

# BROODING THE CHICKS

Stimulate drinking and eating behaviour from day old.

## LIGHT

- Uniform lighting.
- Minimum 60 lux during the first days.
- 24 h of light on day 1 or if possible cycles of 2.30 h light / 30 min dark.
- Reduction of light in terms of duration and intensity as indicated in the table below.

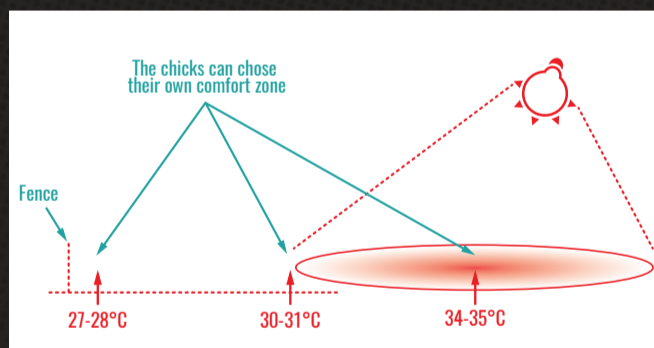
## FEED

- 1 feeder for 50 to 70 chicks.
- Chick paper on the floor with feed on 40 - 50 % of the surface.
- Fresh feed (starter crumbs type), replenish regularly to stimulate appetite.
- Start using the chain feeders at 6 - 8 days.
- Check the crops: after 24 h, 96 % of the chicks should have a full and soft crop.



## TEMPERATURE

- 1 brooder for 500 chicks. Ambient temperature at start: 31 - 32 °C.
- Decrease the temperature regularly and progressively to 20 °C at 5 weeks.



## DENSITY / DISTRIBUTION

- Density at placement: 25 - 30 birds / m<sup>2</sup>.
- Implement increasing floor space in 3 steps.
- The distribution of the chicks needs to be uniform throughout the entire house.

## WATER

- 1 drinker for 50 to 70 chicks.
- Water should be at ambient temperature (24 - 26 °C).
- Ideal pH is between 5.5 and 6.8 with an optimal Redox potential higher than 600 mV and / or chloration at the end of the pipe of 0.25 to 0.5 ppm.
- Nipples: check the height and pressure.
- Drinkers: check the height and the water level (maximum 2 cm).



AGE IN DAYS		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
TEMPERATURE	Under the heaters	35-36				32-34				28-30							
	Living area	28	28	28	28	28	27-28	27-28	27-28	25-26							
	Environment	31-32	30-31	29-30	28-29	28-29	26-27	26-27	26-27	25-26							
HUMIDITY	%		50-60														
EQUIPMENT	Drinker	1 drinker for 60 birds; 1 nipple for 8 birds								1 round drinker for 80 birds; 1 nipple for 8-10 birds							
	Feeder	1 feeder / 50-70 birds + chick paper								6-8 cm/bird; 1 feeder plate / 12 birds*							
DENSITY	Chicks/m <sup>2</sup>	25-30				12				5-8							
LIGHT PROGRAM	Light duration (h) - Conventional range	24	24	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11-12**	8-12**	
	Light duration (h) - F15	24	24	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	
	Light duration (h) - Premium range	24	22	22	20	20	18	18	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	
	Intensity (lux)	60	60	60	60	40	30	20	15	10	10	10	10	10	5-10	5-10	5-10

\* Feeding space to be adjusted according to the behaviour of the birds.

\*\* In case the target weights of the males and/or females are not achieved at 7 days, maintain sufficient day length during the 2<sup>nd</sup> week. In case of open-side houses, adapt according to your experience.