



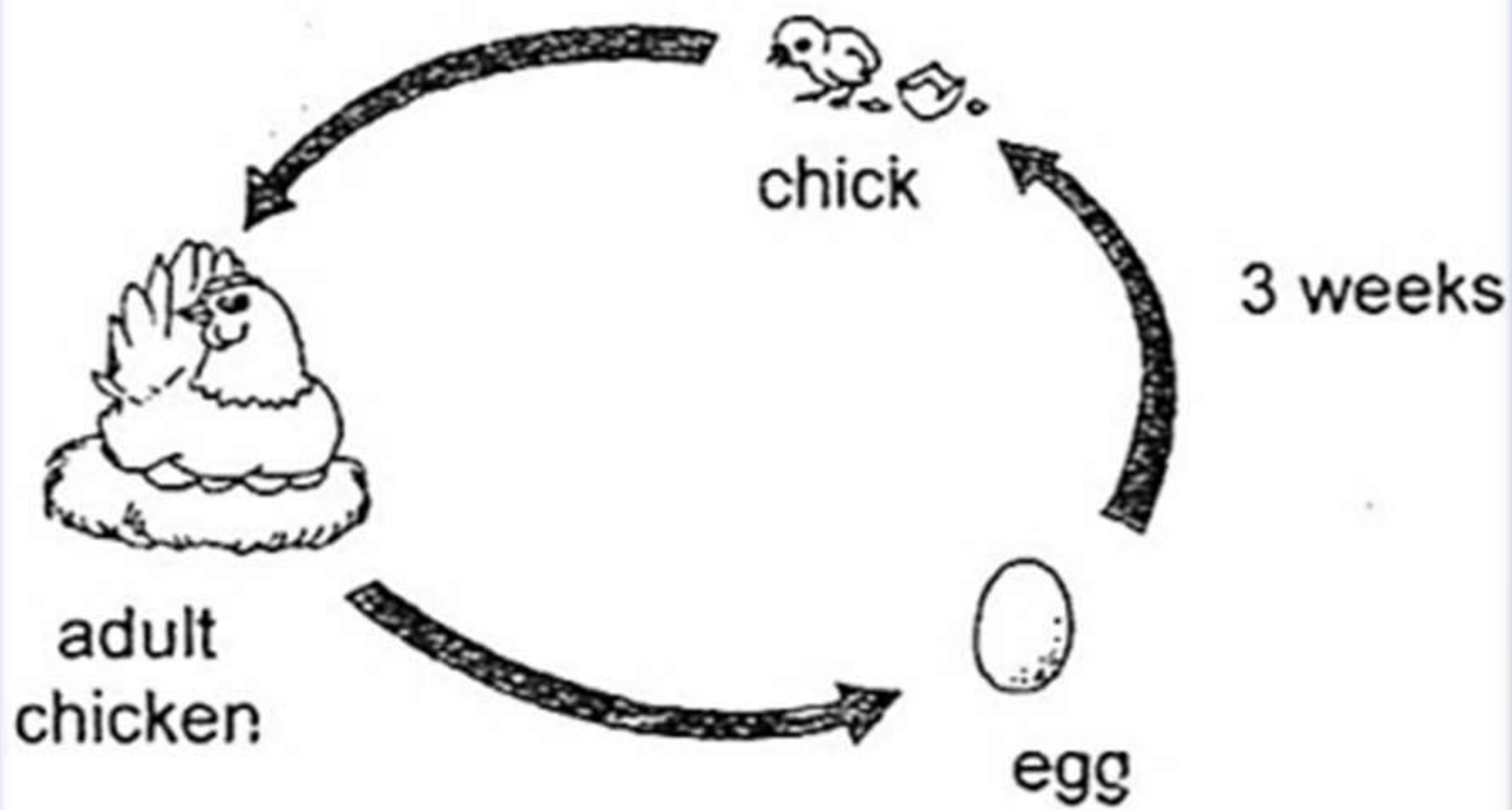
Agricultural Science

**Important Steps Involved
in the Rearing of Chickens**

Important Steps Involved in the Rearing of Chickens

INCUBATION

Incubation



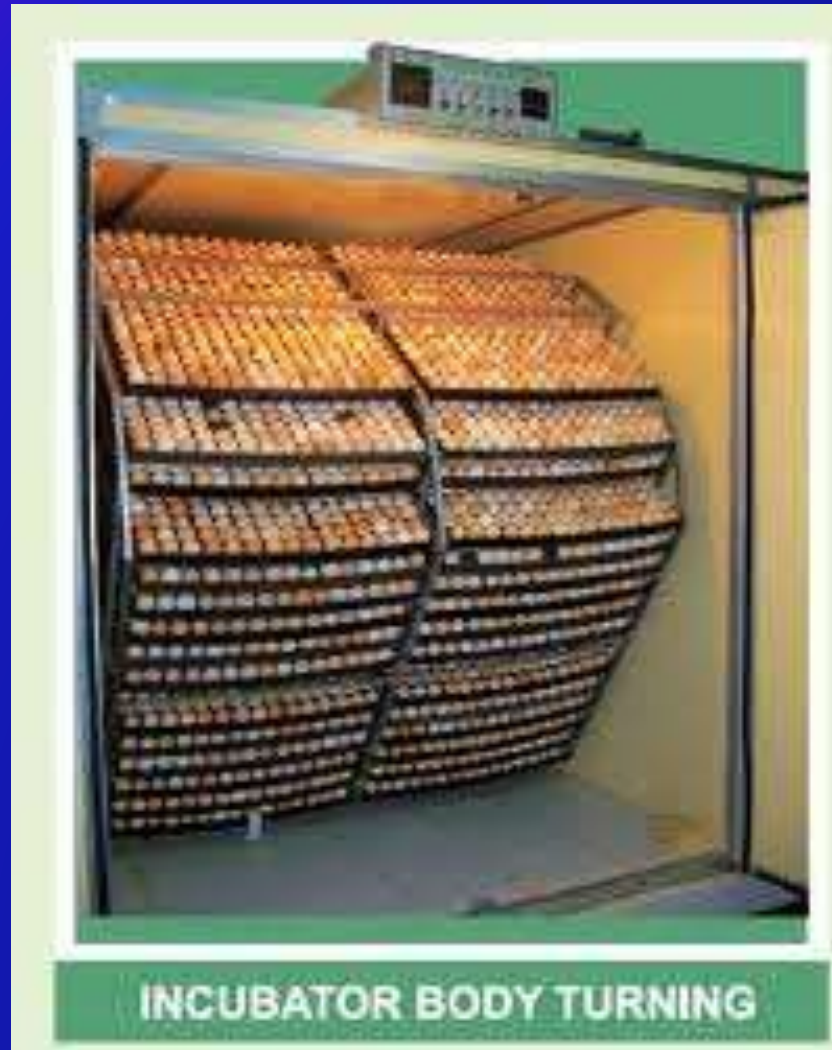
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1. Bio-Security and Sanitation

Sanitary conditions are top priority. Before a vehicle can enter the hatchery compound it must pass through a sanitation wash.

The work areas are sanitised and scrubbed each day to ensure that the eggs and chicks are processed in bio secure conditions.



2. Hatching Egg Traying

Hatching Eggs Are Imported From the USA & Transported To The Hatchery By Truck. They Are Then Put Into Setting Trays By The Hatchery Staff.



3. Setting Hatching Eggs

Setting buggies of hatching eggs into multi stage setters.



4. Hatching Eggs in the Setters

Temperature & Humidity are electronically controlled during incubation and the egg trays are turned once every hour to stop the developing embryo from sticking to the shell membranes.



5. Transferring Eggs To The Hatcher Machines

Eggs are transferred from the setters to the hatcher 19 days after setting.



6. Chicks Hatching

Chicks hatch in the hatching machines.



7. Newborn Chicks Dry And Ready to be Taken Out

Chicks are taken out or 'pulled' when they are all dried.



8. Each Chick is Carefully Checked For Quality

Only first quality chicks are sent to the grow out farms.



9. Quality is Number 1

Healthy, top quality, day old baby chicks..



10. Chicks Ready to be Transported to Farms

Chicks are kept in a carefully controlled environment awaiting transportation to the farms. This assures only top quality chicks are received by the farmer.



Hatchery



**11. Chicks on the Delivery Truck
Ready to go to the Farms!**

Steps Involved in the Rearing of Chickens - Incubation

Farmers can hatch eggs even if they have no hens by using an incubator. Incubators give us the same conditions as if the eggs were under a hen.

To successfully hatch eggs in an incubator, you will need to properly set the incubator at the correct temperature and keep it the same while the eggs are in the machine.

Important Steps Involved in the Rearing of Chickens

INCUBATION



WATERING AND FEEDING

Watering and Feeding





Starter



Grower



Finisher

Feeding and Watering

Chickens need to be fed and have access to clean water in order to be healthy.

For broilers, that is chickens which are reared for their meat, three types of chicken feed are used.

Starter Feed (Age 0-2 weeks)

Grower Feed (Age 3-4 weeks)

Finisher Feed (Age 5 to 6 Weeks)

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WATERING AND FEEDING



**DEBEAKING AND
VACCINATING**

Debeaking

&

Vaccinating



A chick being beak trimmed
by a heated blade without
anesthetic



Debeaking

White Leghorn pullets showing the results of beak trimming



Non-beak trimmed



Beak trimmed

Debeaking



Vaccinating

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Debeaking and Vaccinating

Debeaking

Debeaking, also called beak trimming, is the partial removal of the beak of poultry, especially layer hens and turkeys.

When close together, cannibalism, feather pecking and aggression are common among turkeys and layer hens. Having the chickens debeaked lessens the possibility that they would cause harm to each other.

Vaccination

Vaccination is commonly used in poultry farms to control disease. Vaccines allow the birds to be protected against diseases.

Changing Litter

Important Steps Involved in the Rearing of Chickens

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WATERING AND FEEDING



**DEBEAKING AND
VACCINATING**



CHANGING LITTER





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Changing Litter

Litter or bedding is an important part of keeping your chickens happy and healthy. On the coop floor the litter will provide a soft surface for your chickens to walk on and will absorb droppings and odour. In the nest, litter will give freshly-laid eggs a soft landing so they don't crack.

There are many litter materials to choose from however wood shavings and sawdust are commonly used.

The litter in your coop should be at least 2 inches thick--more is better. Keep in mind that baby chicks are big “poopers”, so make sure you have plenty of litter.

Slaughtering

Important Steps Involved in the Rearing of Chickens

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WATERING AND FEEDING



**DEBEAKING AND
VACCINATING**



CHANGING LITTER



SLAUGHTERING

HANGING

Hanging

This is a manual process where the birds are hung on the shackles in preparation for slaughter.



STUNNING

Stunning

This process renders a bird unconscious; it does not experience the panic and stress associated with the death process. This process reduces carcass damage, as the bird does not struggle, allowing for a proper bleed.





SCALDING

Scalding

Allows for easy feather removal.

EVISCERATION

Evisceration

Removes all internal organs from the body cavity.



CHILLING

Chilling

Ensures poultry meat and portions will maintain freshness for a maximum period of time (shelf life).



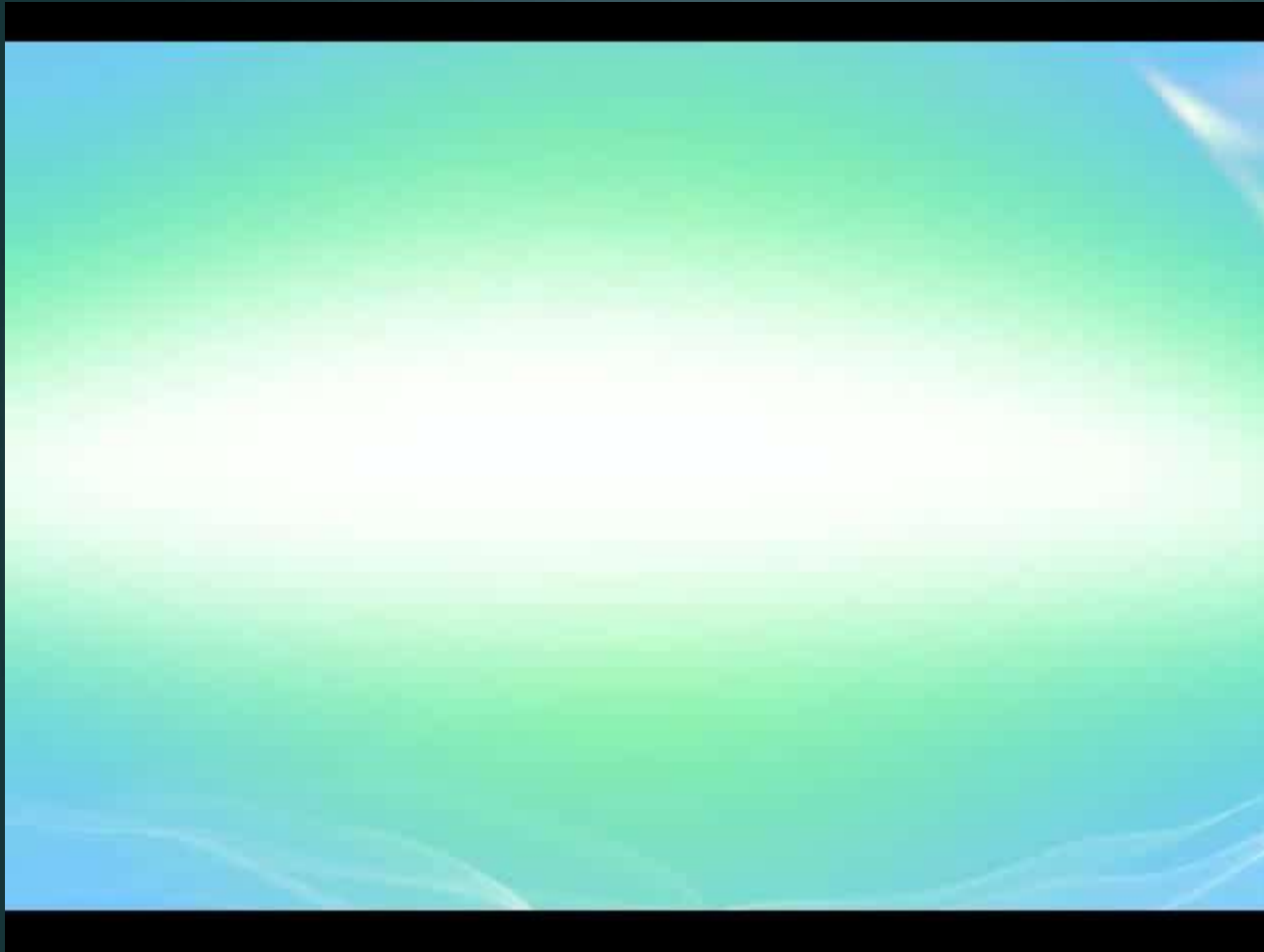
PACKAGING

Packaging

Birds are graded, quality checked and packaged to be delivered to the customer.



Processing of Chickens



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Slaughtering

Slaughtering is the killing of animals, usually referring to killing domestic livestock such as chickens, cattle and sheep.

In general, the animals would be killed for food; however, they might also be slaughtered for other reasons such as for raw materials and consumption.

**STUDENT
CUT OUTS**



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**STARTER
FEED**



**GROWER
FEED**



**FINISHER
FEED**

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**STARTER
FEED**



**GROWER
FEED**



**FINISHER
FEED**

C301AGD



**STARTER
FEED**



**GROWER
FEED**



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**STARTER
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**STARTER
FEED**



**GROWER
FEED**



**FINISHER
FEED**

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**STARTER
FEED**



**GROWER
FEED**



**FINISHER
FEED**



A chick being debeaked



A chick being debeaked



A chick being debeaked



A chick being debeaked



A chick being debeaked



A chick being debeaked



A chick being vaccinated



A chick being vaccinated



A chick being vaccinated



A chick being vaccinated



A chick being vaccinated



A chick being vaccinated



A chicken walking in litter.



A chicken walking in litter.



A chicken walking in litter.



A chicken walking in litter.



A chicken walking in litter.



A chicken walking in litter.



A chicken walking in litter.



A chicken walking in litter.



**Chickens preparing
to be slaughtered** C301AGD



**Chickens preparing
to be slaughtered** C301AGD



**Chickens preparing
to be slaughtered** C301AGD



**Chickens preparing
to be slaughtered** C301AGD



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WATERING AND FEEDING



CHANGING LITTER



SLAUGHTERING

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**DEBEAKING AND
VACINNATING**



WATERING AND FEEDING



CHANGING LITTER



SLAUGHTERING

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