Poultry Sample Questions from “Animals In Pursuit”

Q. What is barring on a chicken’s feather?
A. Two alternating colors on a feather, running across its width

Q. What commercial strain of layers is best for egg production?
A. White Leghorn strains

Q. How many geese will one acre of pasture support?
A. 20-40 birds

Q. To be eligible to be shown in a 4-H Poultry Show, chicken and poultry exhibitors must have a statement or origin or test negative for what disease?
A. Pullorum typhoid

Q. What is a castrated male chicken called?
A. Capon

Q. What is a male goose called?
A. Gander

Q. What is the term used to describe the horny mouthparts of a bird?
A. Beak

Q. Name a dual purpose breed of chicken.
A. Rhode Island Red, New Hampshire, What Rocks

Q. What is the average feed conversion for an eight week old market chicken?
A. 2 pounds of feed per pound of gain

Q. To be eligible for exhibition, an egg production pen should have been hatched before what date?
A. May 1

Q. What is the part of the hen’s reproductive system that produces the female germ cell and the yolk of the egg called?
A. Ovary

Q. What is a young goose called?
A. Gosling

Q. What does it mean when a bird is described as “close feathered”?
A. The feathers are held tight to the body

Q. Approximately how much feed will a Leghorn layer hen eat per year?
A. Approximately 90 pounds
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Q. A starter ration for market chickens should contain at least what percent of protein?
   A. 22%

Q. How many areas will a judge consider when looking at a 4-H Poultry Showmanship Class?
   A. 7

Q. What part of the hen’s reproductive system produces the white shell membranes and shell of the egg?
   A. Oviduct

Q. What is a poult?
   A. A young turkey

Q. What is a cockerel?
   A. A male chicken under one year of age

Q. Approximately how many dozen eggs will a Leghorn hen lay per year?
   A. 18 dozen

Q. What is the largest expense in raising market chickens?
   A. Feed Costs

Q. Out of the 100 possible points a judge can give in a 4-H Poultry Showmanship Class, which area gets the most points?
   A. Examination and Handling of Bird – 30 points

Q. How long is the incubation period for goose eggs?
   A. 21 days

Q. What is the tube-like fleshy growth near the front of the top of the head in turkeys called?
   A. Snood

Q. What is the fleshy protruding part on the top of the head of a fowl called?
   A. Comb

Q. How many square feet of floor space should a Leghorn layer have?
   A. 2-2 ½ square feet

Q. What percent of protein is recommended in a good poult starter ration?
   A. 28%

Q. When removing a chicken from a cage, which end of the bird is brought out of the cage first?
   A. Head
Q. How long is the incubation period for chicken eggs?
A. 21 days

Q. What is the skin growing between the toes of waterfowl called?
A. Web

Q. What are the feathers called which cover the base of the primary and secondary wing and main tail feathers?
A. Coverts

Q. How many hours of daylight should a laying flock be provided?
A. 14 hours

Q. What is the most important ingredient in a good poultry feeding ration?
A. A constant supply of clean, fresh water

Q. What part of the body should ducks or geese never be caught by?
A. Legs

Q. How long is the incubation period for duck eggs?
A. 28 days

Q. What is a male turkey called?
A. Tom

Q. What is the round tuft of feathers on the top of the head of some chickens and ducks called?
A. Crest

Q. How old should ducklings be before being allowed outside?
A. 4 weeks

Q. What is the average feed conversion of an eight week old pekin duck?
A. 2.8 pounds of feed/pounds of gain

Q. When removing a duck or goose from a cage, which part of the body does an exhibitor grasp first?
A. The neck (loosely)

Q. What are the two types of incubators used to hatch poultry eggs?
A. Forced draft and still-air

Q. What is the soft, fine, fluffy covering of a young bird called?
A. Down
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Q. What is the enlarged part of the chickens gullet in which food stared temporarily and softened for digestion?  
A. Crop

Q. What types of absorbent litter can be placed on the floor of a brooding area for ducklings?  
A. Wood shavings, chopped straw, or peat moss

Q. What is the percent of protein that should be in feed fed to a flock of laying hens?  
A. 16 to 18%

Q. What is the document called that is used by the American Poultry Association to describe purebred breeds of poultry?  
A. The Standard of Perfection

Q. In a goose breeding flock, what is the ratio of males to female?  
A. 1 male to 6 females

Q. What does it mean to dub the comb of a chicken?  
A. To trim the comb (or wattles) close to the head

Q. What are the rear and side neck feathers of a bird called?  
A. Hackles

Q. If using infrared heat bulbs for brooding a small number of ducklings, plan to use one 250 watt lamp for how many ducklings?  
A. 30

Q. When a hen flock is laying at a 90% production level, how many pounds of feed does it take to produce one dozen eggs?  
A. 3.2 pounds of feed per one dozen eggs

Q. When should show birds be washed?  
A. Not less than 48 hours prior to the show

Q. What is the name of the common poultry disease prevented by putting a coccidrostat in the feed?  
A. Coccidiosis

Q. What is the process called in which old feathers are shed and new ones regrown?  
A. Molt

Q. What is a female chicken over one year of age called?  
A. Hen
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Q. What are the names of two of the four basic parts of an egg?
A. Shell, shell membranes, the albumen and the yolk

Q. What important mineral is needed by hens for egg shell formation?
A. Calcium

Q. What temperature should the wash water and rinse water be for washing show birds?
A. Wash water - 90° and rinse water - 85° F

Q. What is the best disease prevention in a poultry flock?
A. Good sanitation

Q. What is a female chicken less than 1 year of age called?
A. Pullet

Q. Where is the keel on a chicken located?
A. On the lower portion of the breast bone

Q. At what weight are geese normally slaughtered?
A. 11-15 pounds

Q. What feed ingredients can provide energy in a feed ration?
A. Corn, coats, barley and other small grains

Q. What can be used to polish the chanks, feet, beak, combs and wattles of show birds?
A. Mineral oil or petroleum jelly

Q. What is the name given to crosses of chickens that result in male chicks of one color and female chicks of another color?
A. Sex-link crosses

Q. What is the cloaca of a bird?
A. The common chamber or receptacle for the digestive, urinary and reproductive systems

Q. What is the collective term for the feather covering of a bird?
A. Plumage

Q. What temperature is recommended for brooding day old chicks?
A. 90-95° F

Q. For economical egg production, which type of bird is usually the most efficient, leghorn-type layers or brown-egg layers?
A. Leghorn-type layers
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Q. On the 4-H Poultry Showmanship Scorecard, how many points are given for knowledge of poultry terms?
A. 20 points

Q. How long should a breeding flock of chickens be mated before hatching eggs are saved?
A. 2 weeks

Q. What is the purpose of debeaking a chicken or turkey?
A. To prevent feather pulling or cannibalism