

Aspire for Excellence Foundation webinar series

COMMON MISTAKES IN POULTRY (PART2) By James Durosaro

JAMES DUROSARO

- He's an Animal scientist
- He was formerly a quality feed controller with Seepc Nig Ltd, which today is known as Top Feed Plc for twelve years.
- He's a consultant with many big farms who has been given Central Bank of Nigeria poultry farmer of the year awards, like DEDORA NIG LTD and many others.
- He's presently the chief executive of Supreme Agro Allied Nig Ltd located in Ibadan producing various types of animal feeds, chickens and eggs towards improvement on national economy.
- He has been in practical poultry farming since 1992.

Areas Covered Last Month

- Need for good feasibility study before venturing into poultry agribusiness
- The need to have adequate fund before venturing into the business
- The need to select a good location
- The need to construct the Pens in the east-west direction
- The need to properly arrange the pens such that infections are prevented
- The Pens must be of good height and width
- Good proper roofing system
- Making available adequate space for good growth and production
- Good lighting programme

Areas To Cover In This Session

- Sourcing for new birds and Point of Lay/cage
- Mistakes in Brooding chicks
- Mistakes in the sourcing and use of feeds
- Mistakes in drugs administration
- Mistakes in the use of vaccines
- Mistakes in records keeping
- Mistakes in sourcing staff and Farm Manager



Sourcing of Birds

- Never source your DOC from untrusted hands i.e. hatchery.
- Every hatchery expects you to re-examine your chicks for deformity and sex error if available
- Do not form the habits of transporting Doc during hot periods of the day.
- Use vehicles that can conveniently accommodate the quantity you are transporting to the farm for adequate ventilation and air flow during transportation
- Never buy birds from Hatchery that you have not investigated at least one week earlier.
- Note that good chicks give good products. Let not cost of Doc be the main determinant for your source but the quality.



Mistakes In Brooding Chicks

- The brooder house should be raised to a temperature of 90°F if you are brooding broiler chicks but 95°F for layer chicks.
- Always reduce brooder house temperature by 5°F every week until the chicks have developed enough feathers against cold.
- The temperature of the brooder house should be right at least 4 hours before the arrival of the chicks because the litter and the floor where the chicks will stay take a lot of time to warm up.
- A functional thermometer must be installed in the brooding house. It must be at ground level. At most one foot above the ground.
- The litter in the brooding house must be dry type to avoid microbial growth during brooding. Do not use sawdust.



Mistakes In Brooding Chicks (Contd)

- New litter such as wood shavings should be used to replace caked ones. This guides against ammonia build up that can stimulate respiratory challenges (CRD).
- Drinkers and Feeders should be at the back-height of the chicks. Too low will waste the feed and too high will result in low feed consumption because accessing the feed would be difficult.
- Both chick feeders and drinkers must be washed everyday with detergent or soapy materials for hygiene reasons.
- Never allow overcrowding which can lead to stress, feather pecking, cannibalism, poor uniformity, poor products, health issues and high mortality rate.

Mistakes In Feeding

- Any mistake in this aspect is a great lost on the part of farmer. More than 75% of cost in raising birds belongs to feed alone.
- Appropriate feeds of the right nutrients, sizes and quantities must be served for proper body maintenance, growth and production
- Broiler birds must be given Starter, grower and finisher in that order and at the right time for good results.
- Laying birds must be given chick mash, grower mash, prelayer mash and the layer mash in that order and at appropriate age.
- Ensure you are aware of the quality of the feed you are buying by asking questions from others who are there before you.
- It is important you feed your future layers ad-lib for the first 5-6 weeks so that they can attain a weight of 370gm at 5th week.



Mistakes In Feeding (Contd)

- Do not make the mistake of under-feeding. It will lead to underweight birds and poor production in future.
- Do not feed with the wrong feed or rain beating feed.
- Do not make the mistake of serving grower mash beyond 20th week in layers.
- Do not let Broiler starter go after four weeks of age. It is a waste of fund.
- It is advisable to use chick mash till 10th week if the weights of the birds are grossly below the targeted average weight.
- Though not commercially available, it is important to use pre-layer mash from 18th week till 20th to avoid sudden change from a low calcium feed to a high one and for many other reasons.

Mistakes In Feeding (Contd)

- Do not serve the whole feed meant for the day at once.
- Avoid feeding the birds during high temperature to prevent heat stroke
- Always allow at least extra 4 hours of daylight through additional light till around 9-10pm everyday.
- Layer feed should be coarse enough (not too fine or dusty).
- Use at least two third of their day-feed in the morning and the rest in the afternoon or evening depending on the climate of the day.

Mistakes In Drugs Administration

- Appropriate drugs at the recommended dosages must be used.
- It is wrong to assume the role of a veterinarian when you are not one.
- Do not overdose your birds it can cause shrinking of the ovaries in layers.
- Do not under-dose the birds for it will not act on the organisms.
- Do not buy drugs without labels and dosage properly written.
- Never use expired drugs even it is cheap or expiring date too close for comfort.
- Never buy drugs without expiring date visibly written.
- Before you combine drugs, seek advice from the right source - A veterinary practitioner.



Mistakes In Vaccination

- Appropriate site for administration must be used based on manufacturer's recommendation.
- Never use oil based vaccine until it attains room temperature
- Never use live vaccine whose cold chain has been broken.
- Do not allow reconstituted live vaccine to go beyond 90 minutes.
- Never use water sanitizer within 3 days before and after use of live vaccine.
- Always use water soluble vitamins 3 days before vaccination and at least 2 days after vaccination.
- Check the vaccine for expiring date. Do not compromise.



Thank you

Questions and Answer Session

Q & A



NEXT WEBINAR EVENT: REBUILDING OUR VALUE SYSTEM- NEGOTIATING A PARADIGM SHIFT

JUNE 19th, 2021

