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How Fresh Is That Egg?

The purpose of this study was to determine if there are accurate methods available to identify whether an egg is fresh or old when "sell by" dates are not available. Characteristics of a fresh egg include less air inside the shell, a neutral odor, a viscous albumen, and a rounded yolk. I tested three methods of determining egg freshness: the float test, candling, and plate and sniff test. I tested nine eggs, three eggs were 1 day old, three eggs were 41 days old, and three eggs were 50 days old. My hypothesis was that the float test would be the most accurate. The float test was 100% accurate, the candling test was only partially accurate and the plate and sniff test did not produce consistent results and was deemed inconclusive.