



ANIMAL SCIENCE

Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources

UNL POULTRY NEWS

Upcoming Activities:

Nebraska Poultry Conference, March 7—
Top Golf and Omaha Marriott Regency,
Omaha

UNL Chick Days, March 16—UNL Animal
Science Complex

Winter, 2024

Newsletter Editor:

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Are your Birds Cold??



It's been cold out there, how do birds handle the cold? Most birds with a good feather cover can tolerate cold temps as long as they have shelter and plenty of food access and fresh warm water daily. When it's super cold the hens are likely to stop laying and will conserve their feed for maintaining body heat. Fresh clean bedding also helps to keep your birds warm as well as no open windows or drafts. Try to get your birds warm water daily, even if it's just 1X a day. Maybe have 2 waterers, one thawing in your mudroom that alternates with a fresh warm one when chores are done each day.

If your hen does lay an egg that freezes, if it's cracked, discard, as bacteria can enter the crack (even in cold weather). Be patient, you'll get eggs again once it warms up. If you have ducks, keep them on bedding during the worst cold as their little web feet can freeze easily. Once it's warmed up over 30, they are safe to roam.





2024 UNL Chick Days—March 16

9:00-2:00 pm

Dept. of Animal Sci., Univ. Nebraska

An educational event for small and back-yard poultry producers and youth featuring speakers on the following topics:

8:30 Registration Dept. of Animal Science, University of Nebraska, Student Commons, 3940 Fair St. (South side of building)

9:00 Presentations - Room B101

Talk 1: Pest Control and First Aid for Home Flocks—Ashley Bigge, M.S. Penn State Extension,

Talk 2: Finding your Favorite Exhibition Birds—Pros and Cons of Different Breeds for Show—Brett Kreifels, Extension Educator, Leader, Douglas Sarpy Counties, Omaha, Nebraska

10:30 Workshop—Preparing for 4-H and FFA Poultry Judging Competitions (Rooms D105 and D107)

Noon—Lunch Break, (on your own or pay ahead) - B101

1:00 Contest Winners Announcement—B101

1:15 Quiz Bowl Contest—B101

Contests: Egg Art , Photography— Adult & Youth and Quiz Bowl

Photography - bring a 8 X 10 photo of your favorite bird/and or bird scene etc. Youth or Adult (Put name, Youth or Adult and email and phone contact info on the back upper right hand corner of photo)

Awards in the following Categories: Youth or Adult, Division Prizes: 1st—\$30; 2nd—\$20; 3rd—\$10

Egg Art: Bring single decorated egg of any size for display in a labeled egg carton. Youth or Adult

Division Prizes: 1st—\$30; 2nd—\$20; 3rd—\$10;

Contact Sheila Purdum at spurdum2@unl.edu to register

UNL Poultry Interest Team Contacts

Animal Science Dept: Sheila Purdum, Ph.D. (Co-Leader)
Gary Sullivan, Ph.D.
Mary Beck, Ph.D. (Emeriti)
Ruth Wiowode, Ph.D.
Yijie Xiong, Ph.D.

Veterinary Science: Don Reynolds, DVM (Co-Leader)
Roberto Cortinas, DVM

Food Science: Kaustav Majumder, Ph.D.
Byron Chaves, Ph.D.
Bing Wang, Ph.D.

Ag. Engineering: Rick Stowell, Ph.D
Amy Schmidt, Ph.D.
Tami Brown-Brandl, Ph.D.

Extension Educator: Brett Kreifels, M.S.



Nebraska Poultry Industries Conference Room Updates

(A202 Animal Science, UNL East Campus)

We are updating the NPI Conference room in Animal Science and on p. 4 you will see our 1st edition of a Nebraska Poultry Industries Timeline to be added to the room display case. We are also procuring new furnishings, updating the Hall of Fame Display and adding a display featuring UNL alumni who work in the poultry industry as well as information about current Nebraska Poultry Companies. If you have any suggestions or further information to share on the timeline, please contact: spurdum2@unl.edu.



History of Nebraska Poultry Industries and UNL Poultry Programs

