



Does Feed Management Improve Eggshell Quality?

By: Dr. Maen Helmi Samara

Of all egg qualities, shell quality seems to be the most important one due to its effects on internal egg traits. Egg producers may use egg specific gravity measurements whenever shell thickness is a problem. Calcium level and source, minerals and vitamins, sodium bicarbonate, zeolites, vitamin D derivatives and changes of feeding

programs have all been used as means for improving shell quality. The choice to use one or more of these means depends on whether or not hens are stressed. In most cases where researches have been conducted using birds under stress, particularly high temperatures, positive responses in egg shell quality have been reported.