

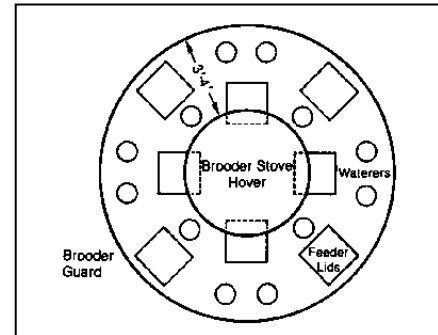
25. Care and management of day old chicks-Brooder management.

Preparation of Brooder

Brooder means to give a heat source by artificial means for the period of growth of chicks from 0 day (Day old) to 4 weeks. The heat source generally has a large reflector (Hover) under which the chicks will get the heat uniformly.

Aim

The day old chicks do not possess the insulating feather coverage to protect them from cold. It may result in the losing of body heat to the environment resulting in chilling which will create the ground for many diseases.



Preparation of Brooder and daily routine work carried out in the farm

Objective

Chicks do not possess a well-developed thermo- regulatory mechanism. The day old chicks don't possess the insulating feather coverage to protect them from chillness. The body temperature of chick is 107°F which is always more than the ambient temperature. It may result in the losing of body heat to the environment. So a source of heat is given by natural brooding or by Artificial brooding up to 4 weeks of age.

Materials required

Hover or wooden cross bar. Automatic brooder, fuel heaters like lantern.

1. Bulbs
2. Chick guard
3. Thermometer (0 to 110°F)
4. Waterer
5. Linear feeder,
6. Lime powder

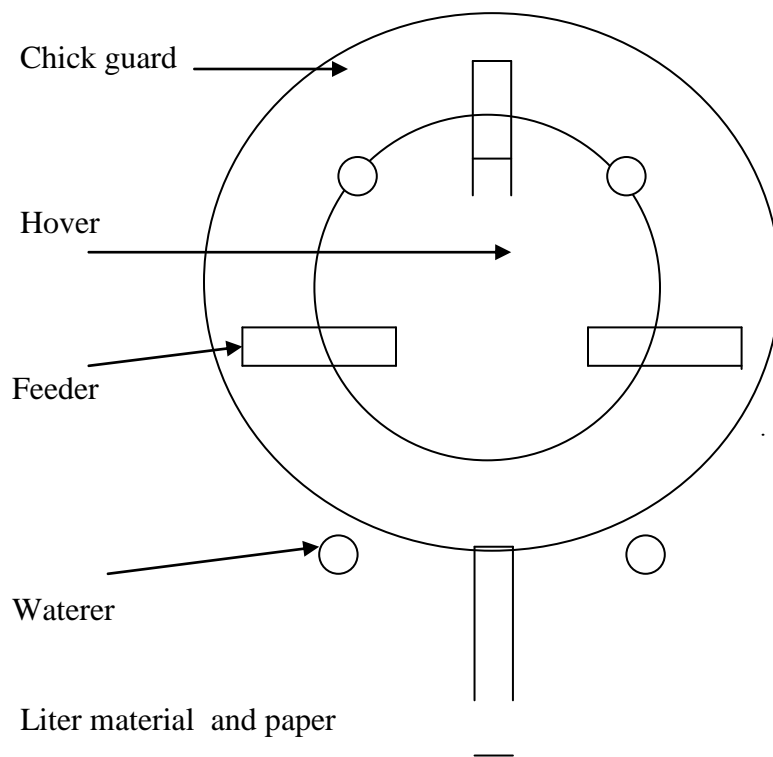
7. Lysol
8. Sprayer
9. Coirpith, GN husk or paddy husk
10. Waste news paper
11. Flame gun
12. Automatic vaccinators .
13. Debeaker
14. Bucket
15. Broomstick
16. Rake
17. Electrolyte
18. B Complex and Vitamin A
19. Antibiotics
20. Lasota F₁ Vaccine
21. IBD Live vaccine

Preparation of Brooder House

1. The litter material of the previous batch should be heaped up first so that building up of germs could be destroyed.
2. After 2 to 3 days the heaped up material can be removed from the brooder room.
3. The portion of the litter sticking over the ground must be scraped and removed.
4. The removal of spider web, cob webs and dirt are also essential.
5. The floor and sidewalls should be washed with plain water.
6. Disinfection of the room is carried out by spraying phenyl, lysol, etc at 5%

concentration.

7. Use Flame gun to destroy the insects.
8. The entire floor and side walls should be white washed with fresh limestone.
9. Feeders, waterers, , chick guards should be washed and disinfected in phenyl or lysol. Dry it in the sun for a day.
10. Hang the gunny bags around the brooder house to maintain the room temperature to maintain temperature notbelow 80⁰F in the first week 75⁰F in the 2nd week 70⁰F III week, 65⁰F -IV week.



Decide on the no. of brooders depending on the number of chicks ordered

1. Connect the chick guards in circular fashion with diameter of 5 feet to accommodate 150-200 chicks.
2. Spread the litter material like coirpith, or paddy husk or ground nut husk on the prepared floor to a depth 2 inches.

3. The litter material is to be covered with newspaper.
4. The feeders and waterers are to be arranged in a radiating fashion from the light source.
5. 4 hours before the scheduled arrival of chicks place the waterers with water in order to bring water to room temperature.
6. The brooding unit should be kept ready at least a day before the arrival of chicks.
7. The brooding bulb must be switched on atleast 24 hours earlier to make the area warm at the time of housing the chick.
8. Depending on weather condition put curtains on all four sides of room to maintain room temperature.

Brooder Management

1. Spread finally grained maize over the news paper before the arrival of chicks.
2. Give cool water after boiling. Add electrolytes, B Complex and antibiotics.
3. Distribute chicks equally after counting under the brooders.
4. Before putting chicks under the brooder scale their beaks with water.
5. For first 3 days provide crushed maize twice a day. Also provide ground maize in the feeder.
6. Change newspaper sheets immediately if they get wet.
7. Remove newspapers on 5th day.
8. Remove wet litter under waterers immediately and add fresh liter.
9. On fifth day give Lasota F₁ Vaccine.
10. According to the age of the birds brooder temperature should be adjusted.
11. Medication and vaccination
 - a) 1st day give 5% glucose in water.
 - b) 2nd to 4th day - antibiotic + Vit.A + B Complex.

- c) 5th day - RDVF vaccination
 - d) 10th day - IBD vaccination.
12. Daily morning and evening wash the waterer and give freshly boiled and cooled water.
 13. Give 24 hrs. light up to 3 weeks to induce night feeding.
 14. Debeaking is done at 2nd week to prevent cannibalism and feed wastage.
 15. Chick mash should contain 22% protein and 2800 kcal/kg ME

Observation

Watch the chicks under light, if chicks are spread uniformly under the light and brooder area, then the temperature maintained is correct. If the chicks are huddled under the light, heat provided is not enough.. If the chicks are away from the light source, the heat intensity is high. Give enough space for watering and feeding for growing chicks according to the age of the birds.

Brooder management : Zero –8 weeks

Chick hood is the most critical age in birds life as it readily picks up problems due to chilling, mal - nutrition, over crowding and diseases.

Productivity of a layer or a broiler depends largely on the way how they start their life.

New born chicks require warmth to keep them in comfort. Hence they are provided with artificial heat by a device called brooder.

Brooder can be hover type, flat, type, wooden reapers fitted with bulbs or heating bulbs or infra red bulbs

Brooding Temperature : 95°C I week

90°C II week

85°C III week

80°C IV week

Floor space : ¼ sq.ft/bird 0-3 weeks

½ sq.ft./bird 4-8 weeks

Feeder space

0-3 weeks 1”

4-8 weeks 2”

Water space

0.3 week ½”

3-8 weeks 1”

Arranging for brooding

Spread litter on a prepared floor, over which place old news paper arrange the heating device in the middle. Cover the desire area with chick guards. Keep waterers and feeders, radiating from the heat source.

Conserve heat by blocking the side-mesh with gunny sacks.

Medications

I day glucose- 5% in water

II to 7th day – antibiotic + Vit.A + B Complex

III week & VI week coccidiostats in water.

Always use boiled and cooled water for 1st three weeks.

Then sanitize the water for the rearing period

Vaccination : Mareks, Ranikhet and Fowl pox.

After 3 weeks continuous or 23 hours light period has to be given to the chicks to induce night feeding and avoid trampling. Debeaking is done at II week to prevent cannibalism and feed wastage – Feed used in chick mash. Contains 22% crude protein and 2800 kcal/kg ME.

Grower management

8 - 20 weeks. –floor space : 1-1 ½ Sq.ft. feeder space – 3” water space : 1½-2” feed – Grower mash

Restricted feeding

To keep the birds in normal desirable wt. range -10% to 20% of the feed required by the bird is restricted from 10-18 week of age.

Lighting : Grower should not be provided with extra high except day light to counteract undesirable effect on sexual maturity.

Deworming :

Debeaking, delicing if necessary – are to be carried out before the onset of lay.