**Embryology Instructions with a Turner**

**Incubating Eggs with a Turner**

* Maintain the temperature around 100ºF. Steady temperature is important. Do not constantly adjust the temperature.
  + If the incubator is not keeping a steady temperature, call the Extension Office.
  + When eggs are first placed in the incubator, they take several hours to heat up. Do not immediately adjust the temperature in the incubator.
* Refill pans or troughs with warm water.
  + Always keep water in the trough. Humidity is very important for a successful hatch.
* The turner will slowly rock back and forth. You won’t notice it if you watch it, but if you leave it for an hour, you should notice that the eggs have moved some.
* If you pull the eggs out of the incubator, place them back in the turner *skinny* side down.
* Day 18
  + Fill troughs with warm water.
  + Remove turner and lay the eggs on a wire rack.
  + Close the incubator and do not open it again the until chicks hatch.

**Hatching Chicks**

* Chicks will begin pipping around the twenty-first day of incubation.
* Be patient!
* It could take a chick anywhere from 1 hour to 24 hours to get out of the shell. (If any chick takes longer than 24 hours to hatch, call the Extension Office.)
* Leave the chicks in the incubator until they dry off.
* Don’t remove hatched chicks while other eggs are pipping.
  + Chicks hatch with a two-day built-in food supply, so they can go for about three days without eating after they hatch.
* After the chicks are hatched:
  + Remove the hatched chicks from the incubator and place them in a heated box.
  + The heated box should contain a 40-watt light bulb placed 8–10 inches from the bottom of the box, away from the sides of the box.
  + Optimum temperature for the chicks during their first week of life is 95ºF.

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