

Use the paragraph below in answering questions:

A young man graduates from Clemson and the next week inherits a broiler breeder farm from a distant relative. The hens are 40 weeks old when he takes control of the farm in September. The first change he makes is to turn off the time clocks on the lights. The birds have plenty of time to eat and drink, so he decides to save on electricity. The first report he gets back from the hatchery shows that the % hatch (HES) of the flock is 85%. A neighbor down the road tells him that the % hatchability (HFE) ought to be over 90% and sells him some roosters to improve fertility. The new roosters have not been dubbed nor de-toed. The young man decides it's a waste of time and a lot of work to be closing the nests every night and opening them the next morning, so decides to try leaving them open. Only a few hens spend the night in the nests so he decides to continue leaving them open.

What mistakes has the new farmer made? What husbandry principles have been violated? What consequences do you expect, and how would you correct the problems? Give details.

(Points)

(10) 1.

(10) 2.

(10) 3.

(10) 4.

(1 ea) 5. Fill in the blanks from the list at right for typical broiler breeder flocks:

Age at first hatching egg _____ weeks	5
Average peak hen day production _____ %	7
Total eggs per hen housed _____	26
Hatching eggs _____	86
Average hatch of eggs set _____ %	87
Total saleable chicks per hen housed _____	96
Feed/Dozen eggs _____ pounds	160
Female 20-week body weight _____ pounds	190

(13) 6. Why are Leghorn hens recycled (molted)? Detail major changes to birds and eggs that should be achieved:

(10) 7. What are the major events in a typical forced recycling program?

<u>Day</u>	<u>Lights</u>	<u>Feed</u>
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-7

1

6 or ?

21

28

35

42

(3) 8. What are the consequences of lighting hens too early?

(3) 9. What are the consequences of lighting hens too late?

(3) 10. Which respiratory diseases are most often problems for poultry producers?

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(3) 11. **Answer 1 of the following:** (Cross the other two out)

Why are breeder males fed separately from females?

or How does temperature alter feed requirements?

or What are the objectives of a feeding program for breeder pullets?

(2 ea) 12. What are the most important components of a typical broiler “complex”?

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(1 ea) 13. Under the contract system, who typically owns or provides: **(Check one per line)**

	<u>Integrator</u>	<u>Grower</u>
Broilers	_____	_____
House	_____	_____
Feed	_____	_____
Medication	_____	_____
Transportation	_____	_____
Labor	_____	_____