

Molting

By

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MOLTING

Birds may stop laying eggs, lose old feathers and grow new ones. This annual vacation from egg laying is called **molt**. Molt is driven by season and usually occurs in the fall when the hours of sunlight decrease. For our birds, fall means it's time to prepare for winter, which requires quality feather. changing feathers in chickens, which often occurs naturally after the lapse of 8 to 12 months after the production of eggs, and in normal conditions the period from the fall of all birds' feathers until the return of the bird.



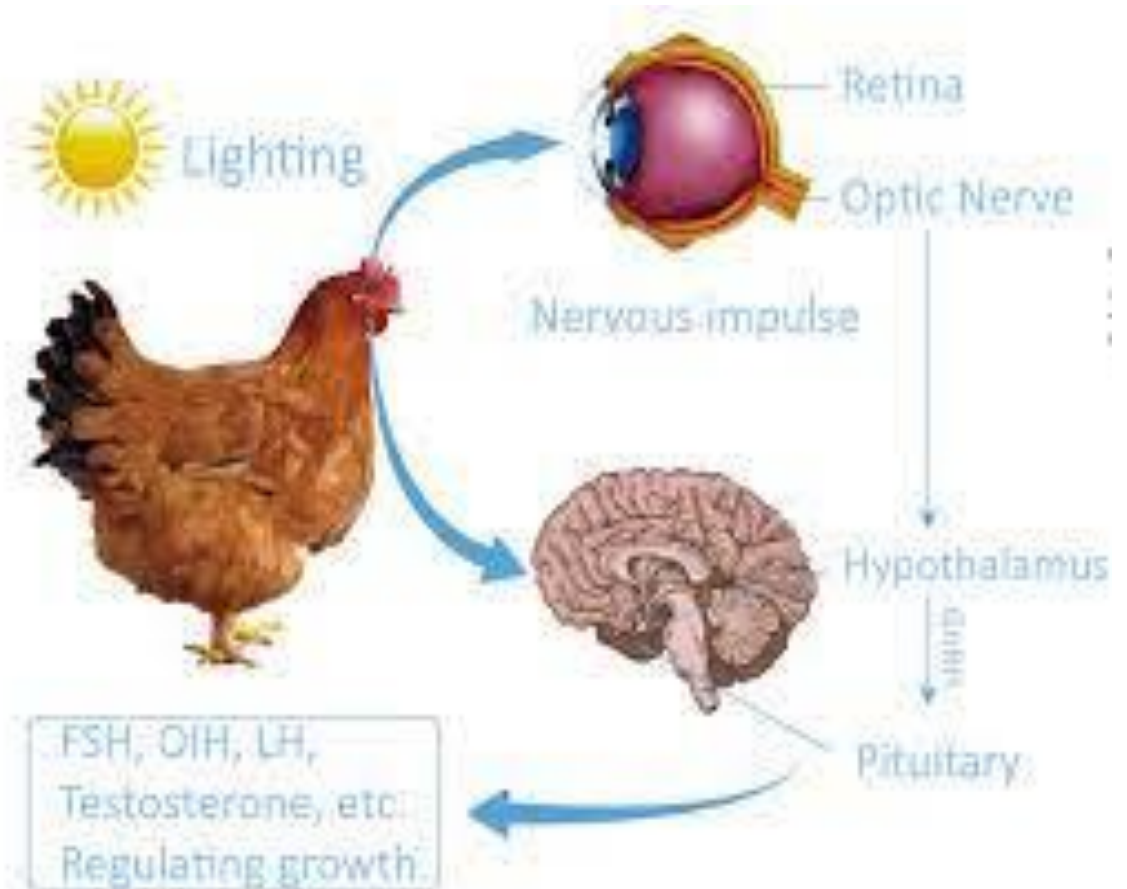
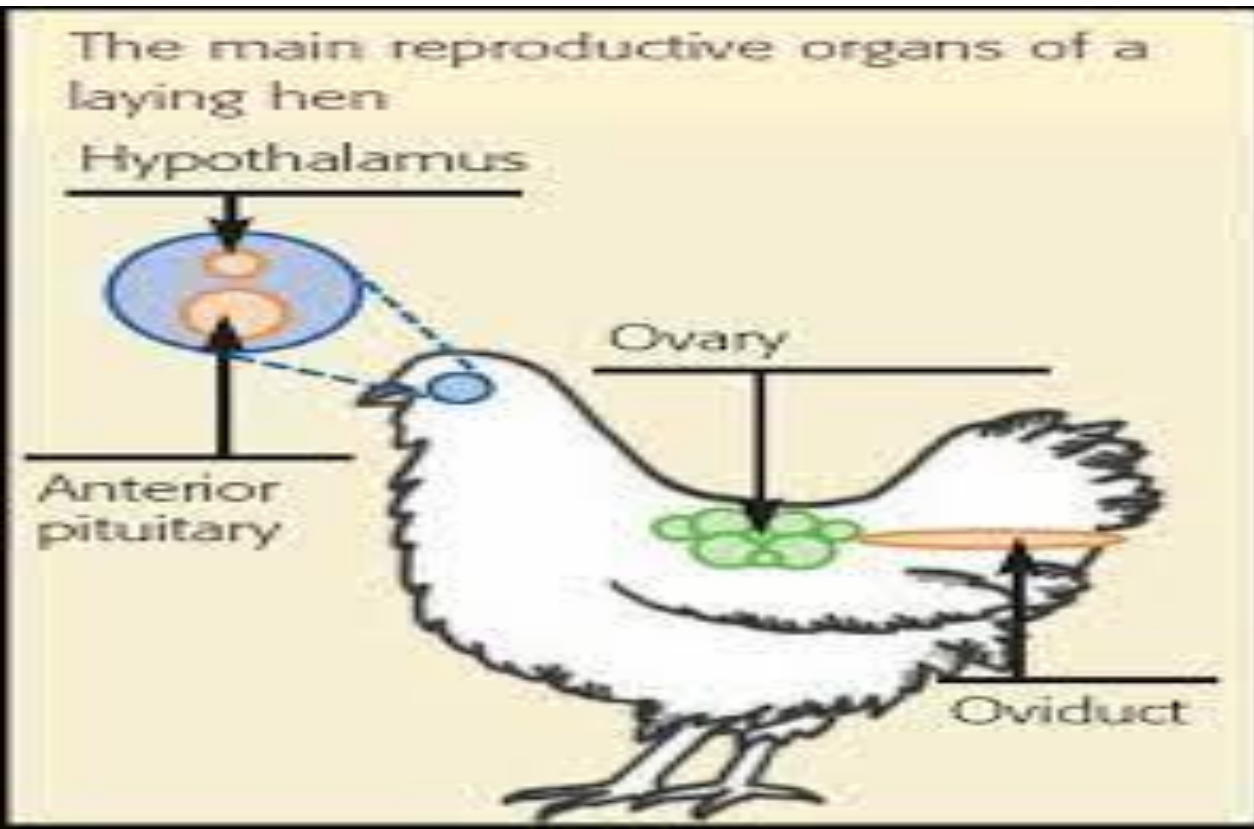
**The number of feathers in a single bird is estimated at 8,500
It is also called the stage of molting, where the process of switching
or spawning occurs in birds .

**Some of the old bird's feathers begin to fall off, then the new
feather that was growing under the old feather begins to take its
place, and the old feather does not fall until the new feather becomes
a complete feather.



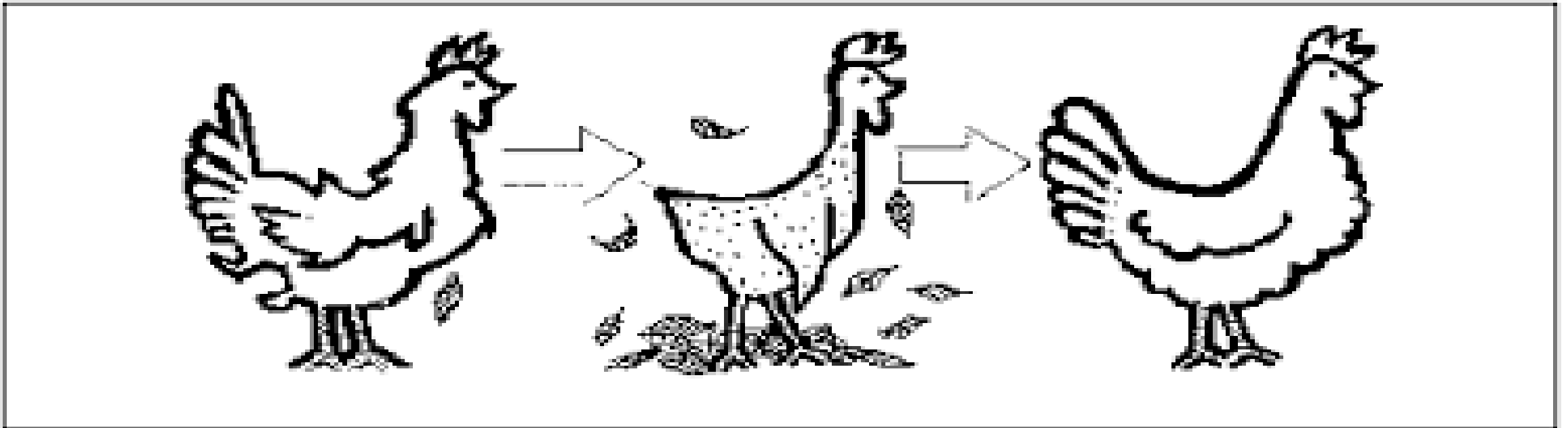
There are some factors that cause molting, including:

- Internal parasites.
- bad management.
- Climate factors.
- Nutrition quality
- lighting.
- Low body weight



Forced molting, sometimes known as **induced molting**, is the practice by some poultry industries of artificially provoking a flock to molt simultaneously, typically by with drawing food for 7–14 days and sometimes also with drawing water for an extended period.

***Forced molting is usually implemented when egg-production is naturally decreasing toward the end of the first egg-laying phase. During the forced molt, the birds decrease producing eggs for at least two weeks, which allows the bird's reproductive tracts to regress and rejuvenate. After the molt, the hen's egg production rate usually peaks slightly lower than the previous peak, but egg quality is improved.



The purpose of forced molting

** increase egg production,

**egg quality, and profitability of flocks in their second or subsequent laying phases, by allowing the hen's body the necessary time to rejuvenate during the natural cycle of feather replenishment.

**Chickens will lose feathers in a sequence starting with the head and neck

and then down the back, across the breast and thighs and finally

their tail feathers. The new feathers that emerge are called **pinfeathers** and will grow in following the same sequence they were lost.

Treat molting in chickens

- **Limit handling of molting birds, to avoid inflicting pain
- **Reduce as much stress as you can. Avoid moving your birds to new living quarters or adding new birds to your pen
- **It's important to ensure your birds have regular access to food and water
 - **Molting and growing new feathers requires a lot of energy. Feathers are 85% protein, so be sure your birds' diet includes a highly nutritious feed



A photograph of a brown hen standing in a field of green grass with scattered yellow flowers. She is surrounded by a group of small, fluffy yellow chicks. The text "Thank you!" is overlaid on the right side of the image in a white, bold, italicized font.

***Thank
you!***