46 g	% Under 40 g
20	50.0	0.00	0.00	0.09	3.68	29.06	48.46	17.39	1.31
22	55.0	0.00	0.04	2.23	22.97	49.50	22.97	2.24	0.04
24	58.0	0.00	0.38	8.74	40.88	40.88	8.74	0.38	0.00
26	60.0	0.03	1.46	17.74	47.59	29.09	3.98	0.12	0.00
28	61.0	0.06	2.46	23.19	48.57	23.19	2.46	0.06	0.00
30	61.7	0.09	3.46	27.29	48.09	19.31	1.72	0.03	0.00
32	62.2	0.17	4.68	30.24	46.34	17.08	1.46	0.03	0.00
34	62.6	0.22	5.55	32.52	45.32	15.18	1.19	0.02	0.00
36	63.0	0.28	6.54	34.76	44.05	13.41	0.95	0.02	0.00
38	63.3	0.41	7.73	36.06	42.32	12.55	0.91	0.02	0.00
40	63.5	0.46	8.32	37.07	41.55	11.76	0.82	0.01	0.00
42	63.7	0.60	9.32	37.63	40.27	11.39	0.77	0.01	0.00
44	63.9	0.68	9.98	38.49	39.10	11.00	0.74	0.01	0.00
46	64.1	0.87	11.03	38.90	38.08	10.39	0.72	0.01	0.00
48	64.3	0.97	11.75	39.65	37.22	9.69	0.71	0.01	0.00
50	64.5	1.07	12.49	40.32	36.34	9.06	0.71	0.01	0.00
52	64.5	1.17	13.29	39.86	35.97	9.00	0.70	0.01	0.00
54	64.5	1.17	13.29	39.86	35.97	9.00	0.70	0.01	0.00
56	64.6	1.42	13.98	39.70	35.19	9.00	0.70	0.01	0.00
58	64.6	1.42	14.00	39.70	35.19	9.00	0.68	0.01	0.00
60	64.6	1.49	14.42	39.59	34.84	9.00	0.65	0.01	0.00
62	64.7	1.65	14.70	39.57	34.44	9.00	0.63	0.01	0.00
64	64.7	1.65	14.70	39.59	34.44	9.00	0.61	0.01	0.00
66	64.8	1.92	15.38	39.40	33.71	9.00	0.59	0.00	0.00
68	64.8	1.94	15.38	39.40	33.71	9.00	0.57	0.00	0.00
70	64.8	2.13	15.66	39.26	33.40	9.00	0.55	0.00	0.00
72	64.9	2.22	16.04	39.19	33.02	9.00	0.53	0.00	0.00
74	64.9	2.24	16.04	39.19	33.02	9.00	0.51	0.00	0.00
76	64.9	2.95	16.58	38.26	32.72	9.00	0.49	0.00	0.00
78	64.9	2.97	16.58	38.26	32.72	9.00	0.47	0.00	0.00
80	65.0	3.36	17.18	37.94	32.07	9.00	0.45	0.00	0.00
82	65.0	3.38	17.18	37.94	32.07	9.00	0.43	0.00	0.00
84	65.0	3.40	17.18	37.94	32.07	9.00	0.41	0.00	0.00
86	65.0	3.76	17.66	37.41	31.78	9.00	0.39	0.00	0.00
88	65.0	3.79	17.66	37.41	31.78	9.00	0.37	0.00	0.00
90	65.0	3.80	17.66	37.41	31.78	9.00	0.35	0.00	0.00

# Egg Size Distribution *(continued)*

## EGG SIZE DISTRIBUTION—E.U. STANDARDS



## EGG SIZE DISTRIBUTION—JAPANESE STANDARDS



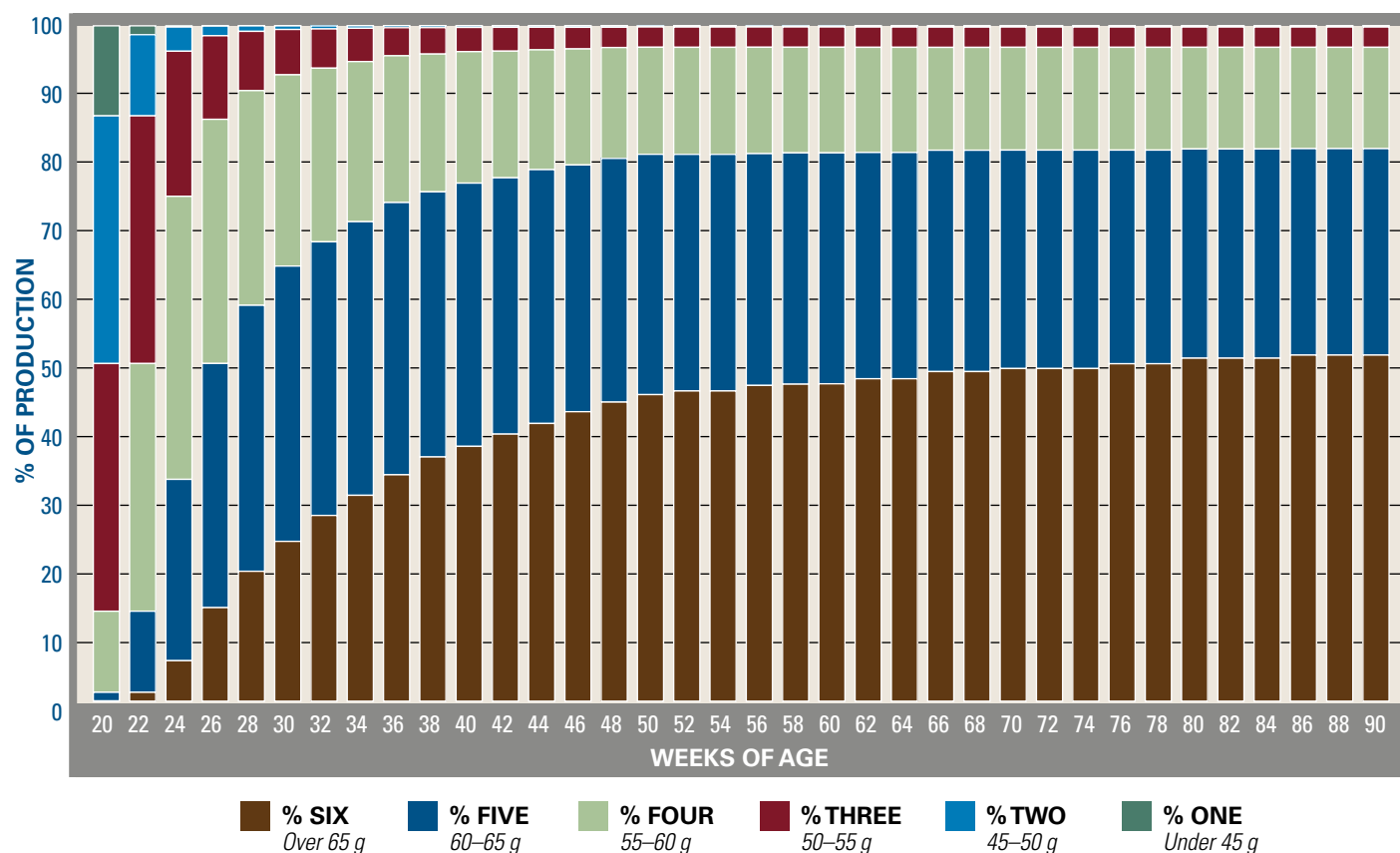
# Egg Size Distribution *(continued)*

EGG SIZE DISTRIBUTION—CHINESE STANDARDS							
AGE (weeks)	AVERAGE EGG WEIGHT (g)	% SIX Over 65 g	% FIVE 60–65 g	% FOUR 55–60 g	% THREE 50–55 g	% TWO 45–50 g	% ONE Under 45 g
20	50.0	0.04	1.27	12.01	36.67	36.67	13.33
22	55.0	1.31	12.01	36.67	36.67	12.02	1.31
24	58.0	5.99	26.85	41.91	21.48	3.58	0.19
26	60.0	13.85	36.15	36.15	12.37	1.43	0.06
28	61.0	19.23	39.38	31.79	8.77	0.81	0.03
30	61.7	23.66	40.76	28.32	6.71	0.53	0.01
32	62.2	27.50	40.51	25.71	5.81	0.45	0.01
34	62.6	30.48	40.51	23.71	4.93	0.36	0.01
36	63.0	33.52	40.31	21.73	4.15	0.29	0.01
38	63.3	36.16	39.25	20.40	3.91	0.27	0.01
40	63.5	37.73	38.97	19.47	3.58	0.24	0.01
42	63.7	39.54	37.95	18.75	3.53	0.22	0.01
44	63.9	41.12	37.58	17.74	3.34	0.22	0.01
46	64.1	42.86	36.53	17.18	3.20	0.22	0.01
48	64.3	44.28	36.08	16.42	3.00	0.21	0.01
50	64.5	45.39	35.58	15.85	3.00	0.18	0.01
52	64.5	45.93	35.03	15.85	3.00	0.18	0.01
54	64.5	45.93	35.03	15.85	3.00	0.18	0.01
56	64.6	46.75	34.32	15.75	3.00	0.18	0.01
58	64.6	46.93	34.25	15.64	3.00	0.18	0.01
60	64.6	46.99	34.19	15.64	3.00	0.18	0.01
62	64.7	47.74	33.50	15.57	3.00	0.18	0.01
64	64.7	47.74	33.50	15.57	3.00	0.18	0.01
66	64.8	48.80	32.77	15.23	3.00	0.18	0.01
68	64.8	48.80	32.77	15.23	3.00	0.18	0.01
70	64.8	49.25	32.34	15.22	3.00	0.18	0.01
72	64.9	49.25	32.34	15.22	3.00	0.18	0.01
74	64.9	49.25	32.34	15.22	3.00	0.18	0.01
76	64.9	49.96	31.63	15.22	3.00	0.18	0.01
78	64.9	49.96	31.63	15.22	3.00	0.18	0.01
80	65.0	50.78	30.98	15.05	3.00	0.18	0.01
82	65.0	50.78	30.98	15.05	3.00	0.18	0.01
84	65.0	50.78	30.98	15.05	3.00	0.18	0.01
86	65.0	51.24	30.57	15.00	3.00	0.18	0.01
88	65.0	51.24	30.57	15.00	3.00	0.18	0.01
90	65.0	51.24	30.57	15.00	3.00	0.18	0.01



# Egg Size Distribution *(continued)*

## EGG SIZE DISTRIBUTION—CHINESE STANDARDS



## Molting

In some situations, the Hy-Line Sonia may be molted to rejuvenate egg production, shell quality and Haugh units. For molting the Sonia, follow the guidelines given in the [Non-Fasting Molt Recommendations](#) Technical Update at [www.hyline.com](http://www.hyline.com).

# Feed Ingredient Table 1

INGREDIENT (as-fed basis)	DRY MATTER (%)	CRUDE PROTEIN (%)	FAT-ether extract (%)	CRUDE FIBER (%)	CALCIUM (%)	PHOSPHORUS total (%)	PHOSPHORUS available (%)	SODIUM (%)	CHLORIDE (%)	POTASSIUM (%)	SULFUR (%)	ME (kcal/lb)	ME (kcal/kg)	ME (MJ/kg)	LINOLEIC ACID (%)	CHOLINE (mg/kg)
Barley, grain	89.0	11.5	1.9	5.0	0.08	0.42	0.15	0.03	0.14	0.56	0.15	1250	2750	11.51	1.1	1027
Beans, broad (vicia faba)	89.0	25.7	1.4	8.2	0.14	0.54	0.20	0.08	0.04	1.20	—	1100	2420	10.13	0.9	1670
Calcium carbonate (38%Ca)	99.0	—	—	—	38.00	—	—	0.06	—	0.06	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canola meal (38%)	91.0	38.0	3.8	11.1	0.68	1.20	0.40	—	—	1.29	1.00	960	2110	8.83	—	6700
Corn, yellow, grain	86.0	7.5	3.5	1.9	0.01	0.28	0.12	0.02	0.04	0.33	0.08	1530	3373	14.11	1.9	1100
Corn gluten meal (60%)	90.0	60.0	2.0	2.5	0.02	0.50	0.18	0.03	0.05	0.45	0.50	1700	3740	15.65	1.8	2200
Cottonseed meal (41%), mech. extd	91.0	41.0	3.9	12.6	0.17	0.97	0.32	0.04	0.04	1.20	0.40	955	2100	8.79	0.8	2807
Cottonseed meal (41%), direct solv.	90.0	41.0	2.1	11.3	0.16	1.00	0.32	0.04	0.04	1.16	0.30	915	2010	8.41	0.4	2706
Dicalcium phosphate (18.5% P)	99.0	—	—	—	22.00	18.50	18.50	0.08	—	0.07	—	—	—	—	—	—
DL-Methionine	99.0	58.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2277	5020	21.00	—	—
Fat, animal	99.0	—	98.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3600	7920	33.14	—	—
Fat, vegetable	99.0	—	99.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4000	8800	36.82	40.0	—
Fish meal, anchovy, Peruvian	91.0	65.0	10.0	1.0	—	—	—	0.88	0.60	0.90	0.54	1280	2820	11.80	0.1	5100
Fish meal, white	91.0	61.0	4.0	1.0	—	—	—	0.97	0.50	1.10	0.22	1180	2600	10.88	0.1	4050
Flaxseed	92.0	22.0	34.0	6.5	—	—	—	0.08	—	1.50	—	1795	3957	16.56	54.0	3150
L-Lysine	99.0	93.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1868	4120	17.24	—	—
L-Threonine	99.0	72.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1619	3570	14.94	—	—
L-Tryptophan	99.0	84.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2653	5850	24.48	—	—
Linseed meal flax, expeller	90.0	32.0	3.5	9.5	0.40	0.80	—	0.11	—	1.24	0.39	700	1540	6.44	0.5	672
Linseed meal flax, solvent	88.0	33.0	0.5	9.5	0.35	0.75	—	0.14	—	1.38	0.39	635	1400	5.86	0.1	1760
Meat and bone meal, 50%	93.0	50.0	8.5	2.8	9.20	4.70	4.70	0.80	0.75	1.40	0.40	1150	2530	10.59	0.5	2000
Millet, pearl grain	90.0	12.0	4.2	1.8	0.05	0.30	0.10	0.04	0.64	0.43	0.13	1470	3240	13.56	1.3	789
Mono-dicalcium phosphate (21% P)	99.0	—	—	—	16.00	21.00	—	0.05	—	0.06	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oats, grain	90.0	11.0	4.0	10.5	0.10	0.35	0.14	0.07	0.12	0.37	0.21	1160	2550	10.67	2.4	1070
Peanut meal, solvent	90.0	47.0	2.5	8.4	0.08	0.57	0.18	0.07	0.03	1.22	0.30	1217	2677	11.20	0.5	1948
Poultry byproduct meal (feed grade)	94.0	57.0	14.0	2.5	5.00	2.70	2.70	0.30	0.55	0.60	0.50	1406	3100	12.97	0.7	5980
Rice bran, unextracted	91.0	13.5	5.9	13.0	0.10	1.70	0.24	0.10	0.07	1.35	0.18	925	2040	8.54	5.2	1948
Rice, grain, rough	89.0	7.3	1.7	10.0	0.04	0.26	0.09	0.04	0.06	0.34	0.10	1335	2940	12.30	0.83	5980
Safflower seed meal, expeller	91.0	20.0	6.6	32.2	0.23	0.61	0.20	0.05	0.16	0.72	0.10	525	1160	4.85	—	800
Salt, NaCl	99.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	39.34	60.66	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sodium bicarbonate, NaHCO <sub>3</sub>	99.0	—	—	—	—	—	—	27.38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sorghum, milo, grain	89.0	11.0	2.8	2.0	0.04	0.29	0.10	0.03	0.09	0.34	0.09	1505	3310	13.85	1.3	678
Soybeans, full-fat, cooked	90.0	38.0	18.0	5.0	0.25	0.59	0.20	0.04	0.03	1.70	0.30	1520	3350	14.02	9.9	2420
Soybean meal, expeller	89.0	42.0	3.5	6.5	0.20	0.60	0.20	0.04	0.02	1.71	0.33	1100	2420	10.13	1.8	2673
Soybean meal, solvent	90.0	44.0	0.5	7.0	0.25	0.60	0.20	0.04	0.02	1.97	0.43	1020	2240	9.37	0.3	2743
Sunflower meal, expeller	93.0	41.0	7.6	21.0	0.43	1.00	0.25	0.20	0.01	1.00	0.10	1050	2310	9.67	6.5	—
Sunflower meal, partially dehul, solv.	92.0	34.0	0.5	13.0	0.30	1.25	0.27	0.20	0.01	1.60	0.38	1025	2260	9.46	0.2	1909
Triticale	90.0	12.5	1.5	2.59	0.05	0.30	0.10	—	0.07	—	0.20	1430	3150	13.18	0.9	460
Wheat, hard grain	88.0	13.5	1.9	3.0	0.05	0.41	0.12	0.06	0.07	0.50	0.10	1440	3170	13.26	1.00	778
Wheat, soft grain	86.0	10.8	1.7	2.8	0.05	0.30	0.11	0.06	0.07	0.40	0.10	1460	3210	13.43	1.00	778
Wheat bran	89.0	14.8	4.0	10.0	0.14	1.17	0.38	0.06	0.14	1.20	0.22	590	1300	5.44	2.10	980
Wheat middlings	89.0	15.0	3.6	8.5	0.15	1.17	0.45	0.06	0.07	0.60	0.16	950	2090	8.74	1.90	110

Nutrient recommendations are based on calculations using these energy and nutrient values (source: 2018–2019 Feedstuffs Reference Issue and field data). Values provided are “typical” based on ingredient surveys. Nutrient values should be confirmed by analysis of the materials being used in order to maintain an accurate formulation matrix.

# Feed Ingredient Table 2

INGREDIENT (as-fed basis)	CRUDE PROTEIN (%)	LYSINE (%)		METHIONINE (%)		CYSTINE (%)		THREONINE (%)		TRYPTOPHAN (%)		ARGININE (%)		ISOLEUCINE (%)		VALINE (%)	
		Total content	Digestible content	Total content	Digestible content	Total content	Digestible content	Total content	Digestible content	Total content	Digestible content	Total content	Digestible content	Total content	Digestible content	Total content	Digestible content
Barley, grain	11.50	0.53	0.41	0.18	0.14	0.25	0.20	0.36	0.28	0.17	0.12	0.50	0.43	0.42	0.34	0.62	0.50
Beans, broad (vicia faba)	25.70	1.52	1.29	0.25	0.18	0.14	0.09	0.98	0.77	0.24	0.16	2.20	1.91	1.00	0.73	1.22	0.88
Canola meal (38%)	91.0	2.02	1.60	0.77	0.69	0.97	0.71	1.50	1.17	0.46	0.38	2.30	2.07	1.51	1.25	1.94	1.59
Corn, yellow, grain	7.50	0.24	0.19	0.18	0.16	0.18	0.15	0.29	0.24	0.07	0.06	0.40	0.36	0.29	0.26	0.42	0.37
Corn gluten meal (60%)	60.00	1.00	0.88	1.90	1.84	1.10	0.95	2.00	1.84	0.30	0.25	1.90	1.82	2.30	2.19	2.70	2.57
Cottonseed meal (41%), mech. extd	41.00	1.52	0.99	0.55	0.40	0.59	0.44	1.30	0.88	0.50	0.39	4.33	3.81	1.31	0.93	1.84	1.36
Cottonseed meal (41%), direct solv.	41.00	1.70	1.11	0.51	0.37	0.62	0.46	1.31	0.89	0.52	0.41	4.66	4.10	1.33	0.95	1.82	1.34
DL-Methionine	58.10	—	—	99.00	99.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fish meal, anchovy, Peruvian	65.00	4.90	4.21	1.90	1.63	0.60	0.43	2.70	2.17	0.75	0.59	3.38	2.77	3.00	2.55	3.40	2.82
Fish meal, white	61.00	4.30	3.70	1.65	1.42	0.75	0.54	2.60	2.09	0.70	0.55	4.20	3.44	3.10	2.64	3.25	2.70
Flaxseed	22.00	0.92	0.79	0.35	0.30	0.42	0.30	0.77	0.62	0.22	0.17	2.05	1.68	0.95	0.81	1.17	0.97
L-Lysine	93.40	78.80	78.80	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
L-Threonine	72.40	—	—	—	—	—	—	98.50	98.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
L-Tryptophan	84.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	98.00	98.00	—	—	—	—	—	—
Linseed meal flax, expeller	32.00	1.10	0.99	0.47	0.37	0.56	0.44	1.10	1.00	0.47	0.43	2.60	2.39	1.70	1.49	1.50	1.29
Linseed meal flax, solvent	33.00	1.10	0.99	0.48	0.38	0.58	0.45	1.20	1.10	0.48	0.44	2.70	2.48	1.80	1.58	1.60	1.38
Meat and bone meal, 50%	50.00	2.60	2.05	0.67	0.57	0.33	0.19	1.70	1.34	0.26	0.13	3.35	2.85	1.70	1.41	2.25	1.85
Millet, pearl grain	12.00	0.35	0.32	0.28	0.25	0.24	0.20	0.44	0.37	0.20	0.18	0.55	0.49	0.52	0.46	0.70	0.62
Oats, grain	11.00	0.40	0.35	0.20	0.17	0.21	0.18	0.28	0.24	0.18	0.14	0.80	0.75	0.53	0.47	0.62	0.55
Peanut meal, solvent	47.00	1.52	1.29	0.50	0.44	0.60	0.47	1.12	0.91	0.42	0.39	4.76	4.28	1.50	1.32	1.80	1.57
Poultry byproduct meal (feed grade)	57.00	2.25	1.80	0.91	0.78	0.90	0.55	1.88	1.50	0.50	0.26	3.50	3.08	2.10	1.79	2.32	1.93
Rice bran, unextracted	13.50	0.50	0.38	0.17	0.13	0.10	0.07	0.40	0.28	0.10	0.08	0.45	0.39	0.39	0.30	0.60	0.46
Rice, grain, rough	7.30	0.24	0.19	0.14	0.13	0.08	0.07	0.27	0.22	0.12	0.11	0.59	0.54	0.33	0.27	0.46	0.39
Safflower seed meal, expeller	20.00	0.70	0.58	0.40	0.35	0.58	0.45	0.47	0.34	0.30	0.24	1.20	1.01	0.28	0.22	1.00	0.87
Sorghum, milo, grain	11.00	0.27	0.21	0.10	0.09	0.20	0.17	0.27	0.22	0.09	0.08	0.40	0.30	0.60	0.53	0.53	0.46
Soybeans, full-fat, cooked	38.00	2.40	2.16	0.54	0.49	0.55	0.45	1.69	1.43	0.52	0.46	2.80	2.60	2.18	1.94	2.02	1.78
Soybean meal, expeller	42.00	2.70	2.43	0.60	0.54	0.62	0.51	1.70	1.44	0.58	0.52	3.20	2.97	2.80	2.49	2.20	1.94
Soybean meal, solvent	44.00	2.70	2.43	0.65	0.58	0.67	0.55	1.70	1.44	0.60	0.53	3.40	3.16	2.50	2.22	2.40	2.11
Sunflower meal, expeller	41.00	2.00	1.74	1.60	1.47	0.80	0.64	1.60	1.31	0.60	0.52	4.20	3.91	2.40	2.14	2.40	2.08
Sunflower meal, partially dehul, solv.	34.00	1.42	1.19	0.64	0.60	0.55	0.43	1.48	1.26	0.35	0.30	2.80	2.32	1.39	1.25	1.64	1.41
Triticale	12.50	0.39	0.35	0.26	0.23	0.26	0.22	0.36	0.31	0.14	0.12	0.48	0.39	0.76	0.70	0.51	0.44
Wheat, hard grain	13.50	0.40	0.32	0.25	0.22	0.30	0.26	0.35	0.29	0.18	0.16	0.60	0.53	0.69	0.61	0.69	0.59
Wheat, soft grain	10.80	0.30	0.24	0.14	0.12	0.20	0.17	0.28	0.23	0.12	0.11	0.40	0.35	0.43	0.38	0.48	0.41
Wheat bran	14.80	0.60	0.43	0.20	0.15	0.30	0.22	0.48	0.35	0.30	0.24	1.07	0.88	0.60	0.47	0.70	0.54
Wheat Middlings	15.00	0.70	0.56	0.12	0.10	0.19	0.14	0.50	0.36	0.20	0.16	1.00	0.80	0.70	0.58	0.80	0.61

Amino acid digestibility is standardized ileal digestibility. Amino acid values are standardized for 88% dry matter (source: 2018–2019 Feedstuffs Reference Issue and field data). Values provided are “typical” based on ingredient surveys. Nutrient values should be confirmed by analysis of the materials being used in order to maintain an accurate formulation matrix.





# Hy-Line International Welfare Goals and Principles

To promote animal well-being and produce birds of the highest quality, we adhere to the following welfare goals and principles. These goals and principles are the essential building blocks for the humane and professional care of our birds:

- **Feed and Water**

Provide access to good quality water and nutritionally balanced diets at all times

- **Health and Veterinary Care**

Provide science-based health programs and prompt veterinary care

- **Environment**

Provide shelter that is designed, maintained and operated to meet the bird's needs and to facilitate daily inspection

- **Husbandry and Handling Practices**

Provide comprehensive care and handling procedures that ensure the bird's well-being throughout its life

- **Transportation**

Provide transportation that minimizes travel time and stress

## RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT [WWW.HYLINE.COM](http://WWW.HYLINE.COM)

[Corporate Information](#) | [Technical Updates](#) | [Videos](#) | [Interactive Management Guides](#)  
[Hy-Line International Lighting Program](#) | [Hy-Line EggCel](#) | [Body Weight Uniformity Calculator](#)

## TECHNICAL UPDATES

### Diseases

An Overview of Focal Duodenal Necrosis (FDN)

MG Control in Commercial Layers

Colibacillosis in Layers: An Overview

Fowl Pox in Layers

Avian Urolithiasis (Visceral Gout)

Infectious Bursal Disease (IBD, Gumboro)

Fatty Liver Hemorrhagic Syndrome

Infectious Laryngotracheitis (ILT)

Intestinal Dilation Syndrome (IDS)

Newcastle Disease

*Mycoplasma Synoviae* (MS)

Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI)

### Diagnostic Samples and Breeder Flock Monitoring

*Salmonella*, *Mycoplasma*, and Avian Influenza  
Monitoring in Parent Breeder Flocks

Proper Collection and Handling of Diagnostic Samples

### Management

Growing Management of Commercial Pullets

Understanding the Role of the Skeleton in Egg Production

The Science of Egg Quality

Understanding Poultry Lighting

Understanding Heat Stress in Layers

Infrared Beak Treatment

Feed Granulometry and the Importance of  
Feed Particle Size in Layers

Impact of Tarp Color on Poultry Lighting

SPIDES (Short Period Incubation During Egg Storage)

Fly Management: Surveillance and Control

Optimizing Egg Size in Commercial Layers

Vaccination Recommendations

Non-Fasting Molt Recommendations

Egg Drop Syndrome (EDS)

Managing Fully Beaked Flocks

Thiamin Deficiency in Pullets



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