

Abnormalities In Hatching Chicks

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Arid Agriculture

Crippled Chicks

Hatching chicks are disabled in feet or legs

Causes:

- Improper incubation temperatures (usually too high)
- 2) Improper egg position & turning during incubation
- 3) Low humidity during incubation
- 4) Improper ventilation
- 5) Heredity
- 6) Slick hatching trays
- 7) Improper nutrition of breeders

- 1) Follow recommended incubation temperatures
- 2) Increase incubation humidity by increasing water evaporation
- 3) Set eggs with small ends down. Turn eggs at least 3 times daily
- 4) Proper culling & breeding practices
- 5) Use trays with wire floors
- 6) Provide a well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders





Crooked Toes

Hatching chicks have bent toes or any other irregular shape

Causes:

- 1) Improper temperature in setter
- 2) Improper ventilation
- 3) Improper nutrition of breeders

- 1) Follow recommended incubation temperatures
- 2) Provide a well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders





Spraddle Legs

Chicks hatch with splayed legs. The feet are pointing to side instead of forward making walking difficult

Causes:

- 1) Temperatue fluctuations during incubation
- 2) Difficult hatch
- 3) Brooder overcrowding

- 1) Follow recommended temperature settings
- 2) Provide proper conditions for normal hatching





Closed Eyes

Chicks hatch with closed eyes. Baby chicks have eyelids crusted or glued shut

Causes:

- 1) High temperature in hatcher
- 2) Low humidity in hatcher
- 3) Improper nutrition of breeders

- 1) Follow recommended incubation temperatures
- 2) Increase incubation humidity by increasing water evaporation
- 3) Provide a well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders



Missing Eyes

Chicks hatched with no eyes

Causes:

- 1) High temperatures
- 2) Improper egg handling during incubation

- 1) Follow recommended temperature settings
- 2) Proper egg handling during incubation i.e. egg position, egg turning





Sticky Chicks (1)

Hatched chicks have albumin sticking to them

Causes:

- 1) High temperature
- 2) Low humidity
- 3) Too late egg transfer
- 4) Inadequate ventilation
- 5) Inadequate eggs turning during incubation

- 1) Follow recommended temperature settings
- Increase humidity by water evaporation
- 3) Egg transfering must be at its proper time
- 4) Proper ventilation
- 5) Proper egg handling



Sticky Chicks (2)

Chicks hatch with albumin sticking to shell

Causes:

- 1) Too high temperature (20-21 days)
- 2) Broken eggs in the tray
- 3) Inadequate turning
- 4) Excessive ventilation rate

- 1) Follow recommended hatcher temperature settings
- 2) Proper egg handling
- 3) Adequate ventilation





Chick Can't Stand

Hatched chick is unable to stand. No splayed legs

Causes:

- 1) Imrproper temperature in hatcher
- 2) High humidity in hatcher
- 3) Malposition during incubation
- 4) Improper nutrition of breeders

- 1) Follow recommended temperature settings
- Provide normal humidity level
- 3) Proper egg handling during incubation
- 4) Provide well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders





Rough or Un-healed Navels

Chicks hatch with unhealed navels. May be wet or dry.

Causes:

- High temperatures (1-19 days)
- High humidity (20-21 days)
- 3) Navel infection (Omphalitis)
- Improper sanitation in incubator 4)
- 5) Improper nutrition of breeders

- Follow recommended incubation temperatures
- Keep humidity level at normal
- Clean & disinfect incubator and hatching units between settings of eggs 3)
- Proper sanitation in incubator 4)
- Provide well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders 5)







Dehydrated Chicks

Causes:

- 1) Low humidity level in hatcher
- 2) Eggs set too early
- 3) Improper transportation

- 1) Maintain normal humidity level in hatcher
- 2) Eggs setting should be at proper time
- 3) Proper transportation





Soft or Mushy Chicks

Causes:

- 1) High setter temperature
- 2) High hatcher humidity
- 3) Improper sanitary conditions in incubator

- 1) Follow recommended temperature settings
- 2) Proper sanitation







Chicks Too Small

Causes:

- 1) Small eggs
- 2) Thin egg shell
- 3) Too low humidity in setter (1-19 days)
- 4) Egg produced in hot weather
- 5) Diseased or poor breeder flock
- 6) Improper nutrition of breeders

- 1) Follow recommended temperature settings
- 2) Set only standard sized eggs
- 3) Use eggs from disease-free sources only
- Provide a well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders (especially vitamin levels)



Chicks Too Large

Causes:

- 1) Large eggs
- 2) High humidity in setter
- 3) Diseased or stressed breeder flock
- 4) Poor ventilation
- 5) Hatcher trays are not uniform

- 1) Set only standard sized eggs
- 2) Use eggs from disease-free sources only
- 3) Proper ventilation
- 4) Keep humidity level in normal range



Crossed Beak

Causes:

- 1) Virus Infection
- 2) Heredity

Corrective Measures:

1) Proper disinfection of incubating and hatching units





Chicks With Laboured Breathing

Causes:

- 1) Excessive use of fumigant
- 2) Respiratory diseases

- 1) Follow recommended fumigation procedures
- 2) Check disease status of breeder flock
- 3) Conduct a thorough cleanup & disinfection of incubator and hatching units



Exposed Brain

Causes:

- 1) Heredity
- 2) Too high humidity
- 3) Malposition

- 1) Follow recommended temperature settings
- 2) Proper egg handling







Causes:

- 1) Improper nutrition of breeders
- 2) Malposition

- Provide a well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders (especially vitamin levels)
- 2) Proper egg handling







Chick Death After Pipping

Causes:

- 1) Genetic factors
- 2) Improper nutrition of breeders
- 3) Diseased breeder flock
- 4) Eggs incubated with small end up
- 5) Improper egg turning during 1st two weeks
- 6) Eggs transferred from setter to hatcher too early
- 7) Improper ventilation
- 8) High CO₂ level in incubator
- High temperature & humidity

- 1) Use eggs from disease-free source only
- 2) Set eggs with small ends down. Turn eggs at least 3 times daily
- 3) Proper ventilation
- 4) Follow recommended temperature settings
- 5) Proper ventilation
- 6) Provide a well-balanced nutritional diet to breeders







