

Managing Hatch Window

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What is Hatch Window?

- The time that elapses between the first chick hatched and the last.

Why is it Important?

- Early hatched chicks become dehydrated and heat stressed
- Late hatched chicks are subject to chilling and are often weaker chicks to begin with.

What Causes Variation in Hatch Times?

- Uncontrollable variables

- 1) Physiological
- 2) Physical
- 3) Genetic

- Manageable Variables – Management Techniques

- 1) Egg size – set time
- 2) Age of egg – set time
- 3) Pre-warming eggs – sufficient time period
- 4) Incubator type – profile and set time
- 5) Stage/time of production – set time and egg handling
- 6) Fertility and fullness of baskets – candling and combining

Learn to Manage Hatch Window in Your Own System

- Understand the influencing factors
- Keep procedures constant
- Hatch time surveys as a tool

Conclusion

- Multiple factors influence hatch time and subsequently hatch window
- Many of these factors can be controlled
- Doing hatch time surveys will give you the information to effectively shorten the hatch window

Hatch Time Survey

	Hours Prior to Hatch						
	36	30	24	18	12	6	Hatch Time
Breed_____							
Age of Eggs_____							
Time Set_____							
Time Transferred_____							
Position_____							
Inc. #_____							
Hatcher #_____							
% Hatch_____							