



TIPS TO AVOID HEAT STRESS AND KEEP YOUR BIRDS HEALTHY

Heat stress can seriously impact the performance and mortality levels in poultry. Here are some supportive measures that can be helpful:

1 Water:

- Constant supply of fresh cold water. When the temperature is hot, birds tend to not drink as much water as they are busy panting. This can lead to an electrolyte imbalance and potentially death
- Drain/ flush stale warm water out of the lines regularly
- Accessible water: Broilers might drink 4x as much water during a period of heat stress

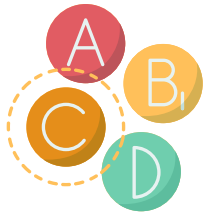


2 Vitamins & Mineral Supplements:

- Apply water vitamins & mineral supplements every day through the water
- Electrolytes will counteract body acidification & supplement necessary electrolytes
- Vitamin C will encourage production of stress hormones

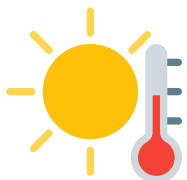
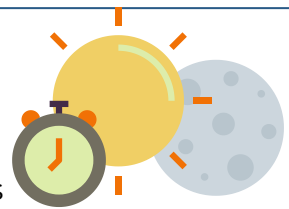


- Products for heat stress should be given 24 hours prior to hot weather
- Recommended brands: Betaine water treatment, Salox 100 by Jefo, Aviteck/ VP Plus by Nutraxcell or C Pak by Vetiquinol



3 Feeding:

- Breeders should be fed in the early morning hours
- Perform a night feeding to keep up with the desired feed intakes in Layers
- Broilers: Feeders can be lifted and lights dimmed during the hotter times of the day (4PM to 8PM)



- Greatest threat is in late afternoon/early evening when sun sets, temperature drops and humidity increases
- Reducing feed intake can lessen the metabolic heat, which can help offset the high environment temperatures in the barn

4 Walking the Barns:

- Carefully walking the barns will separate the birds and loosen the litter
- Increase air circulation around the birds
- will increase water consumption by as much as 8%



5 Barn Management:

- Remove the dead birds and take out of the barn right away. Helps to prevent decomposing inside and the spread of disease
- Lower stocking density: Less heat production and better air circulation
- Ensure mister lines have been run in anticipation: Often can get clogged after sitting for a long period of time



HERE ARE THINGS TO WATCH FOR:

- Standing with out stretched wings
- Dirty beak due to nasal discharge
- Raised feathers and holding wings away from the body
- Fast panting with open beak
- Increased water consumption
- Water eyes or tear stripes
- Decreased appetite