

# CHS Miracle of Birth Center Poultry Q & A



2016



Do you need a rooster  
for a hen to lay eggs?



A hen does not need a rooster  
to lay an egg.

# What is “hormone free” chicken?



All living organisms have hormones to regulate body functions, however no additional hormones are allowed in raising market hogs or poultry.

Are brown eggs more  
nutritious than white  
eggs?



Eggshell color does not  
affect the nutritional  
value of an egg.

# How long will eggs stay fresh?



Refrigerated eggs will stay fresh for 5 weeks but will stay fresh up to 2 months if kept in an airtight container.

How can you tell if an  
egg is fresh?



Fresh eggs sink in water  
while old eggs float. Always  
store eggs with pointed end  
down.

What is the nutrient  
value of one egg?



1 large egg provides 75 calories  
and all necessary nutrients  
needed except Vitamin C.

How old are chickens  
when they start to lay  
eggs?



Chickens start laying eggs  
around 18-22 weeks of age.



How many eggs does a  
chicken lay every year?



Young chickens lay 250-280  
eggs per year - or 2 eggs  
every 3 days.

How old can a chicken  
be to still lay eggs?



A healthy hen can lay eggs for  
10-12 years but slow down as  
they age.

# What is molting?

Molting is when a chicken loses its feathers and re-grows new ones. It happens about once a year and lasts for 14-16 weeks. Egg production slows during molting.

What is the incubation  
time for a fertilized  
chicken egg?



The Incubation time for a  
chicken egg is 21 days.

What is the incubation  
time for a fertilized  
turkey egg?



The Incubation time for a  
turkey egg is 28 days.

# What is candling eggs?



Candling is the process of shining a bright light through the egg in order to identify any imperfections in the egg like a cracked shell.