



INCUBATION EMBRYOLOGY CHECK LIST

TODAY IS DAY 13 FOR THE EGGS

When you receive your incubator:

- ❑ Place the incubator away from drafts, direct sunlight, and traffic path.
- ❑ Maintain room temperature between 70 degrees and 75 degrees F. If your room temperature falls below 70 – 75 degrees, your incubator may need extra warmth. Ex. Cover it with a blanket.
- ❑ **Make sure the thermometer is placed at egg level, with the bulb of the thermometer underneath or closest to the light bulb(s).**
- ❑ Fill water rings in bottom of incubator with water and keep full.

Incubation Check List:

- ❑ Be sure the incubator water channels are full of water. Refill with water that is at room (or warmer) temperature. Do NOT pour water over the eggs.
- ❑ Regulate temperature between 101 degrees F and 103 degrees F, most preferably at 102 degrees F.
- ❑ Mark an “x” on one side and an “o” on the other side of each egg with a pencil. Do NOT use permanent markers.
- ❑ Wash and dry your hands thoroughly before and after handling the eggs. Keep record on turning eggs.
- ❑ Turn your fertile eggs three (3) times a day. You may stop turning your eggs after day 17. (Friday)
- ❑ Make sure that your water level is full especially day 18 and after. (Saturday)
- ❑ **Chicks should hatch on day 21 (Tuesday), but they may start on Monday and hatch through Thursday. These chicks need a VERY HIGH level of humidity. Please add warm water, especially on day 20 and 21 at least 3 times a day. You will know your water is warm enough if you see steam on the inside of your glass.** (Most of you won't have access to your eggs over the weekend. So on Monday morning of the hatch, make sure you pour warm water into your incubator upon arriving in the classroom.)
- ❑ When chicks hatch, do not remove chicks from incubator until they are dry and fluffy.

Before Hatching Begins:

- Set up a brooder box.
- Place wood shavings (NOT cedar), shredded newspaper or cat litter (do NOT use clumping litter) in the bottom of the brooder box.
- Regulate the temperature around 95 degrees F, using a desk lamp.
- Provide water and feed for chicks after they are placed in the brooder box. Place marble or rocks in the water to keep it from getting turned over all the time.

After Hatch:

- Eggshells from the hatched chicks should be removed as they hatch. Those pieces left or that fall through the mesh should be cleaned out after the incubation period. **(DO NOT PULL ON EGGHELLS STILL ATTACHED TO THE CHICK! THESE ARE ATTACHED TO THE INSIDES OF YOUR CHICK AND BY PULLING THEM YOU CAN INADVERTANTLY DISEMBOWEL THEM!)**
- Throw away the un-hatched eggs– put in a sack, box (a container), and put them in the trash. Be sure to tell the janitor or custodian, since rotten eggs are not a very nice surprise. **DO NOT RETURN UNHATCHED EGGS.**
- **Clean your incubator with a diluted bleach solution. Wash off the screen, inside the incubator, water pan, and the thermometer. Dry and re-assemble.**

PLEASE FORWARD QUESTIONS TO bottsm@missouri.edu

FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY PLEASE CALL THE EXTENSION OFFICE AT 816-252-5051.

Return:

- Chicks
- **C**lean incubator and accessories (thermometer, sponge, and water pan)
- **C**ompleted Youth Group Enrollment Form (unless you turned it in during the first session)
- **C**ompleted evaluation form (unless you turned it in during the first session)

To:

Jackson County Extension Office
1600 NE Coronado Drive
Blue Springs, MO 64014

Friday between 3:00 and 4:45 PM