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Egg Blackout

There are many different factors that affect egg production in laying hens, but in this study artificial light exposure was evaluated. With a flock of 10 hens I was able to evaluate artificial light on the production of the hen's eggs. For 10 days I measured the production of the chicken's eggs as the control, during the day leaving the light on from 6 am to 8 am in the morning and then during the night from 5 pm to 9 pm. Everyday, I would record the amount of eggs produced that day and what the weather conditions were like. Then after the 10 days of measuring and recording the data of chicken egg production with light I introduced the variable of the light turned off for another 10 days. Then after I was done recording and measuring the egg production I turned the light on again to evaluate how long it would take for the production of the hen's eggs to go back to the normal or control, assuming that the variable of turning the lights off would influence the production of chicken eggs. I found that during the first 10 days of egg production with lights on the chickens laid an average of 9.4 eggs a day. Then with the lights off the chickens produced an average of 8.5 a day, a 9.6% decrease. Continued assessment of egg production over the next 20 days with the lights turned back on showed a further decrease in egg production to an average of 7.7 a day, an 18.1% decrease, in the first 10 days. In the next ten days the average increased to 8.3 eggs per day, an 11.7% decrease from the original 9.4 egg average. This might show that there is a lag in the response of egg production in chickens from artificial light manipulation.