

RECOGNISING THE CAUSE OF THE 10 MOST COMMON EGGSHELL QUALITY ISSUES

STAINED EGGS

Ranging from minor to large stains




Causes

- Wet droppings
- Dirty nests
- Indigestible compounds in the feed
- Floor eggs
- Electrolyte imbalance

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

THIN SHELLED

If the eggshell is too thin, it becomes prone to breakage



Causes

- Inadequate nutrition
- Infectious diseases
- Poor gut health
- Mycotoxins
- Dirty nests

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

HAIRLINE CRACKS

Cracked eggshells may be difficult to see in fresh eggs without candling



Causes

- Age
- Saline water
- Egg handling
- Inadequate nutrition
- Heat stress
- Mycotoxins

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

ODD SHAPED

Various abnormal egg shapes are possible, over and undersized eggs



Causes

- Age
- Infectious diseases
- Genetics
- Stress

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

PALE-SHELLED

In brown layer flocks, eggshells can lack sufficient pigmentation



Causes

- Age
- Inadequate nutrition
- Genetics
- Infectious bronchitis
- Stress

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

CALCIUM DEPOSITS

The surface of the eggshell is covered with white spots or blotches



Causes

- Defective shell gland
- Excess calcium in the diet
- Disturbances during calcification

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

CORRUGATED

Wrinkled eggshells. The level of corrugation may vary within cases




Causes

- Heat stress
- Mycotoxins
- Saline water
- Infectious bronchitis
- Inadequate nutrition

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

PIMPLED

Small lumps of calcified material on top of the eggshell



Causes

- Age
- Inadequate nutrition
- Genetics

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

BLOOD-STAINED

Eggs is smeared with blood




Causes

- Vent pecking
- Cloaca prolapse
- Overweight pullets coming into lay
- Cannibalism
- Rapidly increasing egg size

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4

APEX ABNORMALITIES

The top of the eggshell is thin-walled. This becomes more visible in storage and is frequently missed at farm



Causes

- Infectious bronchitis
- Mycoplasma synoviae
- Unknown factors

Feed: 1/4 | Farm: 1/4 | Health: 1/4



Trouw Nutrition offers an integrated approach to improve eggshell quality problems:



Feed

Best feeding formulations that match the nutritional requirements of your hens



Farm

Practical and on-farm solutions by our experts



Health

Strong diagnostic tools and feed additives to support the health of your flocks



Do you want to know more?

Please visit us on www.trouwnutrition.com or reach out to your local sales representative.