

CHS Miracle of Birth Center
Poultry Q & A 2016

Q. What breed are these chickens?

A. Hy-Line W36

Q. How old are chickens when they start to lay eggs?

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

Q. How many eggs does a chicken lay every year?

A. Young chickens lay 250-280 eggs per year. On average a hen will lay an egg every 25-26 hours.

Q. How old can a chicken be to still lay eggs?

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

Q. What is molting?

A. Molting is the natural process 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.

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

A. A hen does not need a rooster to lay an egg but most layers need an average of 14 hours of light per day to lay eggs.

Q. What is "hormone free" chicken?

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

Q. Are brown eggs more nutritious than white eggs?

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

Q. How long will eggs stay fresh?

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

Q. How can you tell if an egg is fresh?

A. Fresh eggs sink in water while old eggs float. Always store eggs with pointed end down in the original carton as eggs are porous and can absorb other smells.

Q. What is the nutrient value of one egg?

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

Q. What is the incubation time for a fertilized chicken egg?

A. The incubation time for a chicken egg is 21 days.

Q. What is candling eggs?

A. 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.