

# EGG LAYING PROGRAMME

This programme should commence when birds are around 5-6 months of age and egg laying has become established. Turbobooster, E Powder and Fvite are given on one cup sterile seed each morning to promote ongoing health and the finest quality eggs. Fresh poultry pellets should also be made available at all times. Dufoplus and Ioford are given for two days each week and Quikgel should be given whenever it rains or during cold spells. The use of KD Powder once a week helps to naturally control disease and is an important part of this programme.



Day	In Drinking Water	On Seed Mix	Feed Bowl
Friday	KD Powder <sup>1</sup>	Turbobooster, E Powder & Fvite <sup>4</sup>	Fresh pellets
Saturday	Dufoplus & Ioford <sup>2*</sup>	Turbobooster, E Powder & Fvite <sup>4</sup>	Fresh pellets
Sunday	Dufoplus & Ioford <sup>2*</sup>	Turbobooster, E Powder & Fvite <sup>4</sup>	Fresh pellets
Monday	Fresh water <sup>*</sup>	Turbobooster, E Powder & Fvite <sup>4</sup>	Fresh pellets
Tuesday	Optional Medication Days <sup>*</sup>	Turbobooster, E Powder & Fvite <sup>4</sup>	Fresh pellets
Wednesday		Turbobooster, E Powder & Fvite <sup>4</sup>	Fresh pellets
Thursday		Turbobooster, E Powder & Fvite <sup>4</sup>	Fresh pellets

## Disease Prevention in Adult Birds

When good resistance has already been established with the Young Bird Programme, ongoing preventative treatments for Coccidiosis and worms are not required unless there is an outbreak. During the warmer months it remains important to continue lice and mite control as follows:

### Lice/Mite prevention & treatment:

S76 (5ml to 2L drinking water) should be given for one day each month in summer and every third month throughout the rest of the year. KD baths are useful in helping to remove any dead lice and mites and may be given weekly during summer. Withholding Period: 7 days for meat and eggs.

### Quikgel as a Health Tonic:

Quikgel (2ml to 1L drinking water) is given for three days each month as a health tonic and is also used during cold spells and periods of rain. Withholding period: nil

<sup>1</sup> Add 1gm KD Powder to 1 litre of drinking water

<sup>2</sup> Add 2.5ml Dufoplus and 5ml Ioford to 1 litre of drinking water

<sup>3</sup> Preventative medicines may be given on these days

<sup>4</sup> Into 1 cup sterile seed, mix 2ml Turbobooster and then add 1/4 tspn each of E Powder & Fvite

<sup>8</sup> During rainy periods or cold spells, add 2ml Quikgel to 1 litre of drinking water

## COMMON HEALTH PROBLEMS OF BACKYARD CHICKENS

Withholding periods for meat and eggs should always be observed when medications are given.

### Coccidiosis

Coccidiosis is a fatal disease in poultry and is managed with the use of Carlox (1ml to 2 litres of drinking water). When incorporating Carlox into a prevention programme it is important to remember there is a 1 week withholding period following its use. As an alternative to ongoing use, Carlox may be administered for 3 consecutive days during an outbreak or when extended periods of rain have caused wet patches to appear in the yard.

### Uterus Infection

Uterus infections often occur secondary to mineral and vitamin deficiencies. These deficiencies are mostly associated with Mould Infections (see below). Symptoms of uterus infection include soft or rough shelled eggs, failure to lay eggs and then Peritonitis (bloated abdomen). The fever associated with Peritonitis and uterus infection leads to septicaemia and death. Once established, uterus infections are difficult to reverse. They can be prevented by the weekly use of KD Powder and by following an ongoing health programme that especially includes Fvite and Turbobooster.

### Worms

Worms are often associated with wet weather conditions. Prevention is achieved by administering Prazole tablets (1 tablet per 400gm bodyweight) and GT Wormer. (5ml into 1 litres of drinking water). There is a 7 day withholding period following the use of these medications. When good resistance has been established, treatments are only required if an outbreak occurs.

### Mould Infection

Mould infection may cause breathing difficulties such as gasping. It is a rapidly fatal disease that is usually contracted from mould accumulating in the yard. It is important to ensure there is no mould accumulation in the yard to prevent this from occurring. Mould infections are controlled by adding KD to the drinking water one day each week.

### Blocked Gizzard

Following wet weather or fluctuating temperatures poultry often over-engage on dirty soil. The grit and minerals contained in soil may cause the gizzard to become obstructed leading to a build up of food in the crop. This problem is called a blocked gizzard. A bird with a blocked gizzard will drink more, and defecate less and the comb will become pale in colour. The droppings may be white or cream in colour. At the first sign of a blocked gizzard, the bird should be moved away from any soil and given an emergency first treatment containing ER Formula and Quikgel (see right). This lubricating solution helps to flush out the blockage and treatment should continue twice daily for 3 days. It may not be possible to clear longstanding obstructions. To prevent this problem from occurring it is important to ensure chickens receive the correct nutritional balance by using F-vite. This will stop them from wanting to over-engage on soil. Additionally, Quikgel (2ml into 1 litre of drinking water) should be used during wet weather to provide additional energy and protect against mould problems associated with this condition.

## QUIKGEL & ER FORMULA

Emergency First Aid Treatment for Poultry

**QUIKGEL** provides a readily available source of energy and vitamins to sick poultry. When given with **ER FORMULA**, as part of an emergency first aid treatment plan, it restores body temperature, reverses dehydration and rapidly restores energy and vitamin levels.

**1 drop Quikgel gel is mixed into 20ml of prepared ER Formula (heated to 35C) and is administered by crop needle.**

For crop and gizzard blockages continue treatment twice daily for 3 days. For egg binding, add 2ml Hical to this mixture and continue treatment twice daily for 3 days. For uterus infections, antibiotics may be added. **QUIKGEL** may also be added to the drinking water as an immediate vitamin and energy tonic:

**2ml Quikgel is mixed into 1 litre of drinking water**