



Feeding your future with Egg Quality & Production

Egg shell quality directly impacts profitability of the flock. Any broken, cracked, or misshapen eggs will result in a financial loss to the producer. Below are three factors that affect shell quality. For further information on how to optimize shell quality in your laying hen flock, consult your New-Life Mills Feed Specialist.

Nutrition

Nutrition plays a key role in maintaining shell quality, particularly calcium, phosphorus, and vitamin D₃. To support optimum calcium uptake and allow the hen to obtain the calcium she requires to create an egg-shell every day these three nutrients must be balanced correctly. Any imbalance in these nutrients will lead to a deterioration in shell quality.

New-Life Mills layer feeds are formulated to contain calcium, phosphorus, and vitamin D₃ in the correct balance as well as containing a portion of large particle calcium in the feed, providing slow release calcium during the dark period (when the egg-shell is being laid on the egg).

Feed Management

Feed timing is a very effective tool which is used to enhance and support egg-shell quality. It is important to make sure that the feeders are operating close to the time of lights-out. This allows the hen to consume the calcium she needs to form the egg shell before the lights are out. Midnight feedings are also very effective in improving shell quality, as this allows the hens to consume calcium in the middle of the dark period, when the calcium demand is at its greatest for shell formation.

Stress

Whether it is environmental stress on the bird or mechanical stress on the egg, stress will have a negative impact on shell quality. Carefully monitoring the barn environment to prevent stress caused by disease, heat, excessive and sudden noises, mismanagement or failure of lighting programs, poor barn environment, and aggression is important to ensure nothing is disrupting shell formation and leading to shell quality concerns.

PRODUCTION RESULTS

October 2016

White

Breed	Age	Eggs/HH	Feed grams/day per bird	Large & XL	Total Undergrades
Shaver	70	332.63	103.5	72.63	3.15
Lohmann	70	330.07	103.7	73.34	2.06
Bovan	70	329.76	104.4	66.56	2.79
Lohmann	70	326.13	103.4	74.88	3.17
Bovan	70	325.94	104.2	80.57	2.99
Bovan	70	325.94	100.5	70.68	2.39
Bovan	70	325.84	103.9	70.69	2.78
Bovan	70	325.84	103.9	68.37	3.27
Bovan	70	325.64	104.9	69.13	2.16
Lohmann	70	325.40	106.7	73.98	3.41

Brown

Breed	Age	Eggs/HH	Feed grams/day per bird	Large & XL	Total Undergrades
Hy-Line	70	319.00	108.50	78.54	2.45
Isa	70	313.00	110.70	71.87	3.35
Isa	70	311.58	111.20	84.04	4.07
Hy-Line	70	310.50	110.00	80.95	2.99
Isa	70	310.00	106.90	77.14	3.70

Source: New-Life Mills Flock Performance Results 12-Oct-16

Ontario & Quebec

Listowel 1-888-844-3880
Denfield 1-800-265-7040
Wyoming 1-800-265-7507
Inkerman 1-800-565-5175

Saskatchewan

Saskatoon 1-800-667-4693

www.newlifemills.com