**Practical 5**

**Broiler Flock Management**

Objectives

1. Successfully place day-old chicks in brooding area.
2. Sex day-old chicks by feather sexing method.
3. Trim beaks of day-old chicks (if pullets).
4. Individually identify chicks by wing-banding (if available) or any other means of identification.

Activities

1. Empty chick from boxes
2. Feather sex chicks
3. Weigh and place in brooder house

Students work: Broiler flock management

1. Position brooders in place, check air filters (if present)
2. Light brooders and check for gas leaks with soap solution.
3. Spread wood shavings over floor at depth of 8-10 cm. Check for nails and other materials.
4. Place chick feed trays and drinkers in place after making sure they are clean.
5. Remember, brooders should be lit and run for twenty four hours before chick arrival.
6. Fill feeder trays and drinkers.
7. Place chicks in surrounds.

Student work for the following week:

1. Fill chick drinkers and feed trays, record weight of feed consumed.
2. Weigh full chick boxes, empty them as shown into surrounds. Count number of chicks per box, re-weigh empty box and remove culls or dead chicks. Calculate the average chick weight.
3. Record temperature.
4. Practice chick sexing.
5. Start record (report) which will cover complete growing period for birds.

**LAB REPORT** **5**

**Broiler Flock Management**

Name: …………………………………….

ID NO: ……………………………………

Section: …………..

Each student will obtain the necessary weekly data to complete study by recording:

Calculate the following:

1. The percentage mortality and percentage live-ability.
2. Average live weight.
3. Feed fed during week.
4. Other materials used.
5. Vaccination and medications record.

**Practical 6 (cont'd)**

**Broiler Management / Trouble Shooting**

Strict monitoring of feed and water and feed intake will give an indication for detecting signs of diseases and troubles

Uneven spreading may be caused by:

1. Draughts
2. Badly spaced lights
3. Incorrect feeder arrangement
4. Incorrect water arrangement
5. Incorrect brooders

Crowding can be caused by:

1. ambient temperature too low
2. ambient temperature too high.

Blisters can be caused by:

1. stocking density too high
2. Hard wood shavings
3. Insufficient shavings
4. Bad litter conditions

Bruising can be caused by:

1. Bad catching
2. Badly arranged feeders and drinkers
3. Disease weakness

Bad Feathering can be caused by:

1. Chicks too hot under brooder
2. Overcrowding
3. Under-ventilation

Low weight can be caused by:

1. Incorrect feeding
2. Clinical or sub-clinical disease
3. Insufficient feeders and drinkers
4. House temperature too high
5. Over-stocking

Student Work: Read the above, summarize all that you can notice when visiting the chicks.

**LAB REPORT** **6**

**Broiler Flock Management**

Name: …………………………………….

ID NO: ……………………………………

Section: …………..

**Refer to the data you recorded and comment on each**:

1. House temperature at the time of visit
2. Signs of good health
3. Signs of illness/ sickness
4. Shavings conditions
5. Feeders and Drinkers distribution
6. Feathering conditions