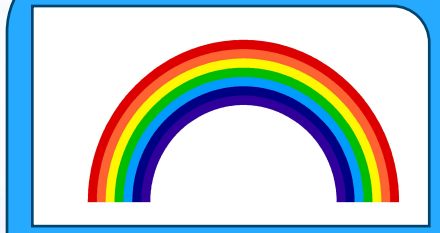
Lighting management

Cage-free academy Cuxhaven

Fernando Carrasquer Puyal
DVM CEAV
Global technical service. Veterinary Specialist.
H&N International GmnH

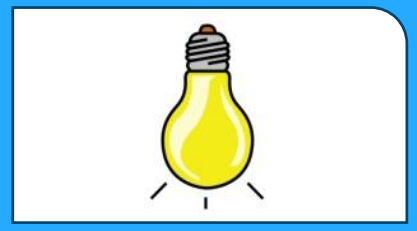
4 Features of Light

Photoperiod



Color

Frequency



Intensity

In nature, production is seasonal

When will grain be available for my chicks?

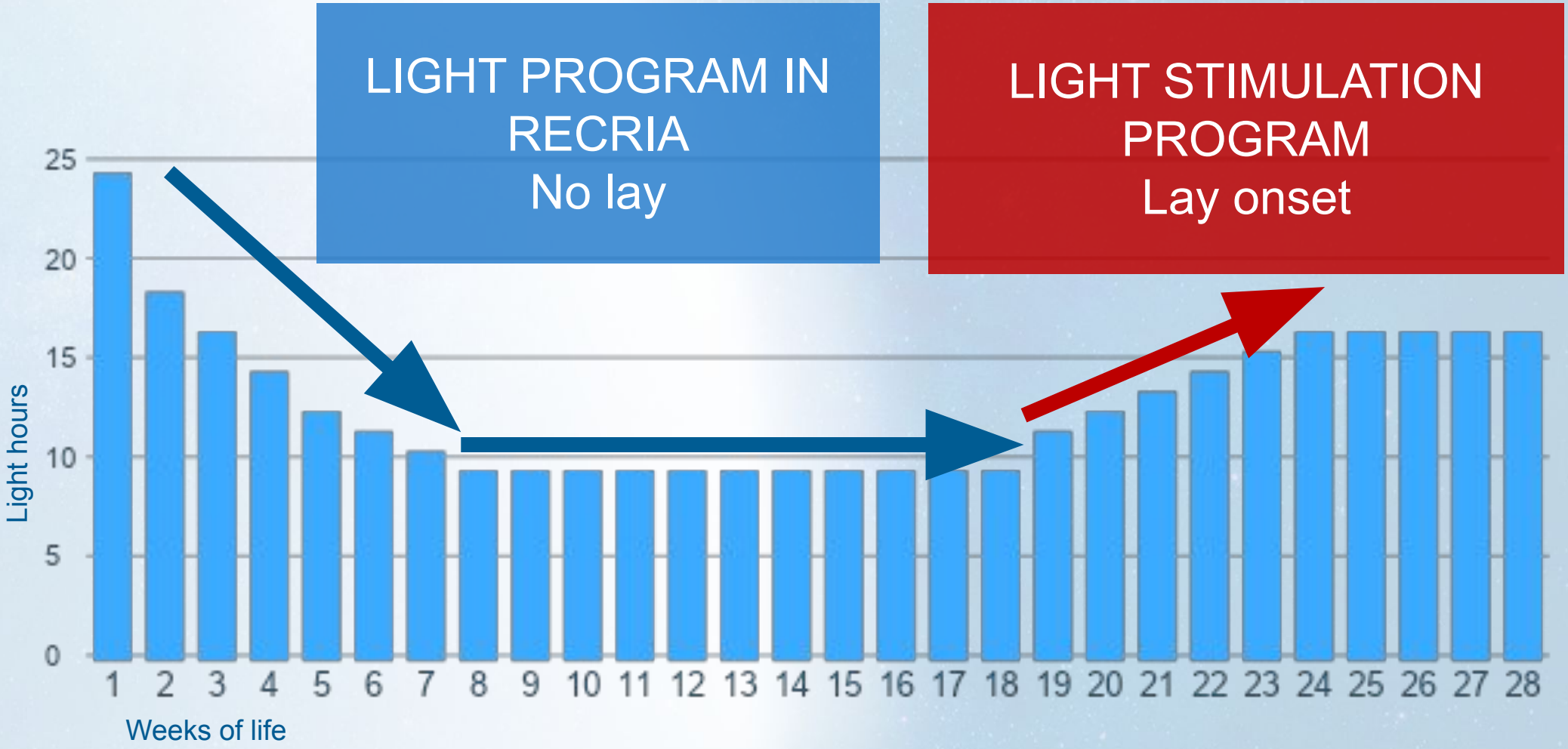
In spring and summer!

INCREASED PHOTOPERIOD
Lay stimulation

DECREASE IN PHOTOPERIOD
No lay

On farms, production is scheduled

Light Programs - Deseasonalization of egg production



Recommended lighting program

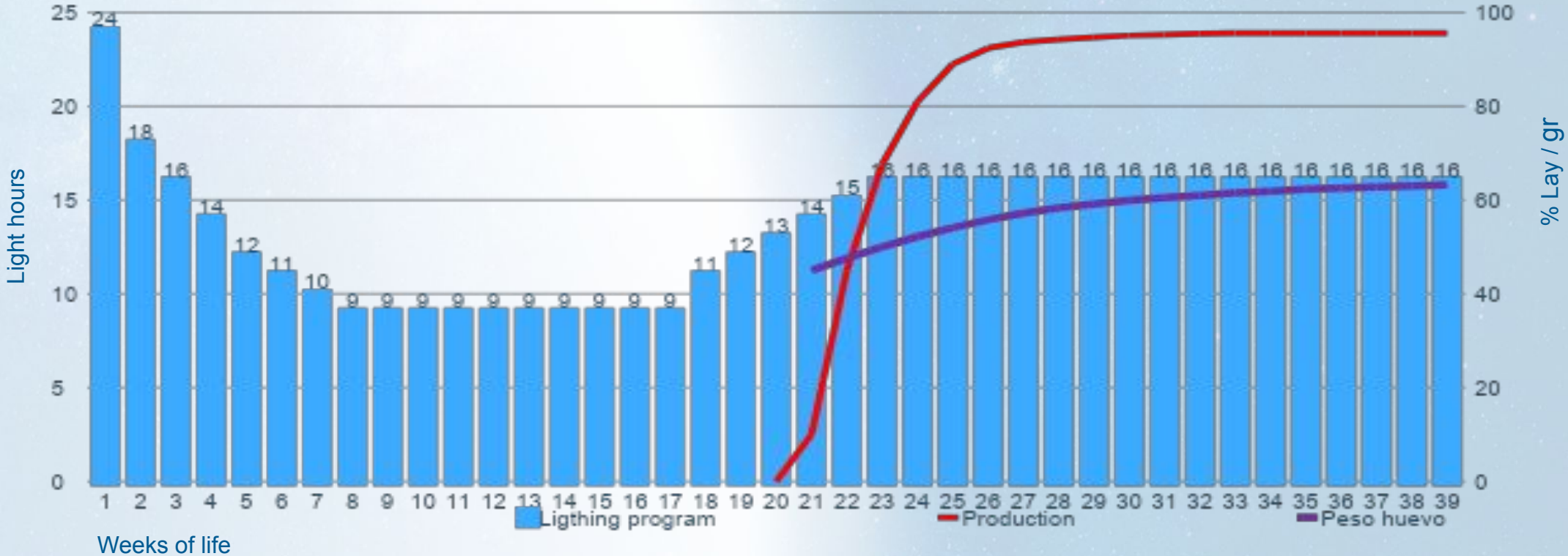
The same program cannot be used all over the world

1. Natural light effect

2. Possibility to adjust the egg weight according to market needs

Stages in a lighting program

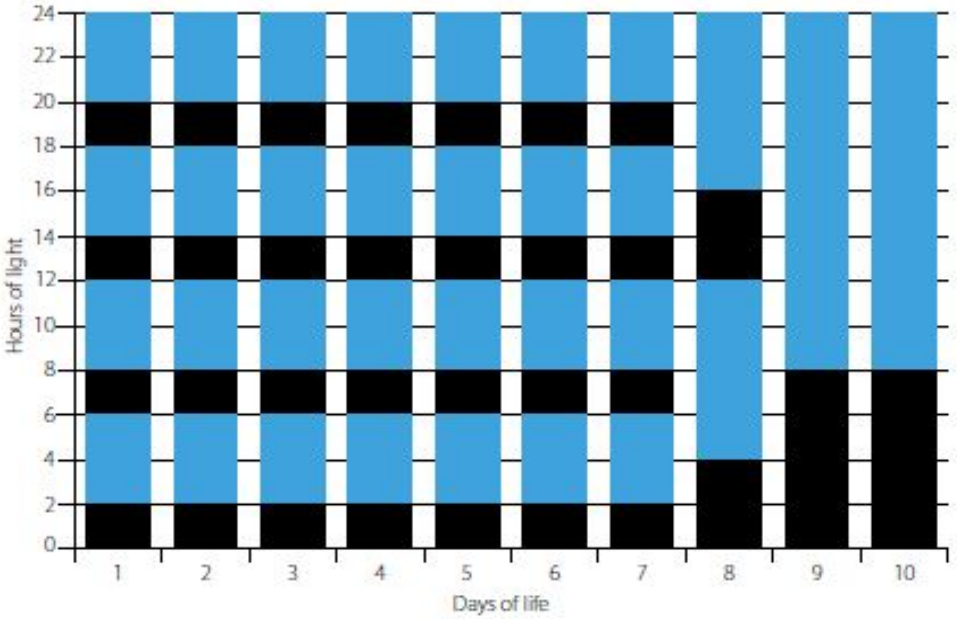
Brooding Rearing Stimulation Production



Lighting programs for brooding

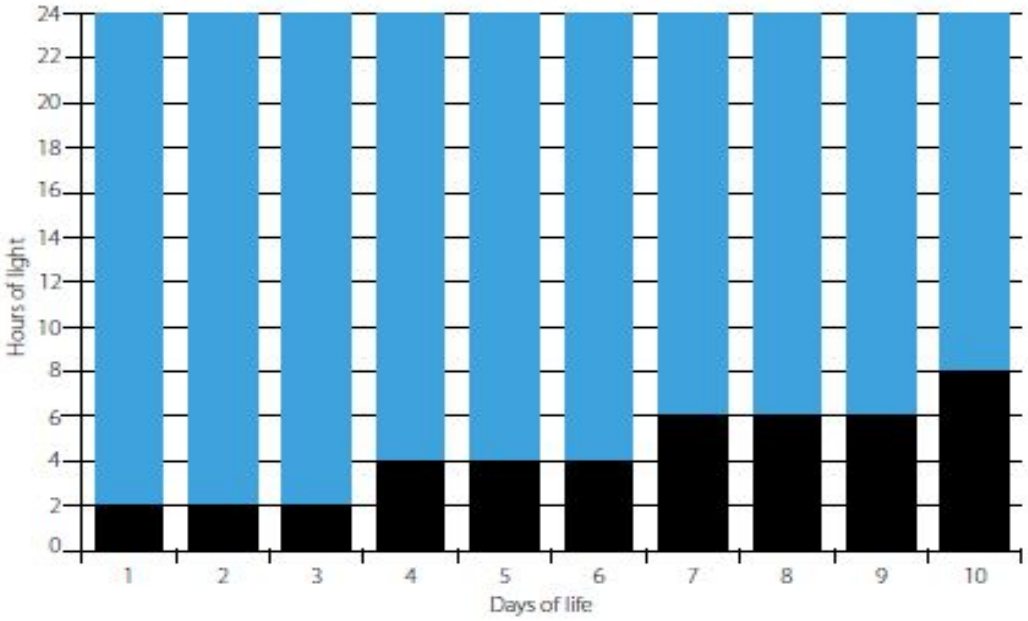
INTERMITTENT PROGRAM

- Better chick activity
  Better flock visualization



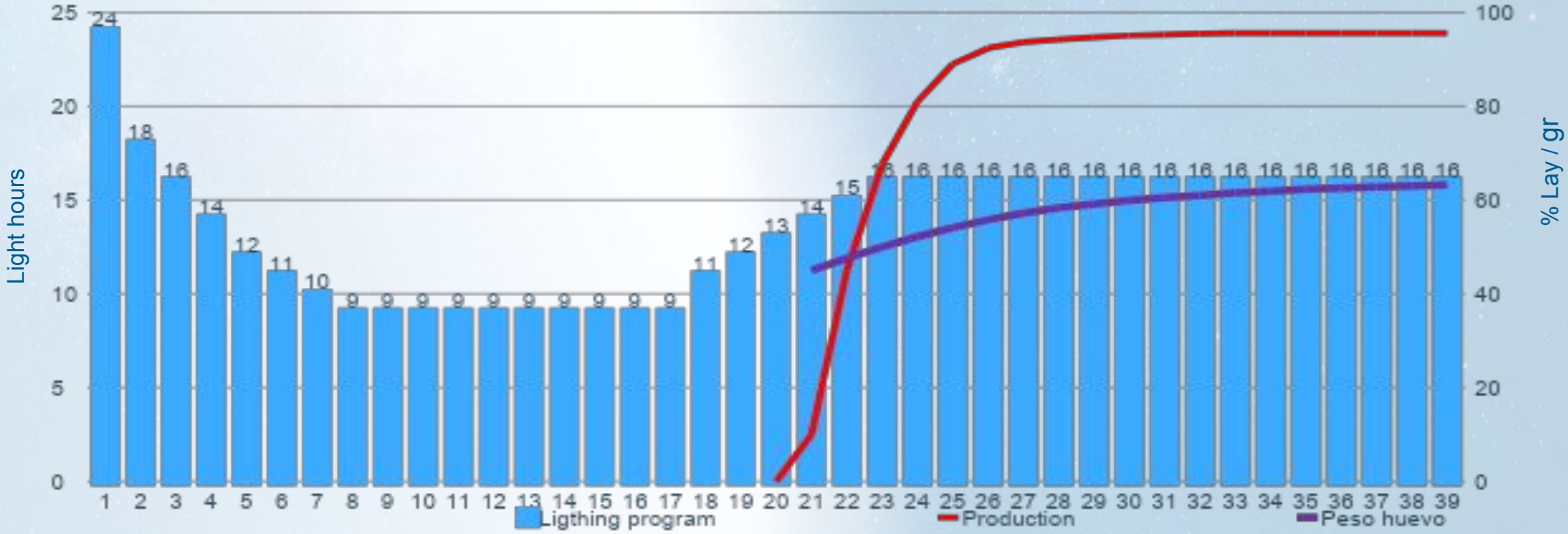
NON-INTERMITTENT PROGRAM

- Applicable in open houses
  No interruptions in work

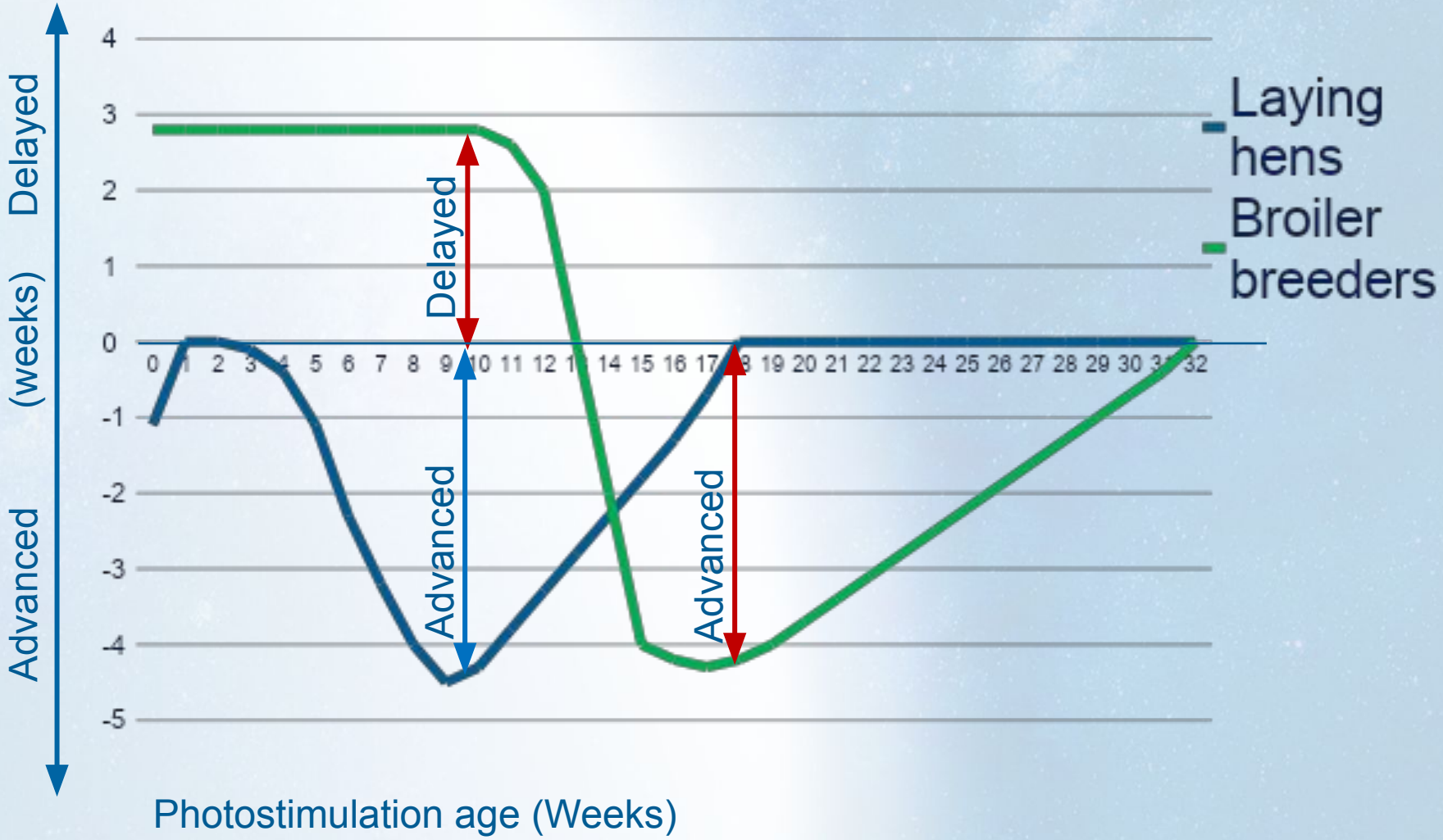


Stages in a lighting program

Brooding **Rearing** Stimulation Production

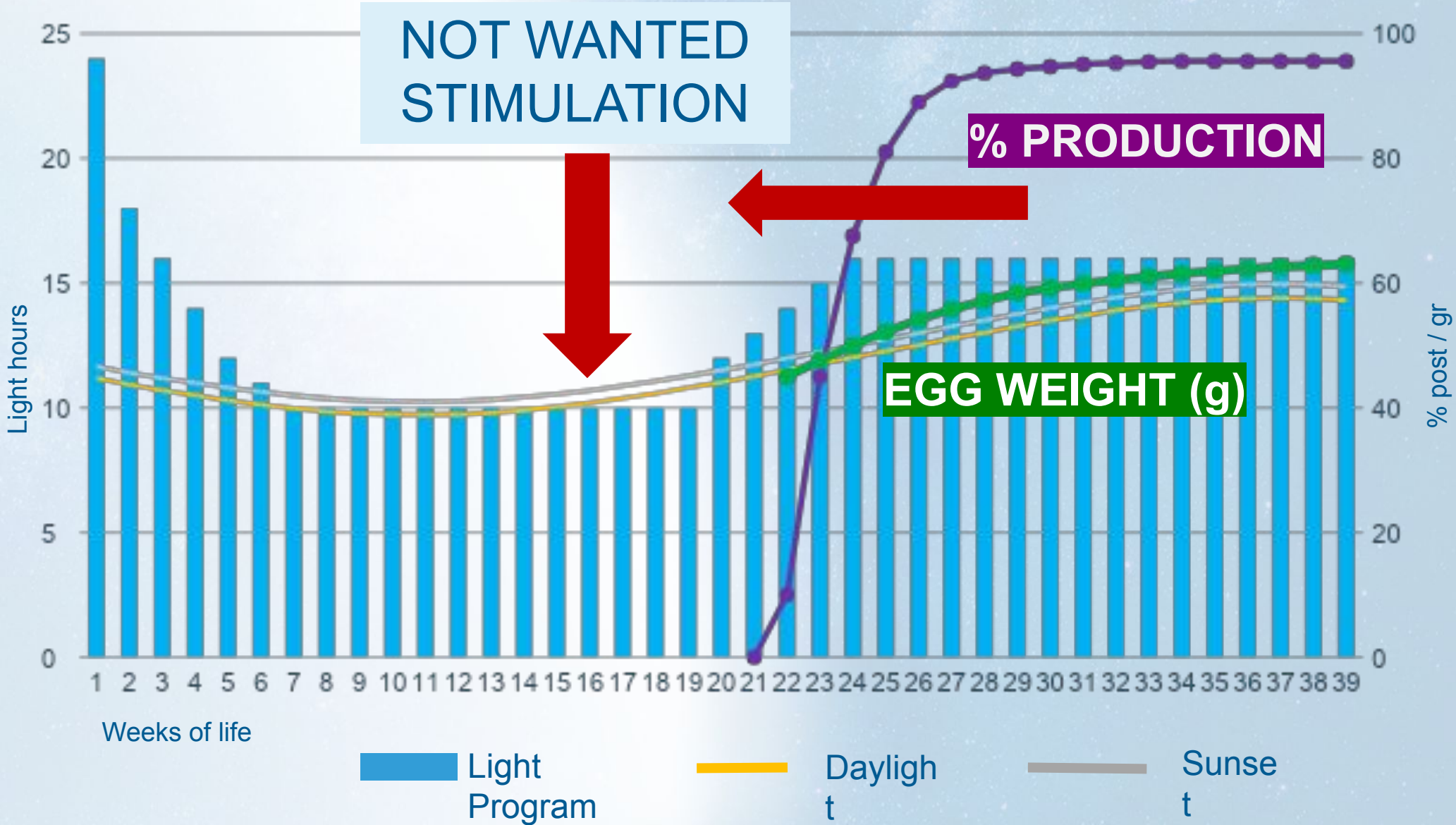


Effect of photostimulation during rearing



Fountain:
P. Lewis 2011

Natural light interference



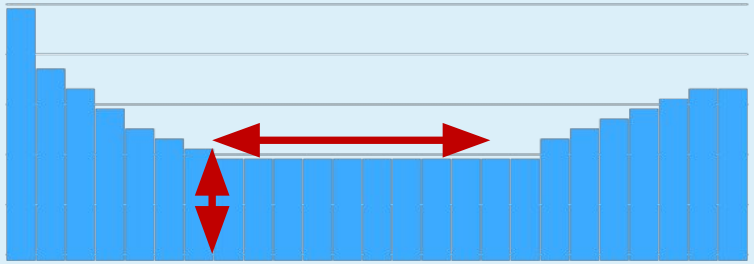
Designing a rearing lighting program

1. Determine if your house is Lightproof

Or

2. Consider the limitation on the lighting program due the house

3. Set the lighting program bottom



4. Set the stepdown to the lighting program bottom

1. Determine if your house is Lightproof

Source: H&N International

Source: H&N International

Source: H&N International

And now?

View of the interior of a house

Lights Off

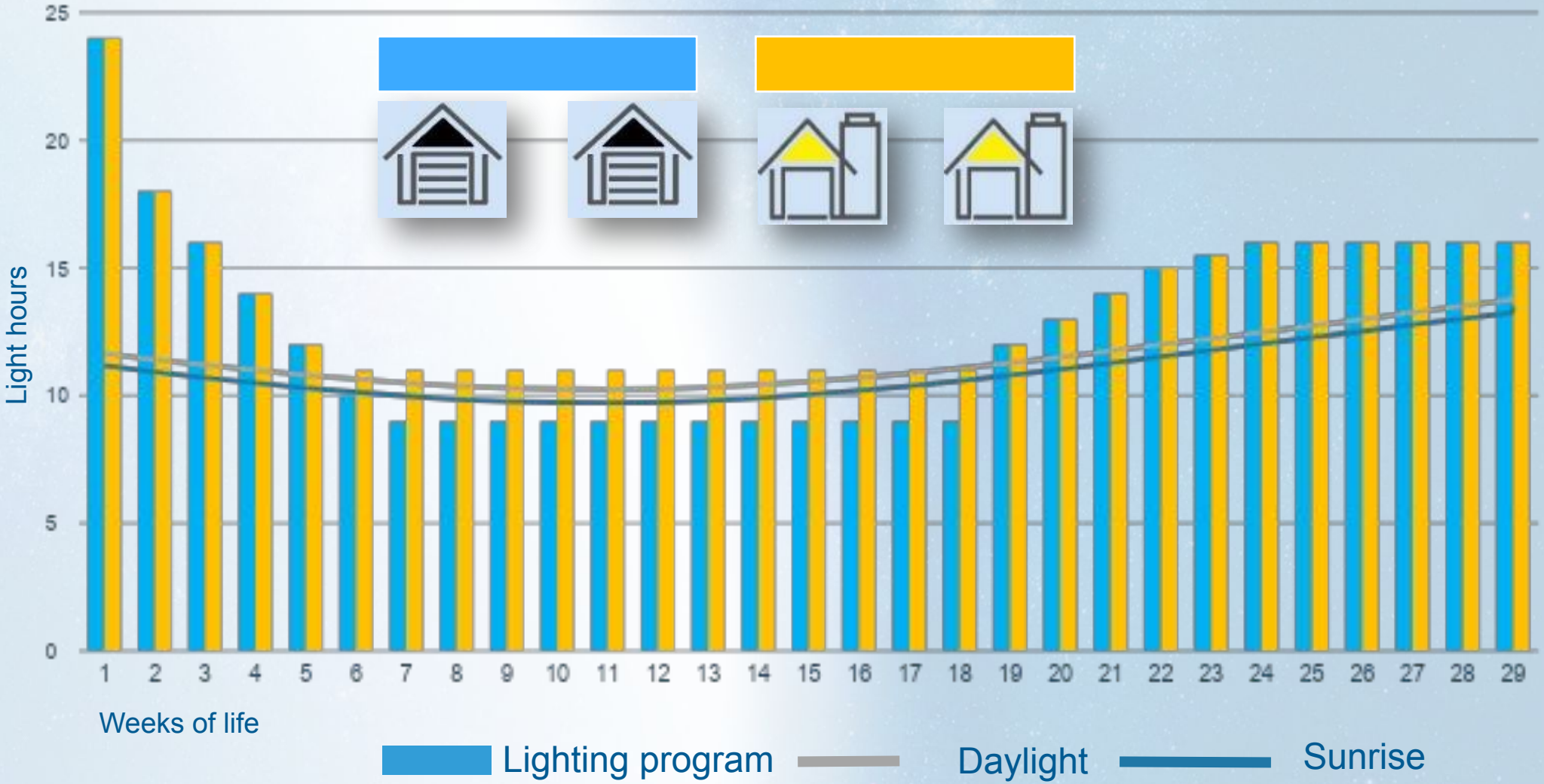
Ventilation on

Less than 3 lux

2. Limitations due to the type of house

REARING	PRODUCTION	LIMITATIONS
		None
		There is no limitation during the period but the photoperiod in the transfer must coincide with the natural length of the day
		The bottom of the lighting program must be greater than the maximum length of the natural day in the week of scheduled for stimulation.
		

Open rearing house / Open production house

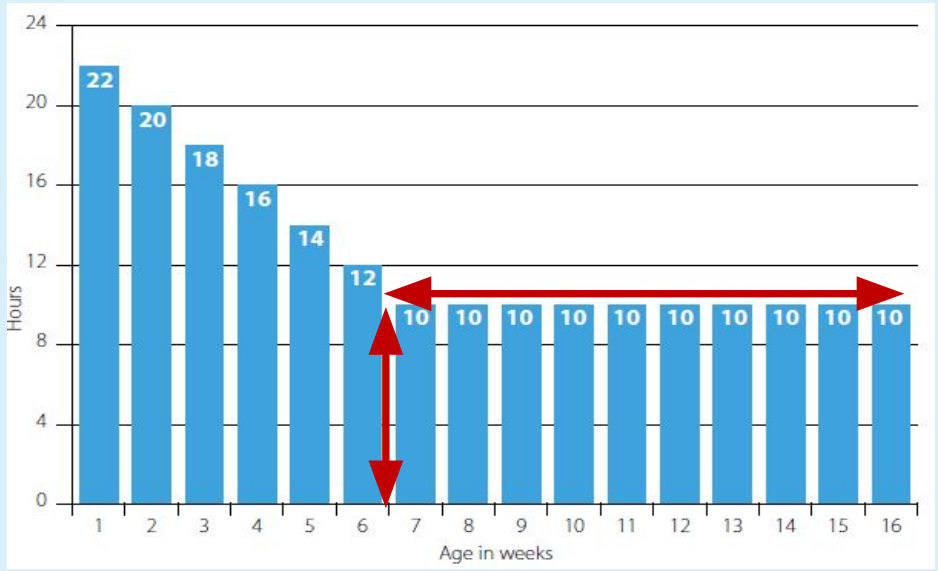


3. Set the lighting program bottom

Cage- free choice

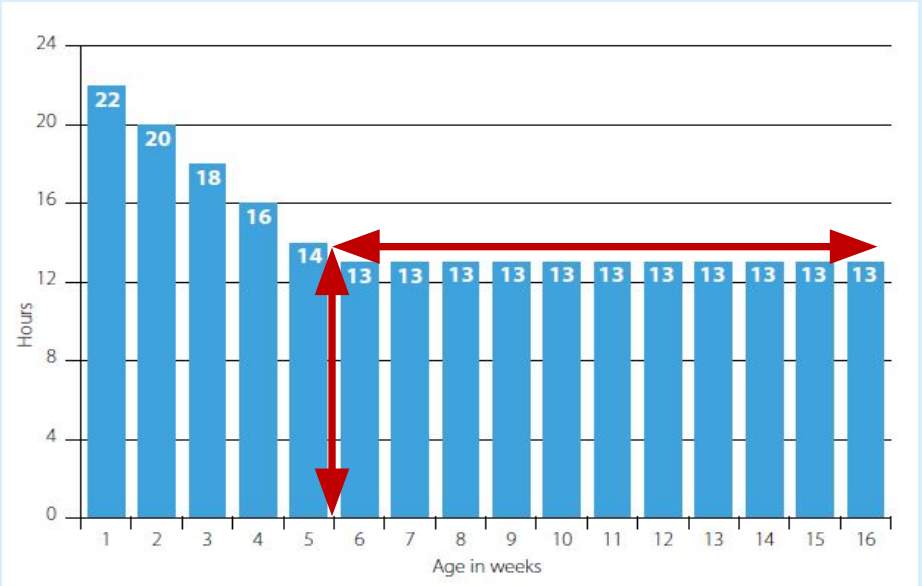
SHORT PROGRAM (9-11 hours)

- Easier stimulation
  Feed intake in fewer hours



LONG PROGRAM (12-14 hours)

- More time for feed intake

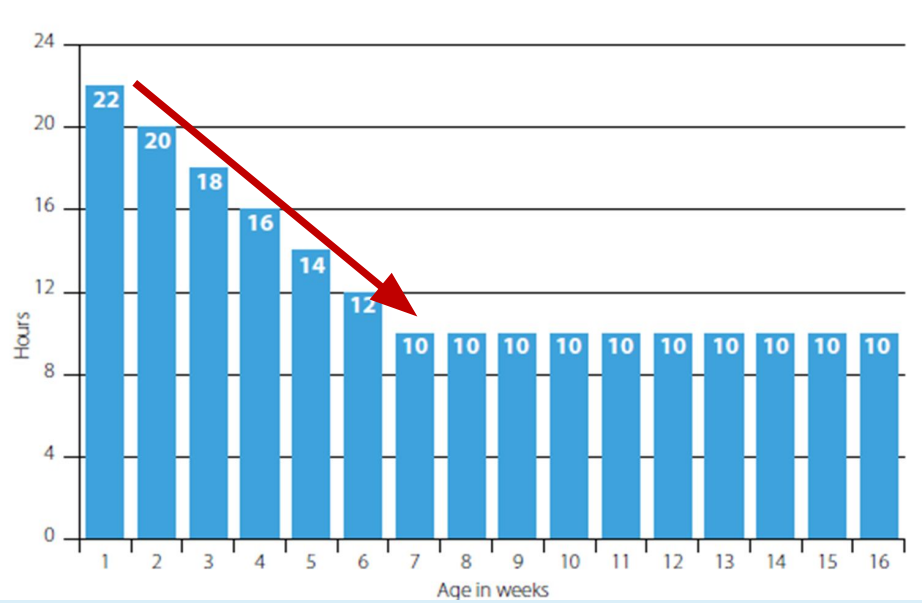


4. Set the stepdown to the lighting program bottom

Cage- free choice

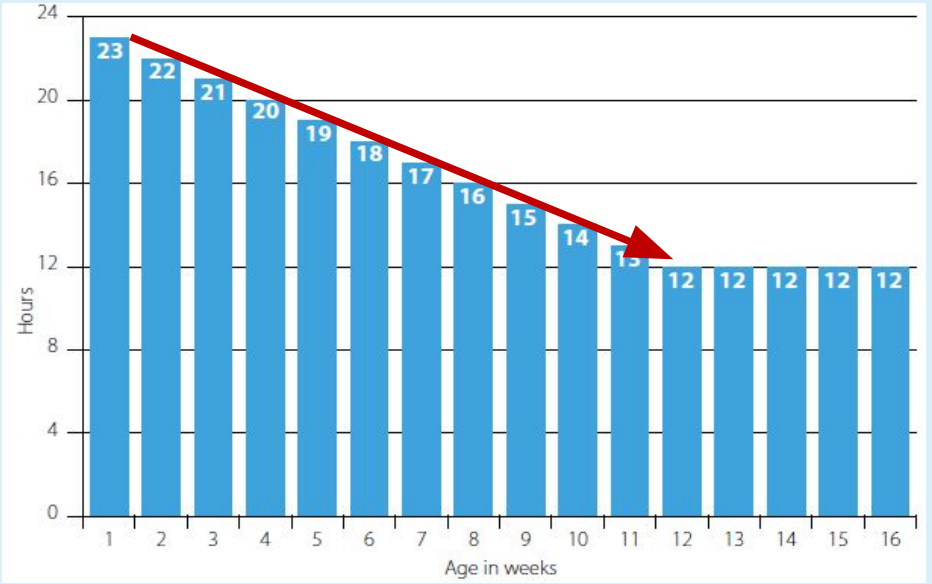
QUICK STEPDOWN (-2 Hours/week)

- Increased sensitivity to light
  Faster start to production



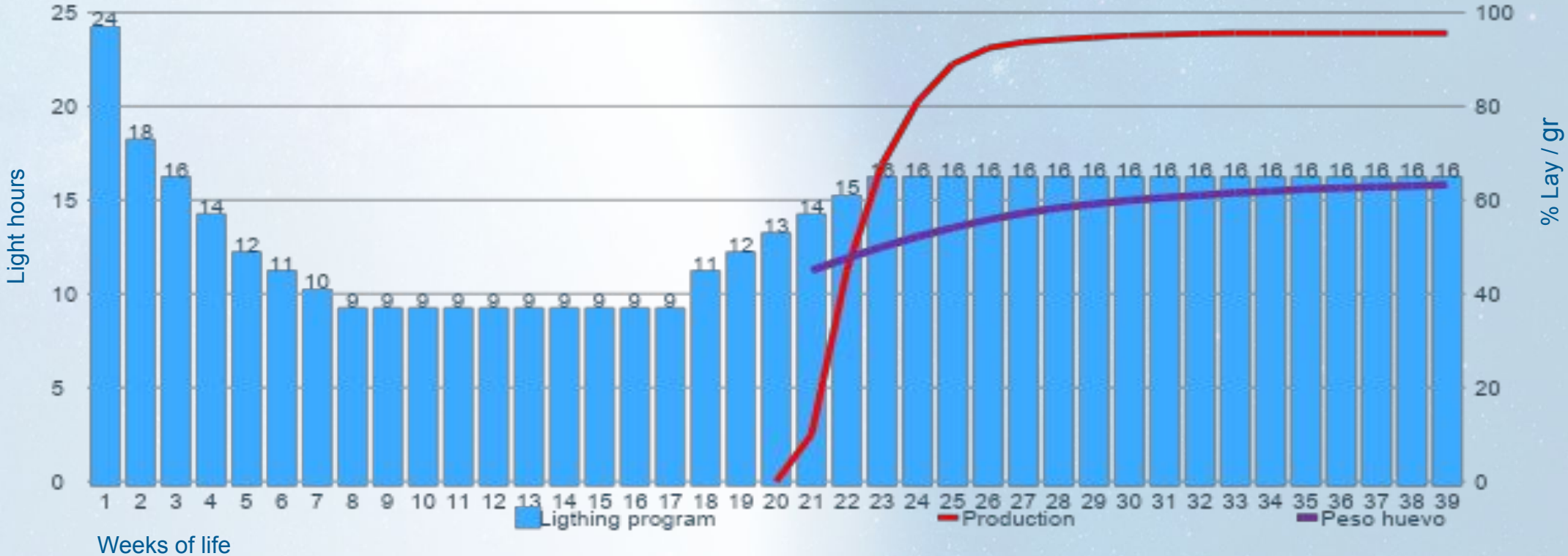
SLOW STEPDOWN (-1 Horas / semana)

- Larger egg size
  More time for feed intake



Stages in a lighting program

Brooding Rearing **Stimulation** Production



What stimulates the hens to start production?

Period of exposure to increasing photoperiod

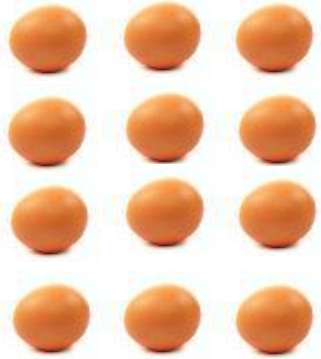
Birds reach maturity weight

A key choice for the flock

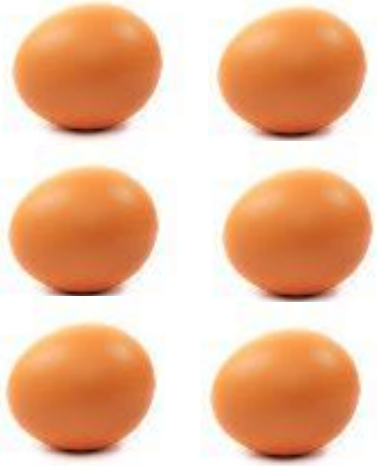
Egg mass

= Eggs number
x average egg weight

Age at stimulation
Weight at stimulation

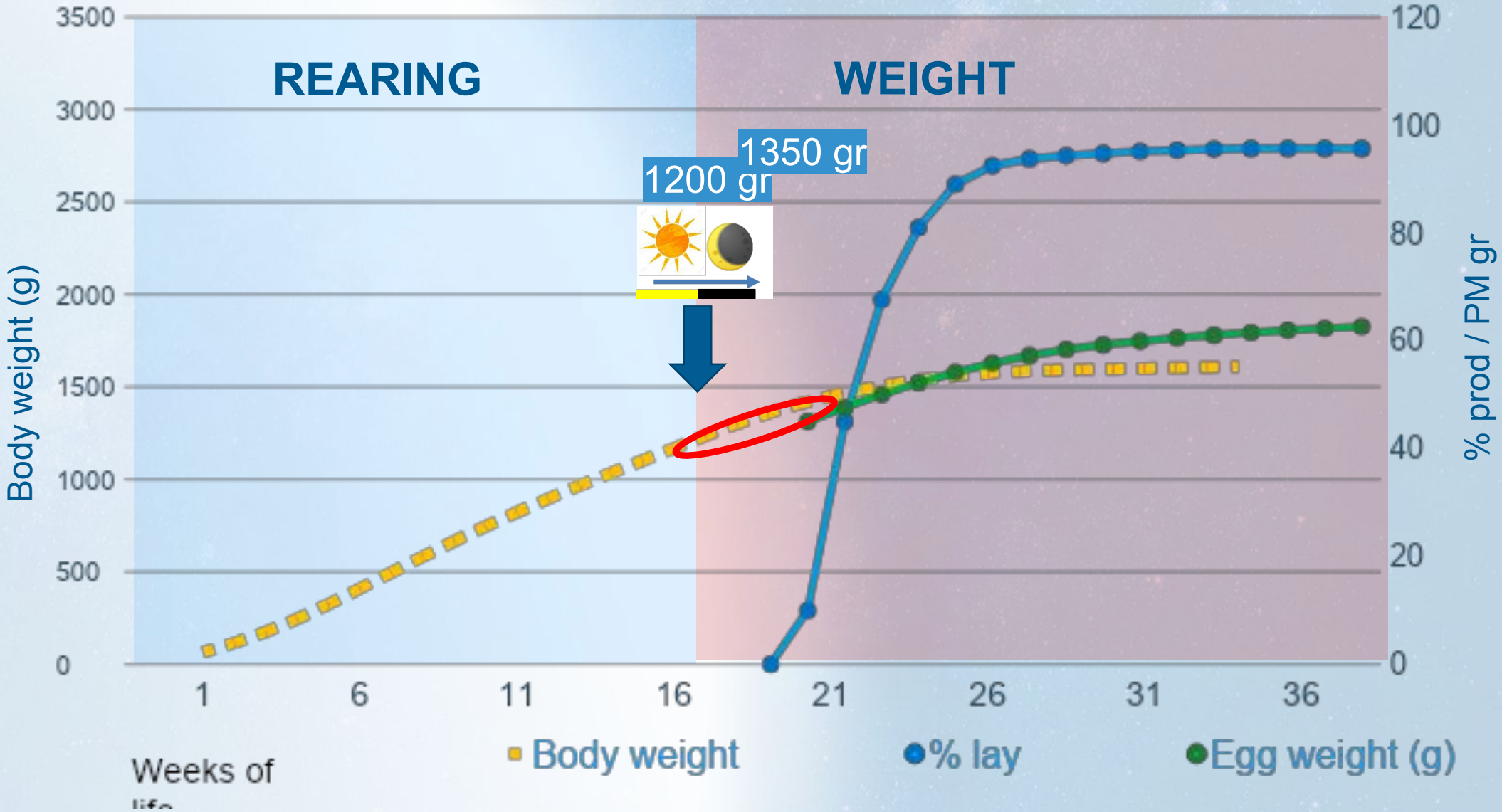


Egg number

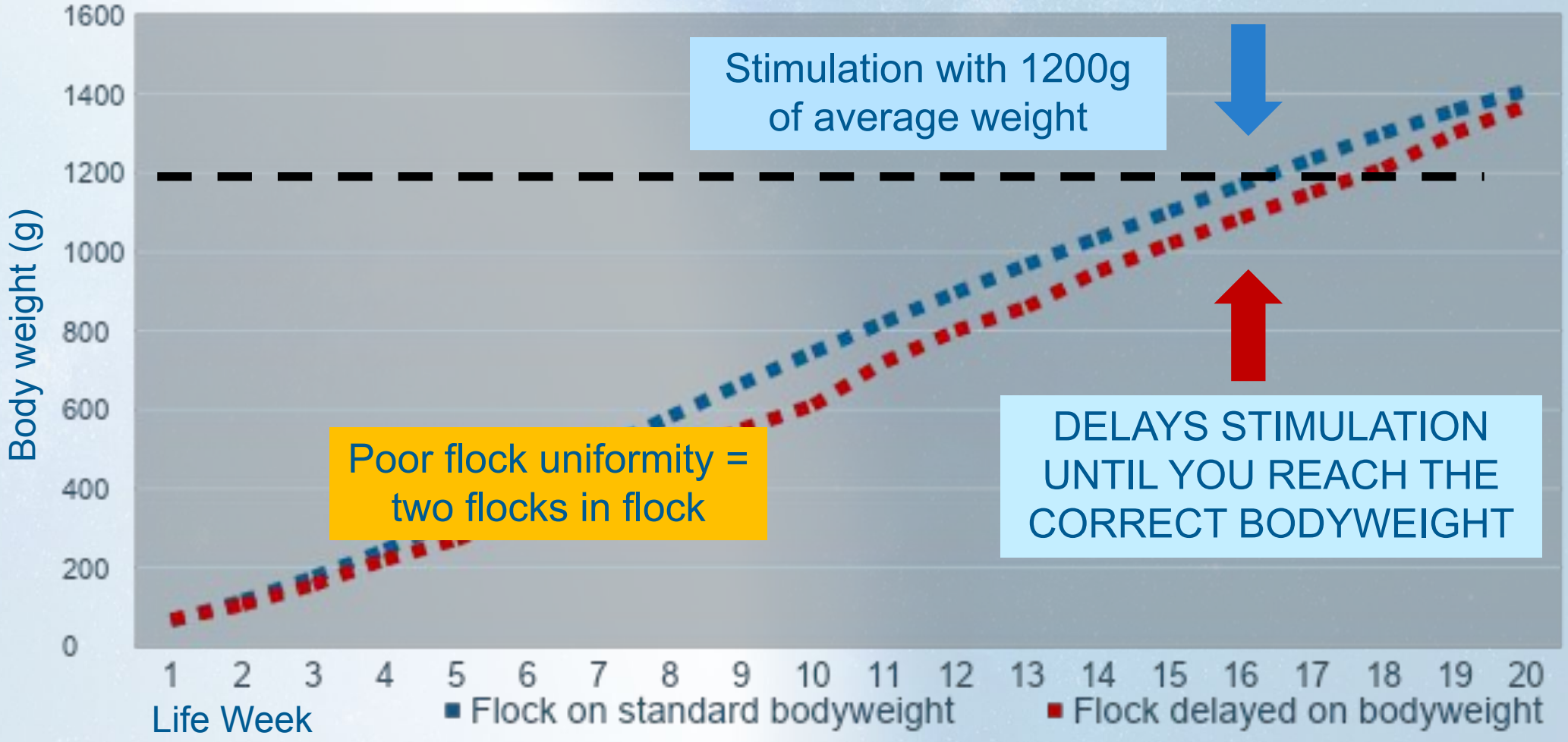


Egg weight

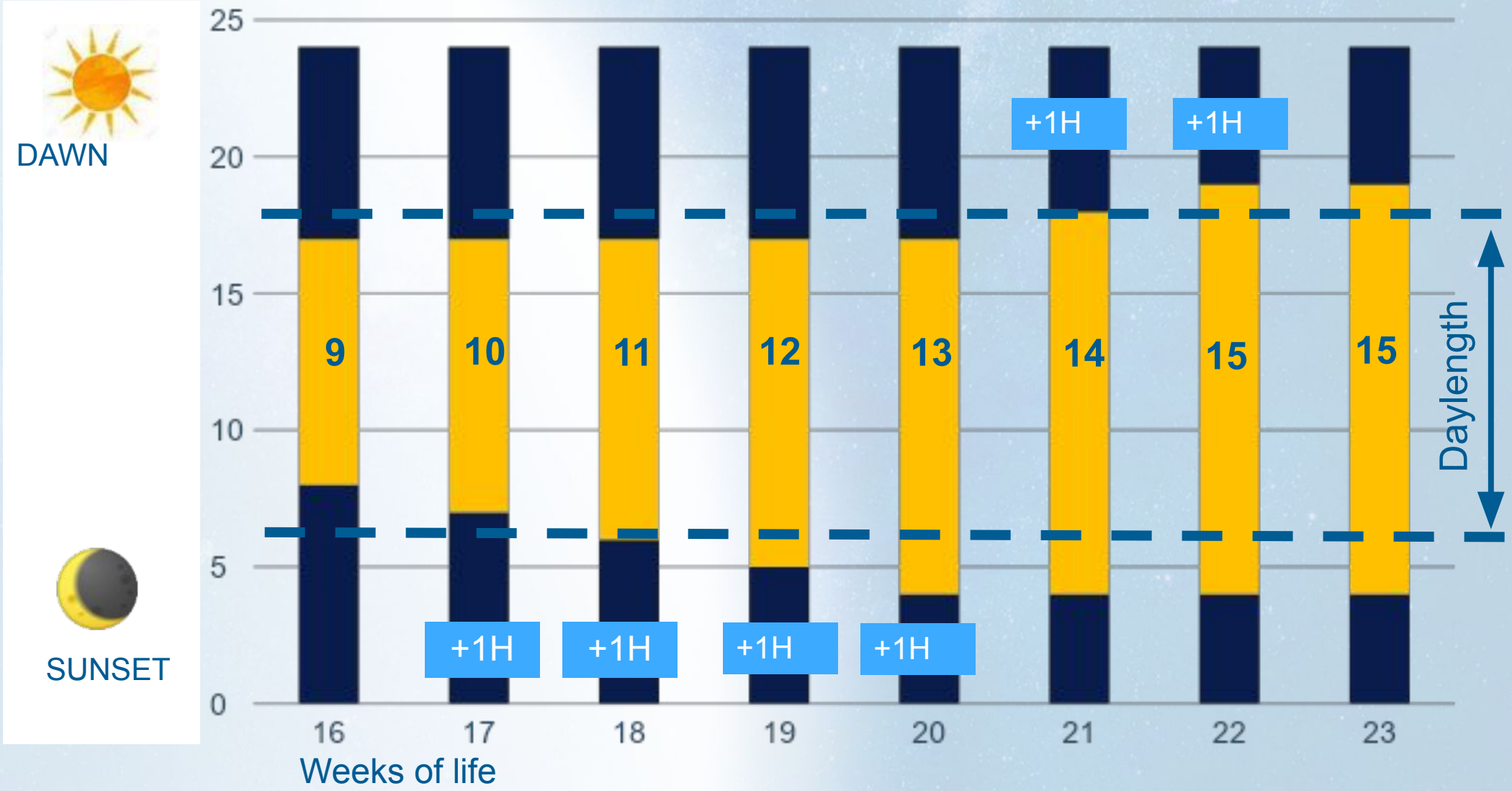
What Really Matters: WHEN?



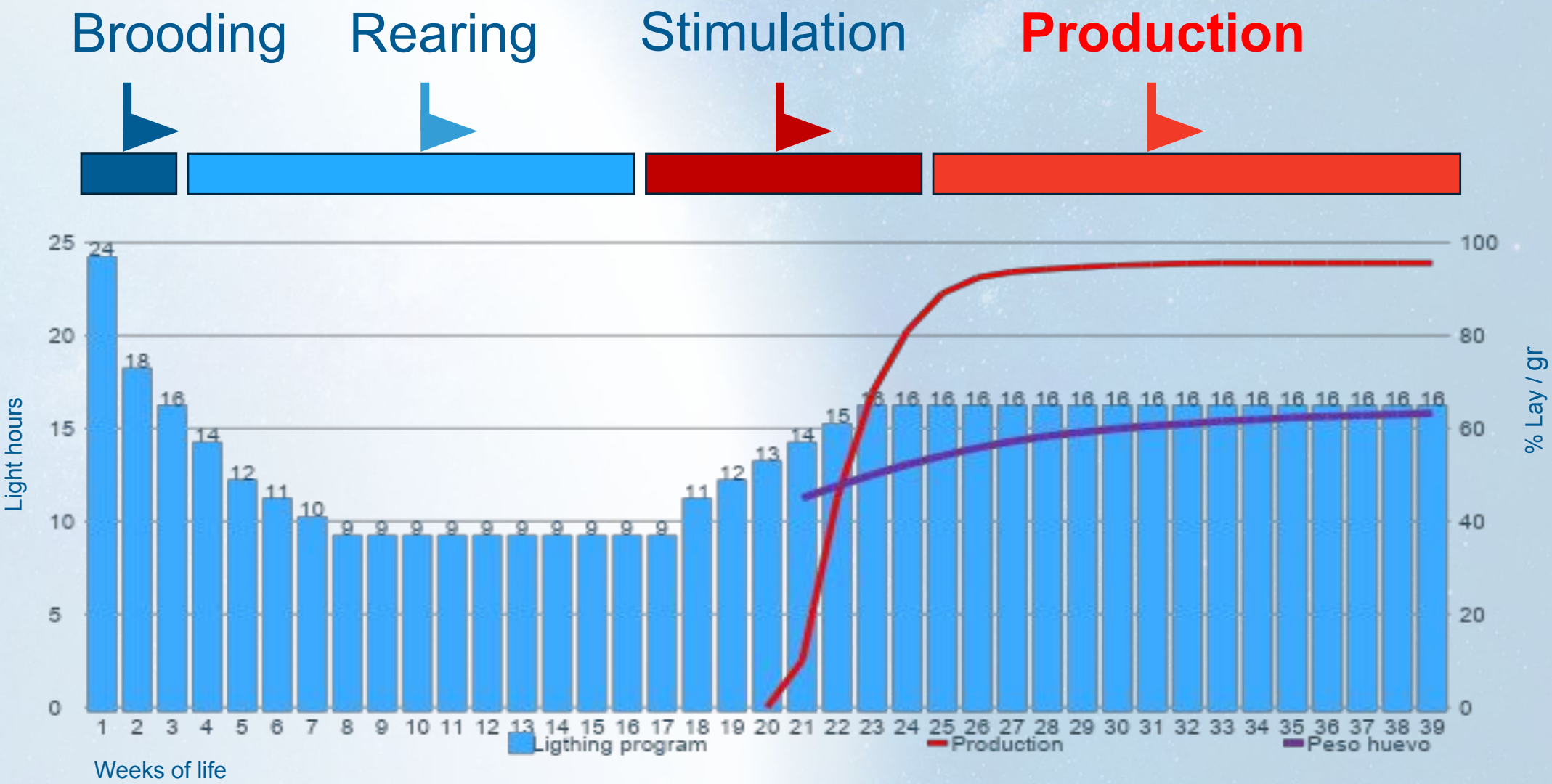
Bodyweight stimulation



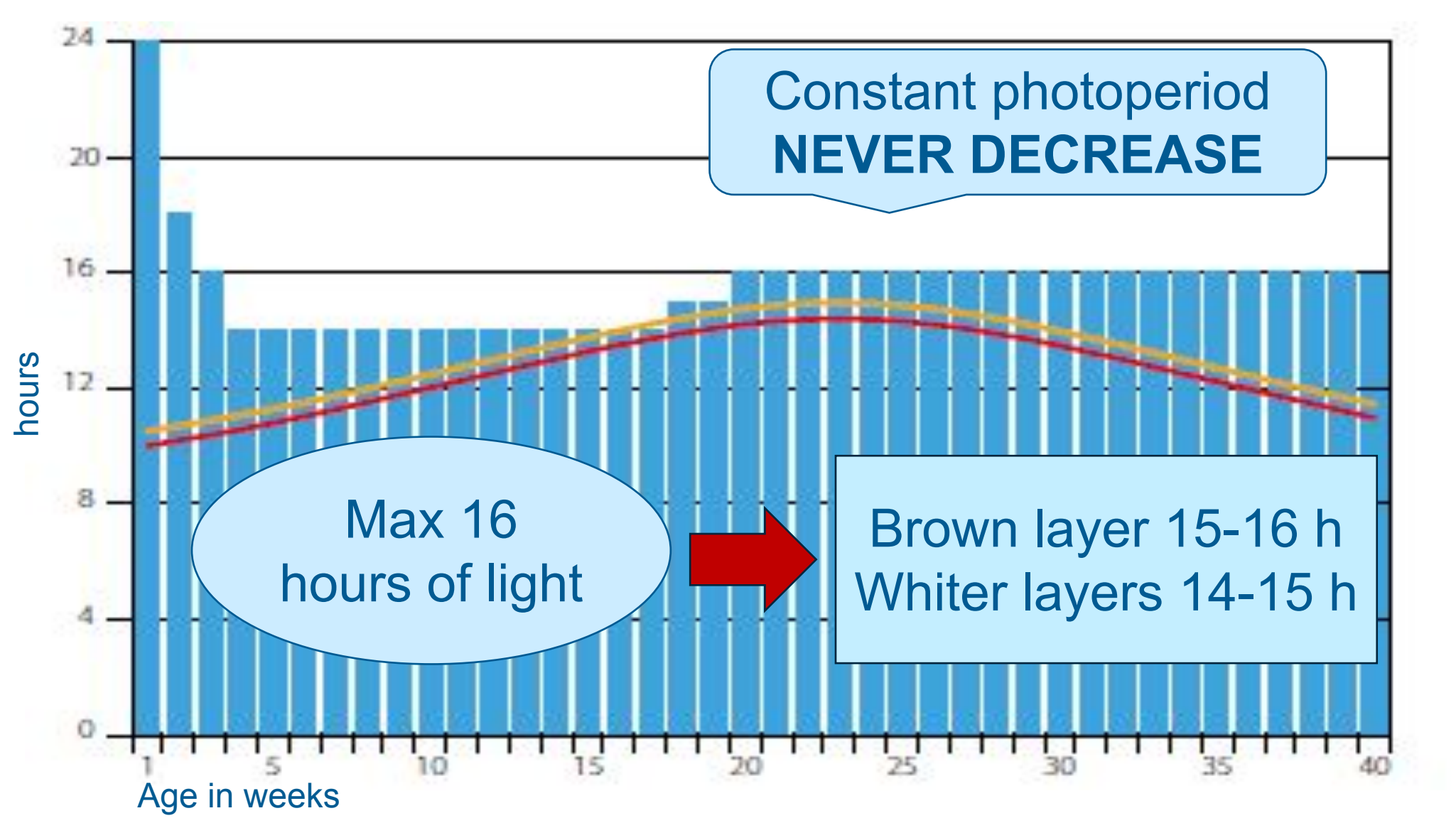
How to do lighting stimulation



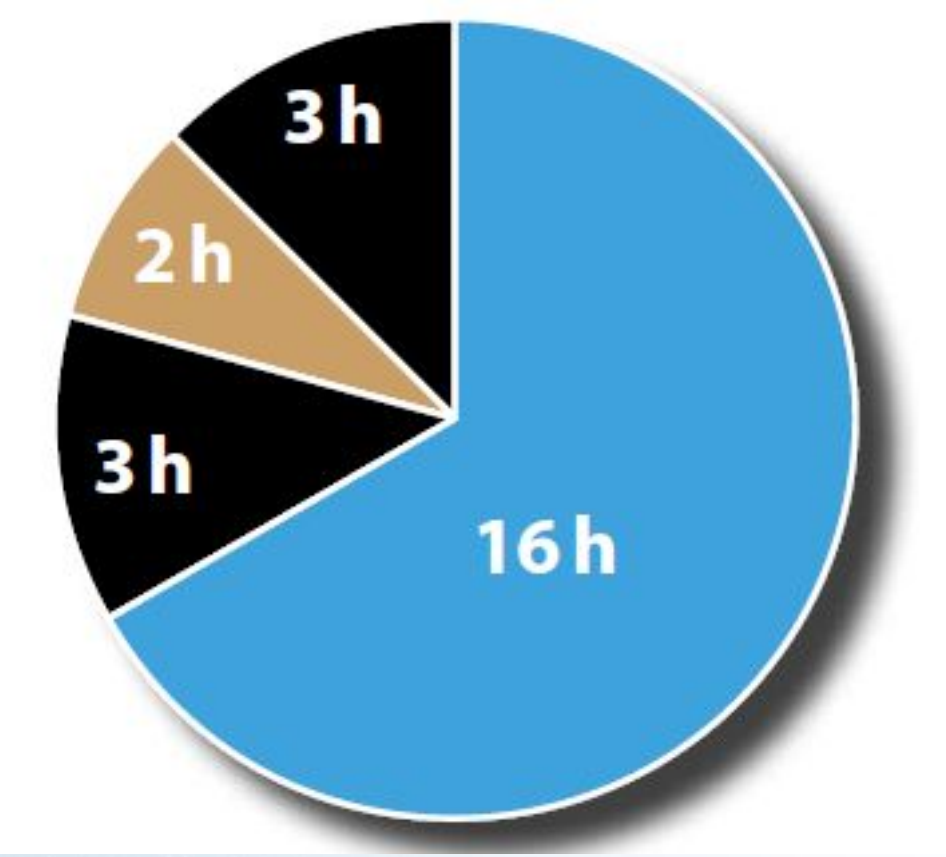
Stages in a lighting program



Light program in production



Midnight Snack



LIGHT DARKNESS

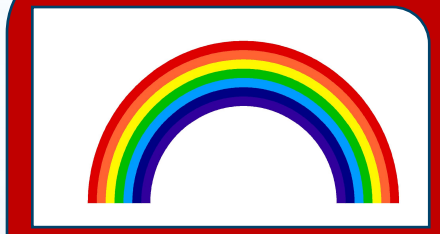
ADVANTAGES

- Increased feed intake Improvements in the quality of the shell Decreases bone decalcification

Not easy implementation in aviary systems

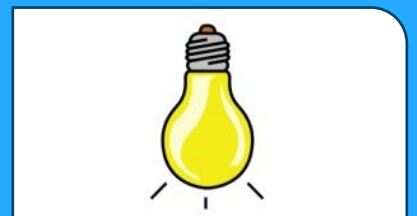
4 Features of Light

Photoperiod



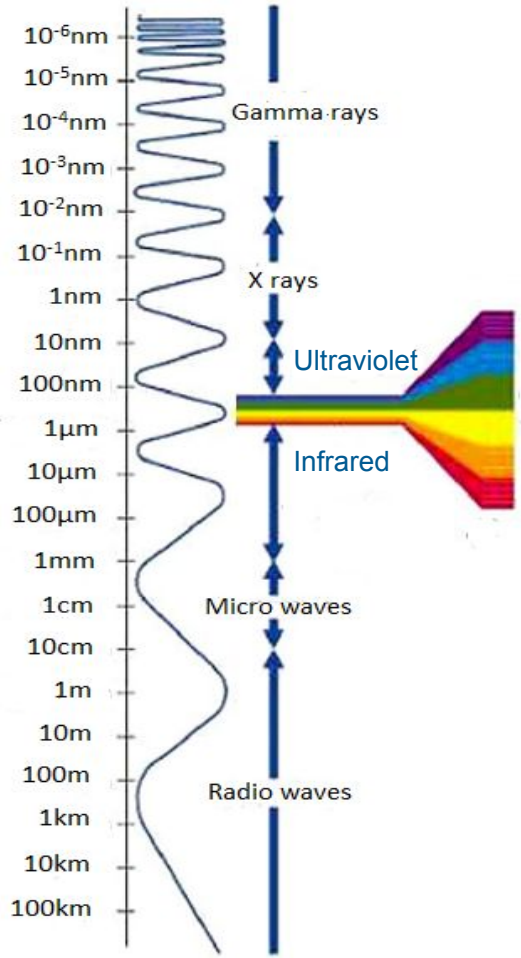
Color

Frequency

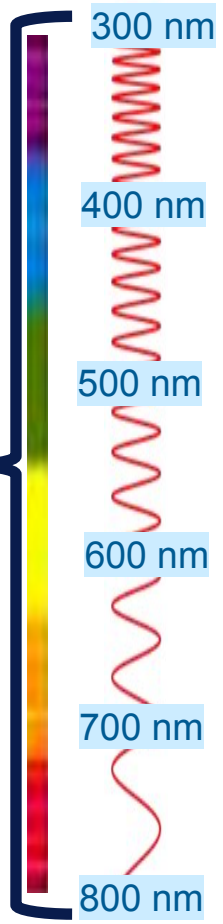


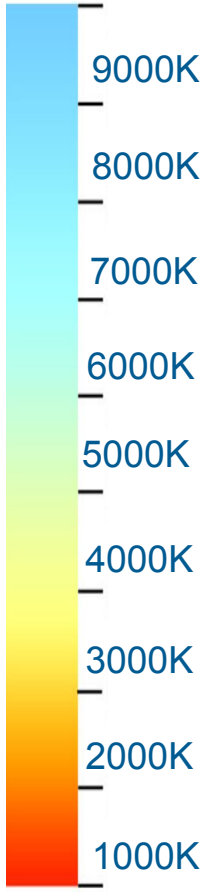
Intensity

The Nature of Light



Light
= perceptible part of the electromagnetic spectrum

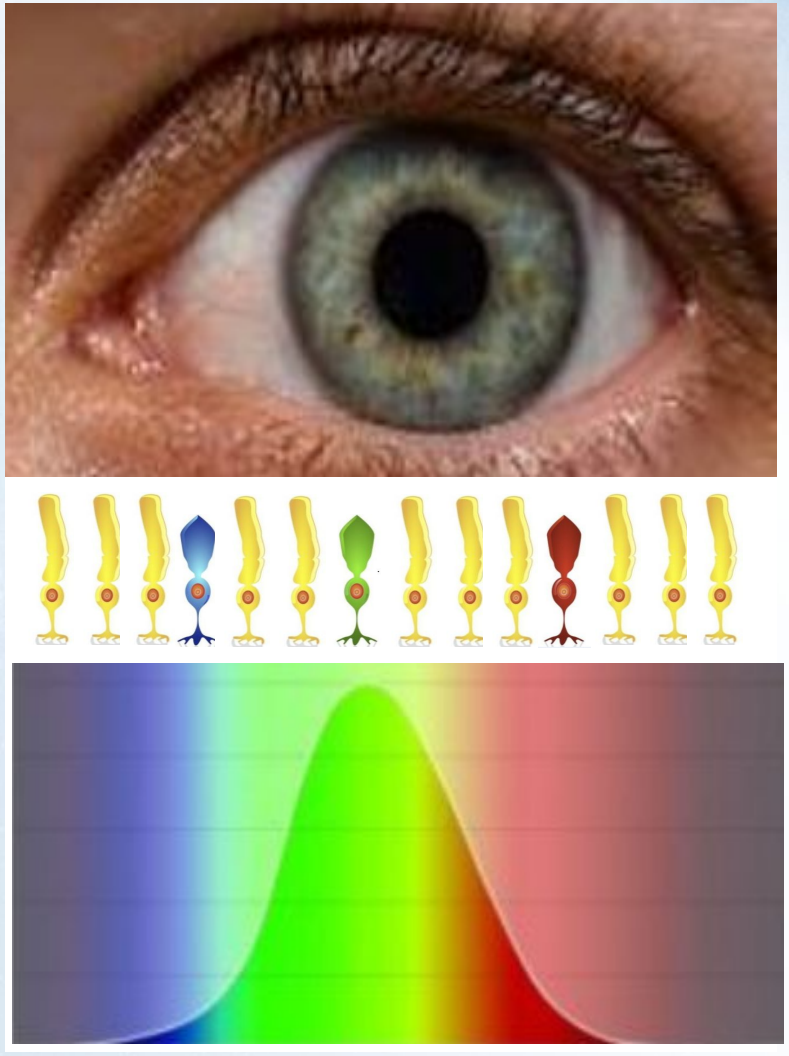


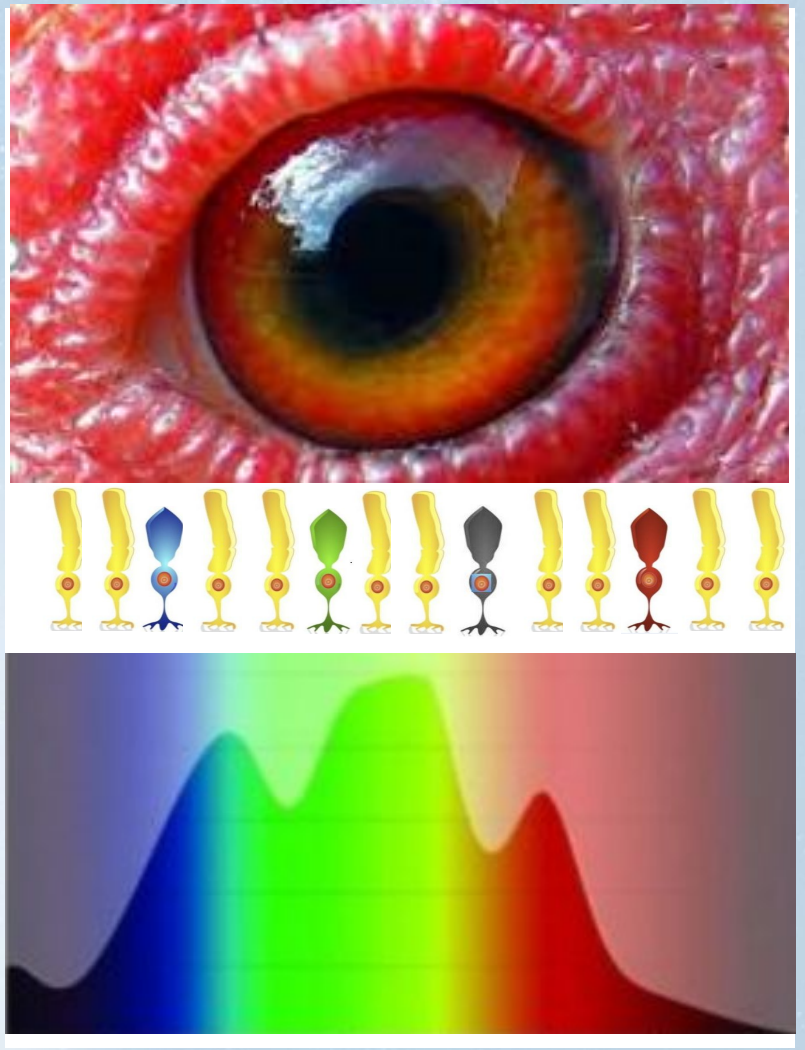


The color of the light depends on the wavelength of the radiation

But it is refered to Kelvin

The Photopic Vision Spectrum

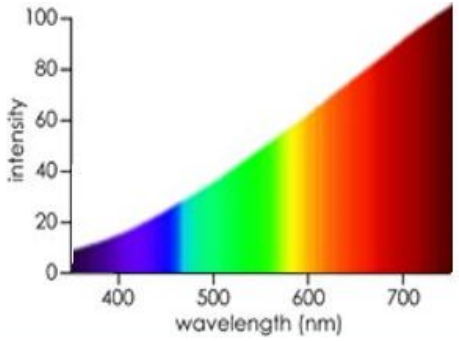




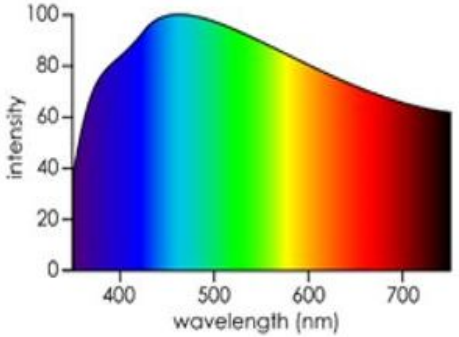
Color of light emitted by different sources

SUNLIGHT

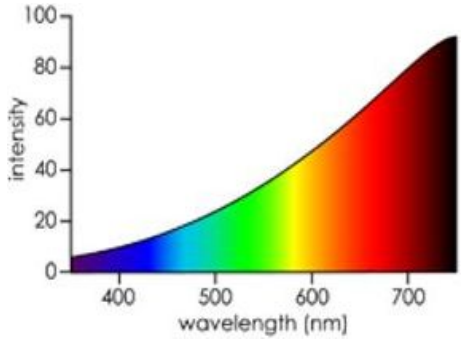
Sunset



Noon

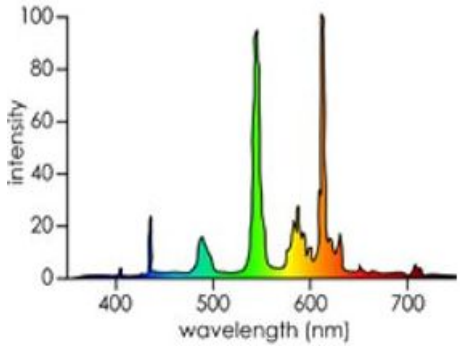


INCANDESCENT

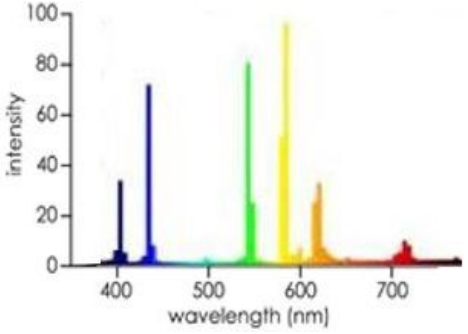


FLUORESCENT

Warm

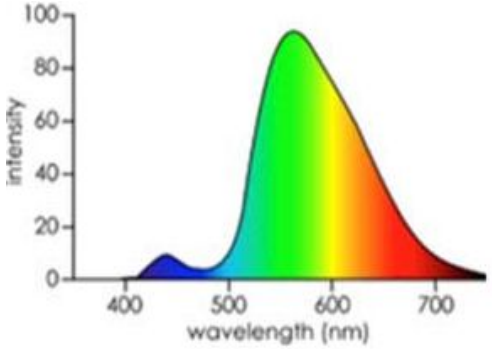


Cold

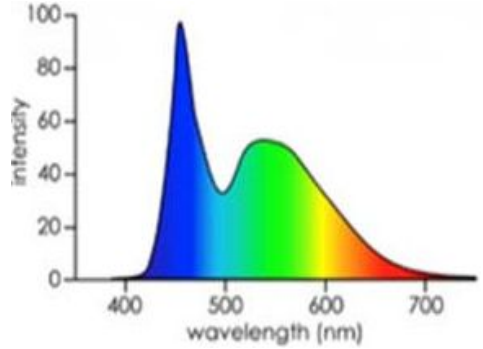


LED

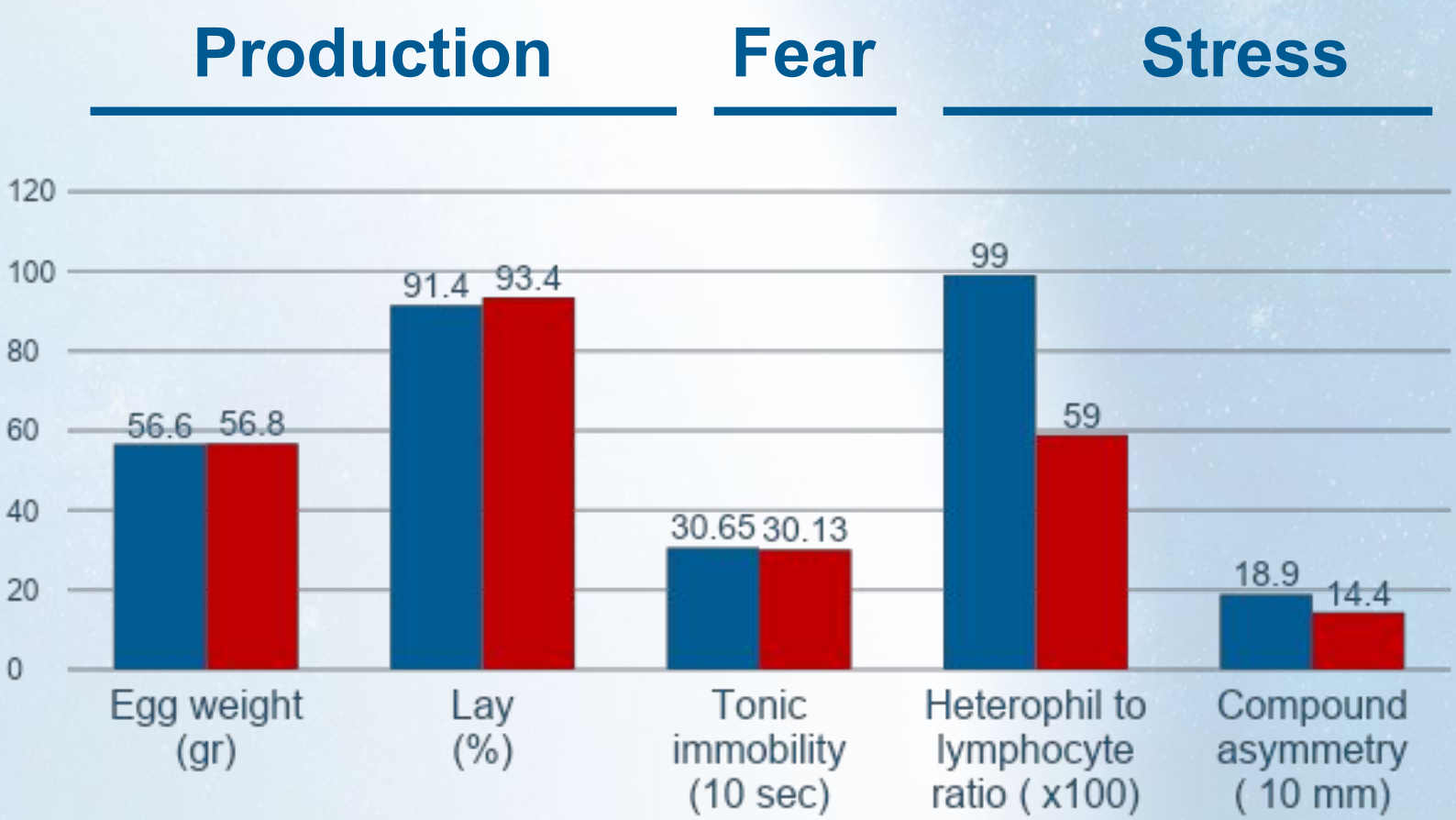
Warm

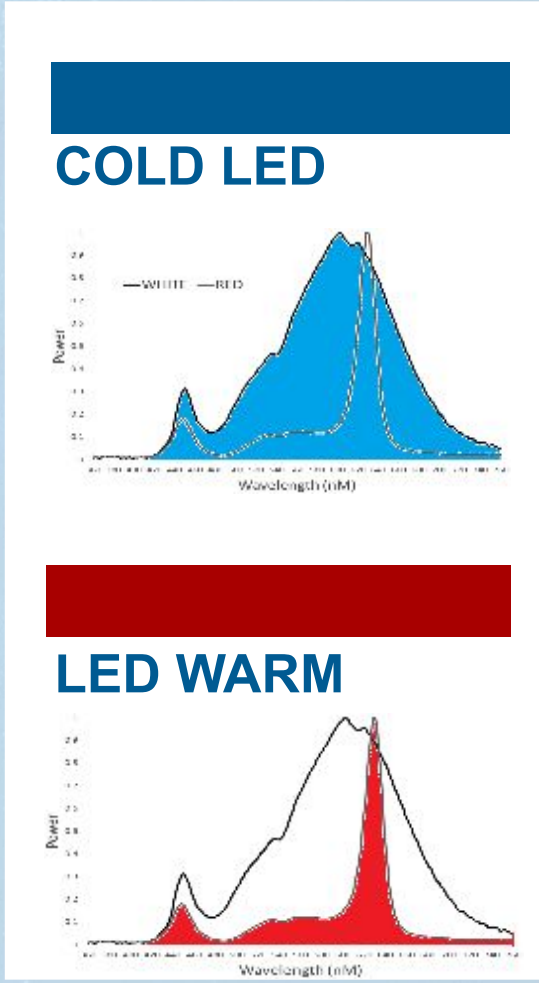


Cold



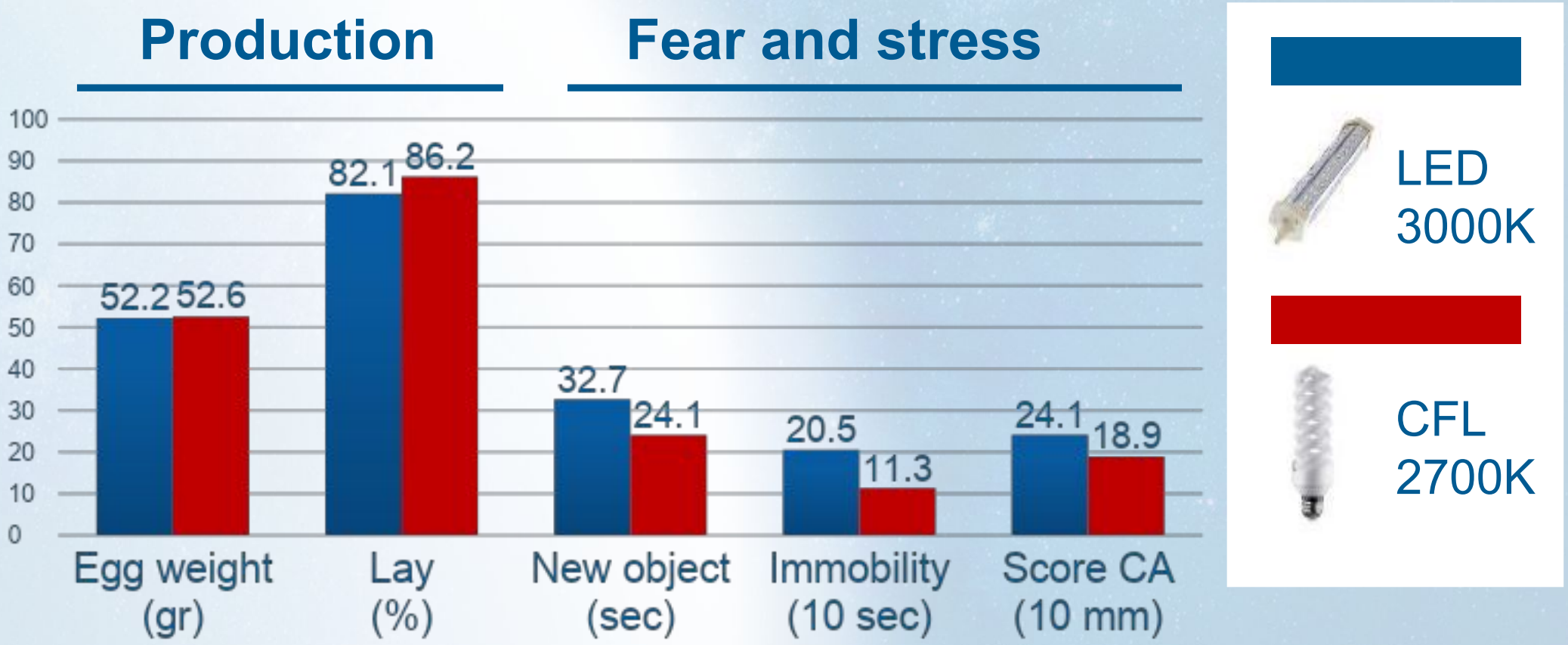
White hens exposed to different light colors between 17 and 72 weeks of age





Source:
Archer 2019

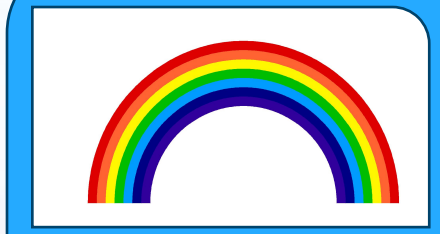
White hens exposed to different light sources between 21 and 31 weeks of age



Sourcer:
Archer 2017

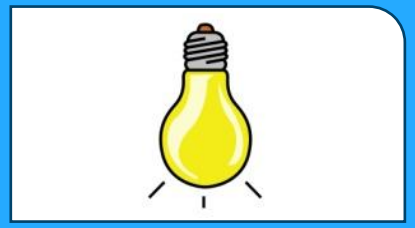
4 Features of Light

Photoperiod



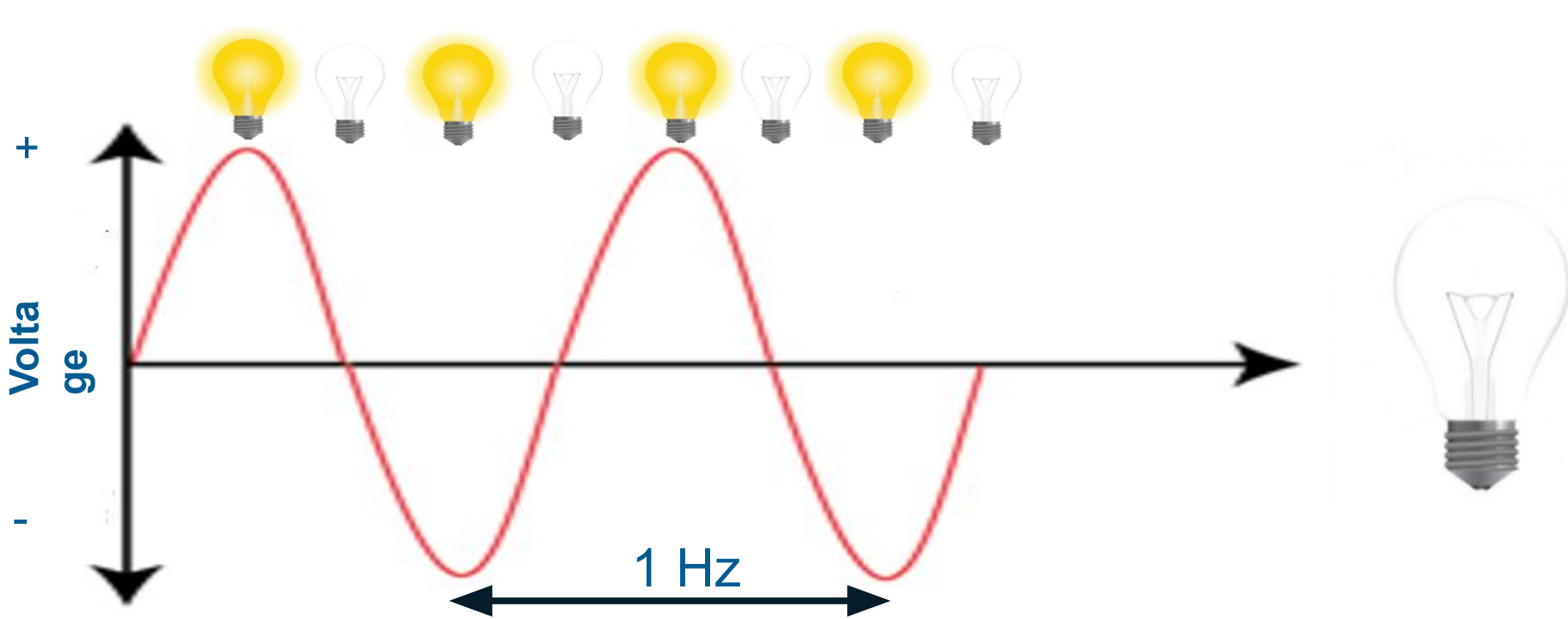
Color

Frequency



Intensity

Light frequency

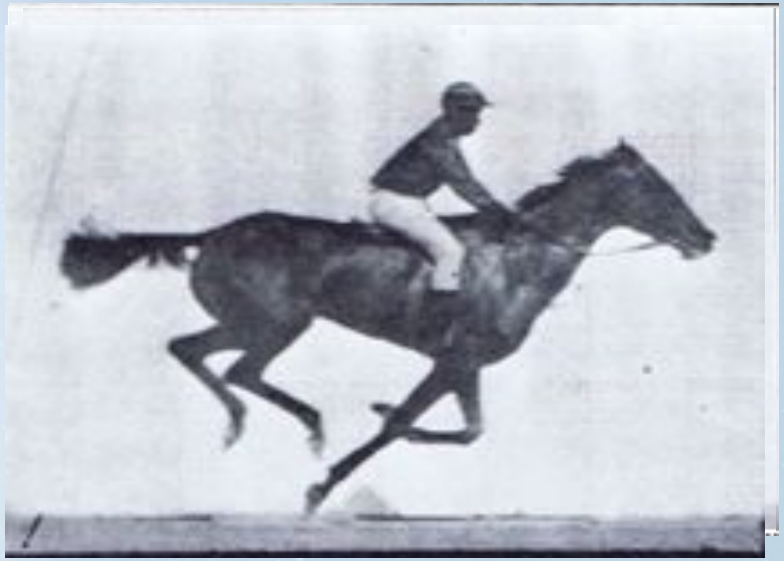


Due to alternating current, bulbs do not produce constant light but discontinuously.

Vision frequency and retinal uptake

24 -30 frames per second

150 -220 frames per second



Stress caused by the flickering effect

24 -30 images per second

150 -220 images per second

Light emitted from different sources

SUNLIGHT

Constant

INCANDESCENT

(60Hz) Constant

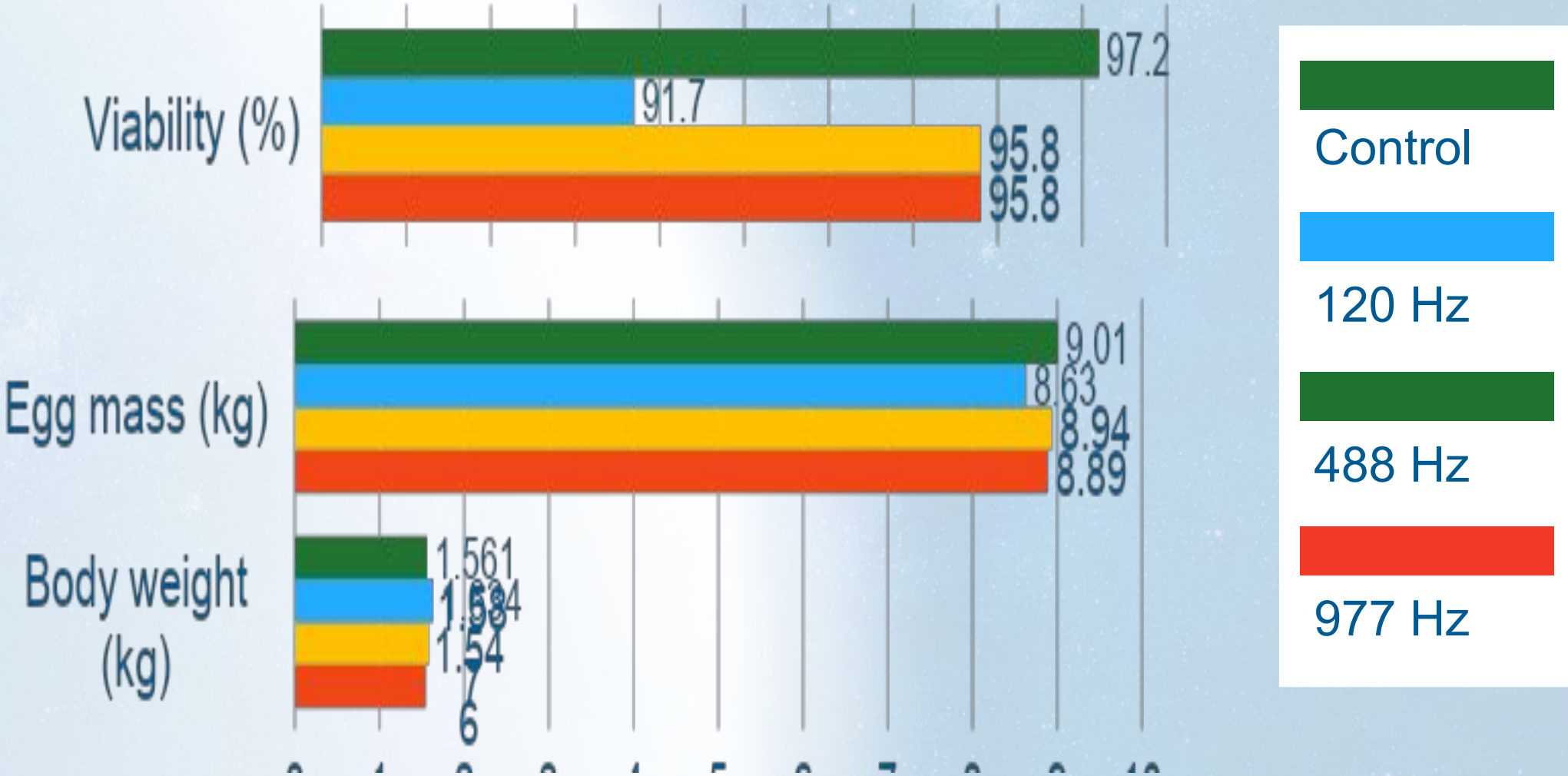
FLUORESCENT

60 Hz – 2000 Hz

LED

60Hz – Constant

White hens exposed to different light frequencies up to 46 weeks of age

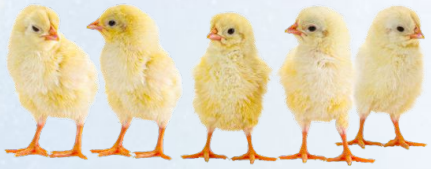


Source: Kavtarashvili2022

Types of Posture Bulbs

Color

Frecuencia



3500 K

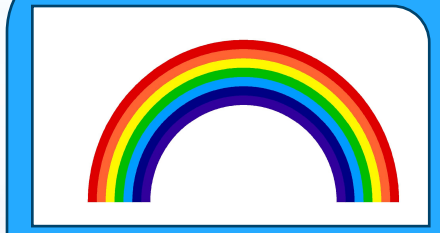
Flicker-free
(>200 Hz)

2800 K

Flicker-free
(>200 Hz)

4 Features of Light

Photoperiod



Color

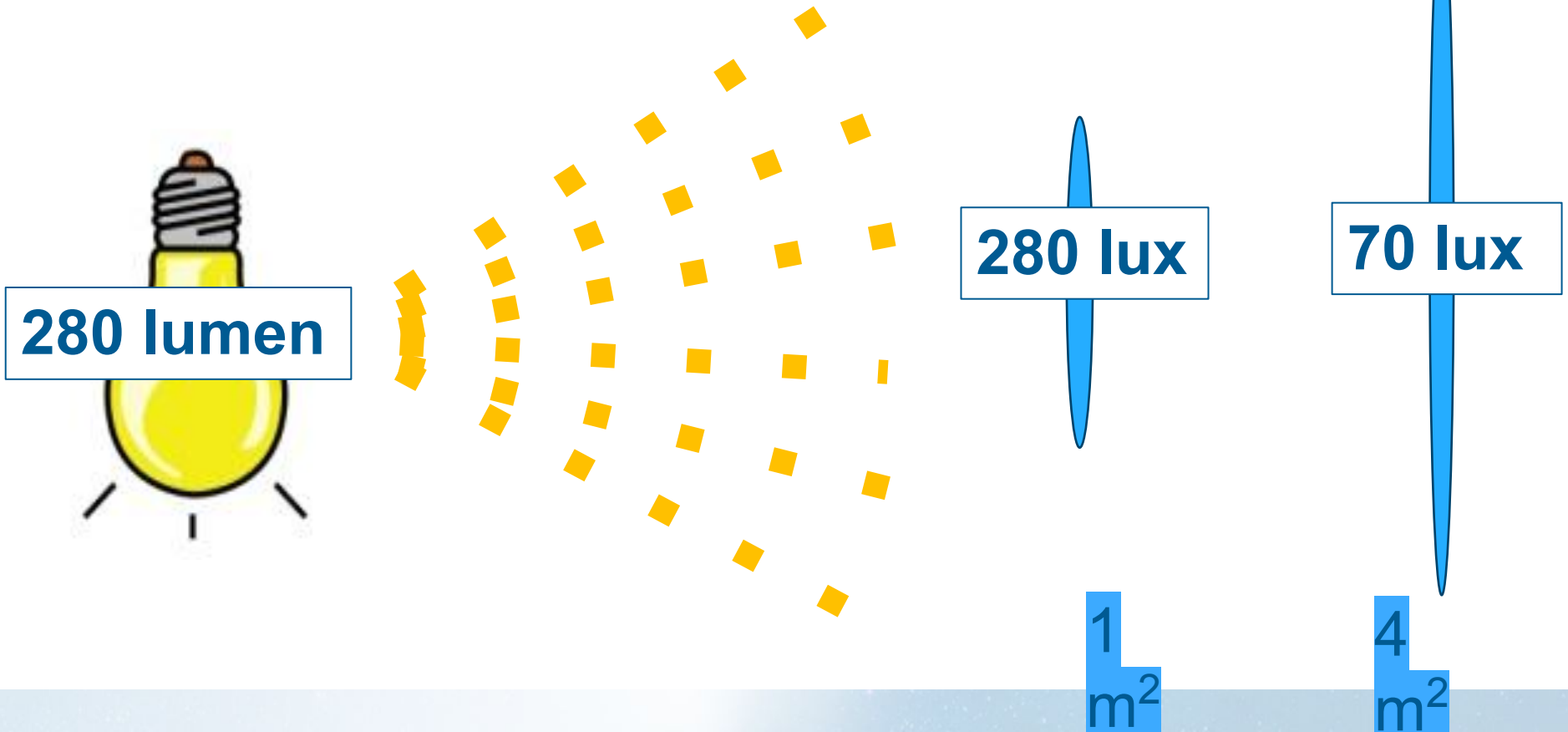
Frequency

Intensity

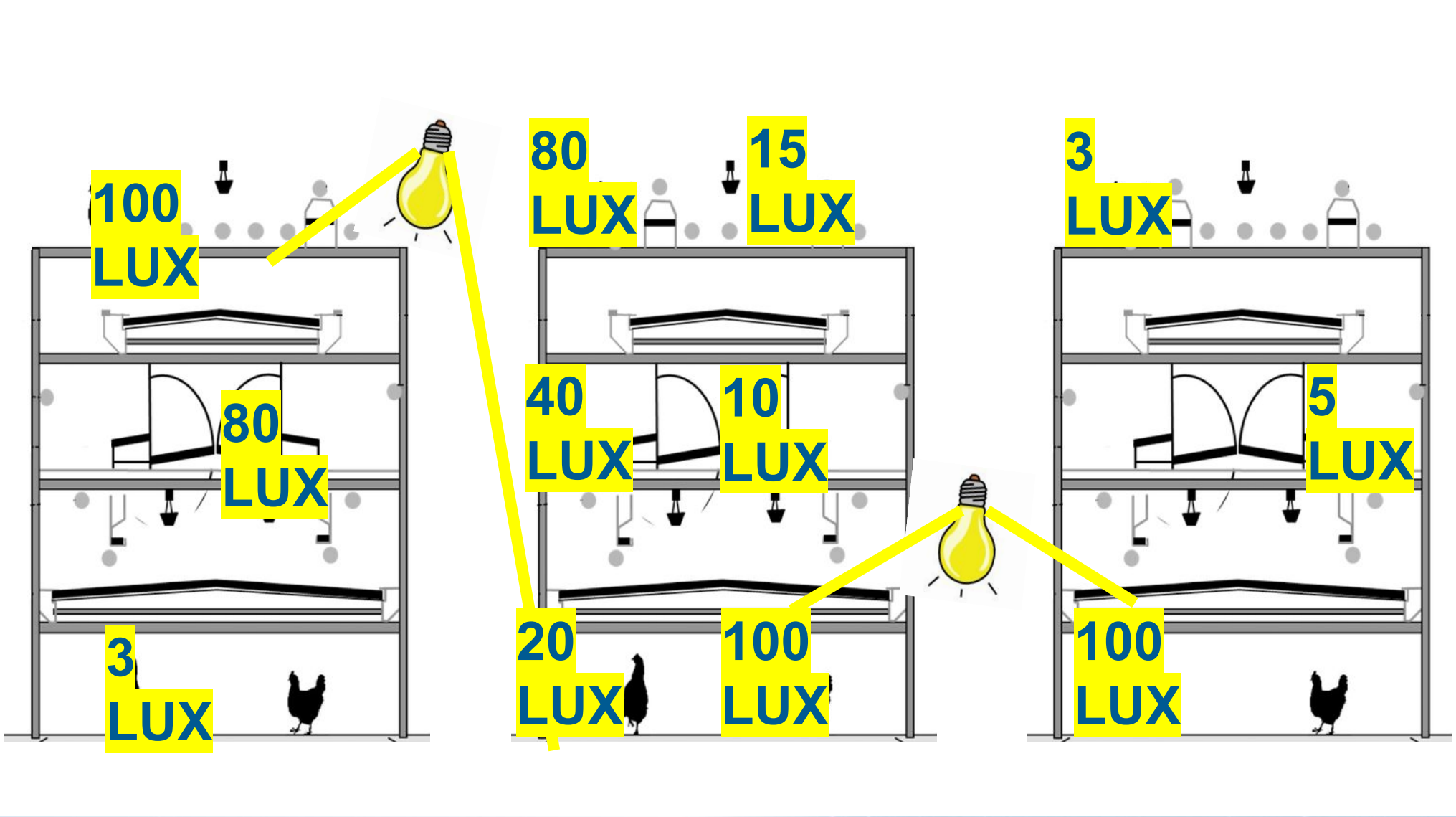
Definition of light intensity

LIGHT INTENSITY
Lumen

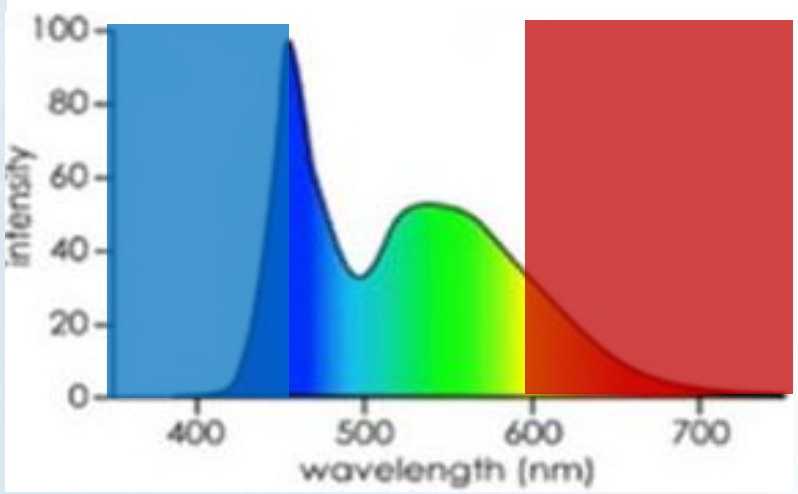
ILLUMINATION
Lux = Lumens/m^2



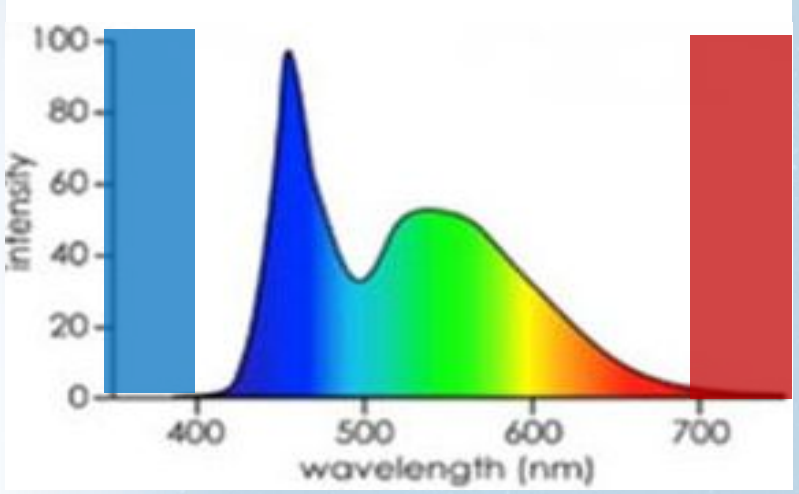
Ligth intensity is not homogeneous feature



The Photopic Vision Spectrum & intensity

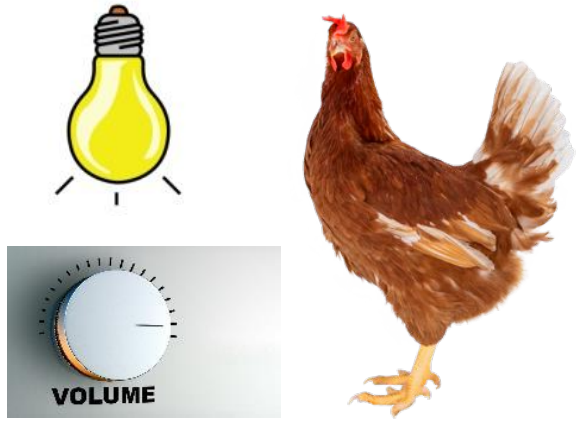


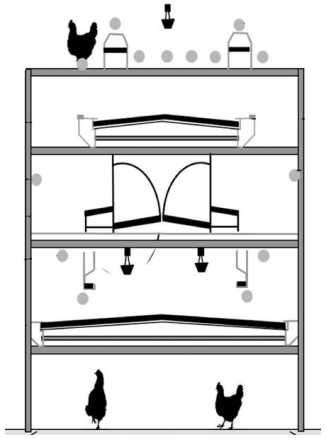
Lux

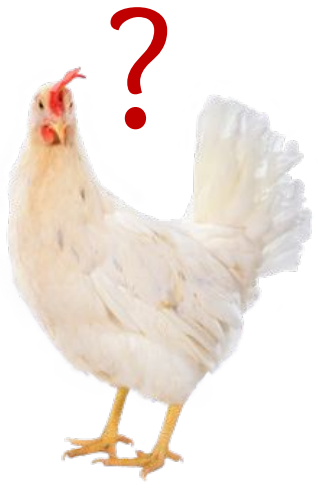


C-Lux

Effect of light intensity on hens



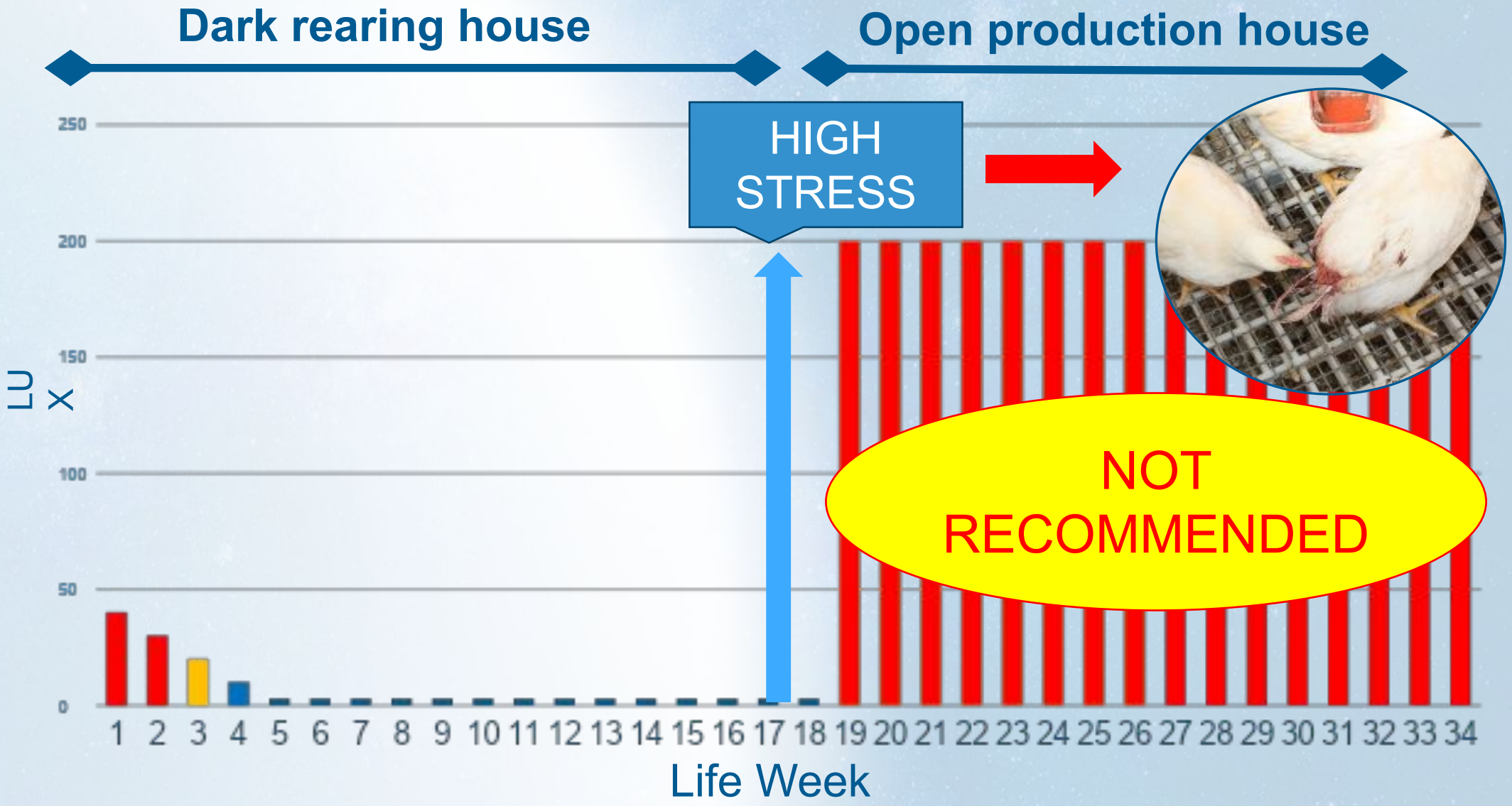




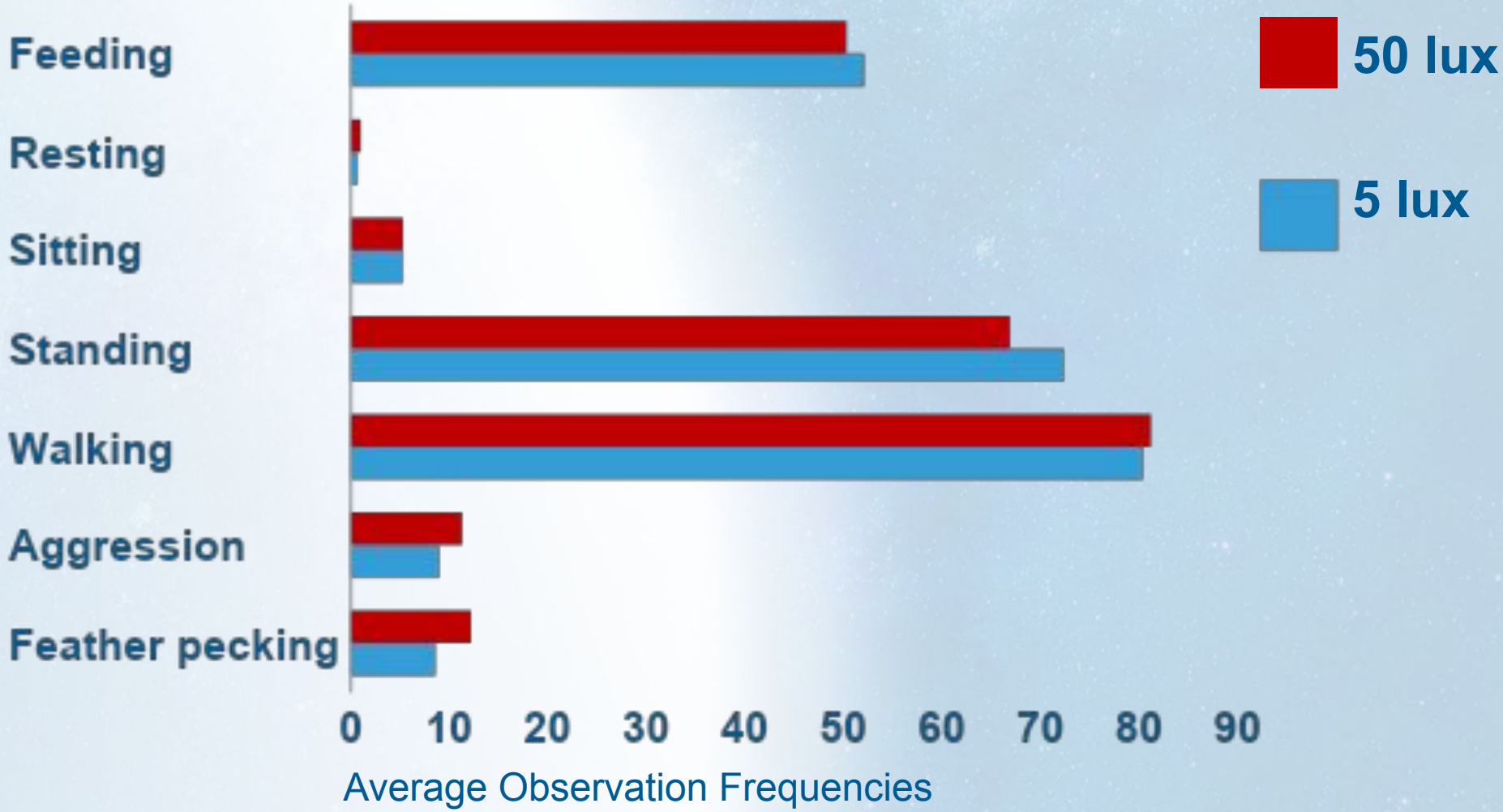
Light intensity acts as a volume control for bird activity

Light intensity can attract o repels birds from an area

Avoiding sharp increases in light intensity



Frequency of observation of behaviors in brown hens in cages



Source::
Mohammed 2009

Intensity of the different light sources

20000 -100000 lux

200 -10000 lux

? Lux

Source: distance and lumens

Dealing with the intensity of natural light

Source: H&N International

Sunlight rays entering directly into the house

Source: H&N International

Irregular sunlight distribution in the house

Controlling the intensity of light

STEP 1: Moving to work with semi-dark houses

Source: H&N International

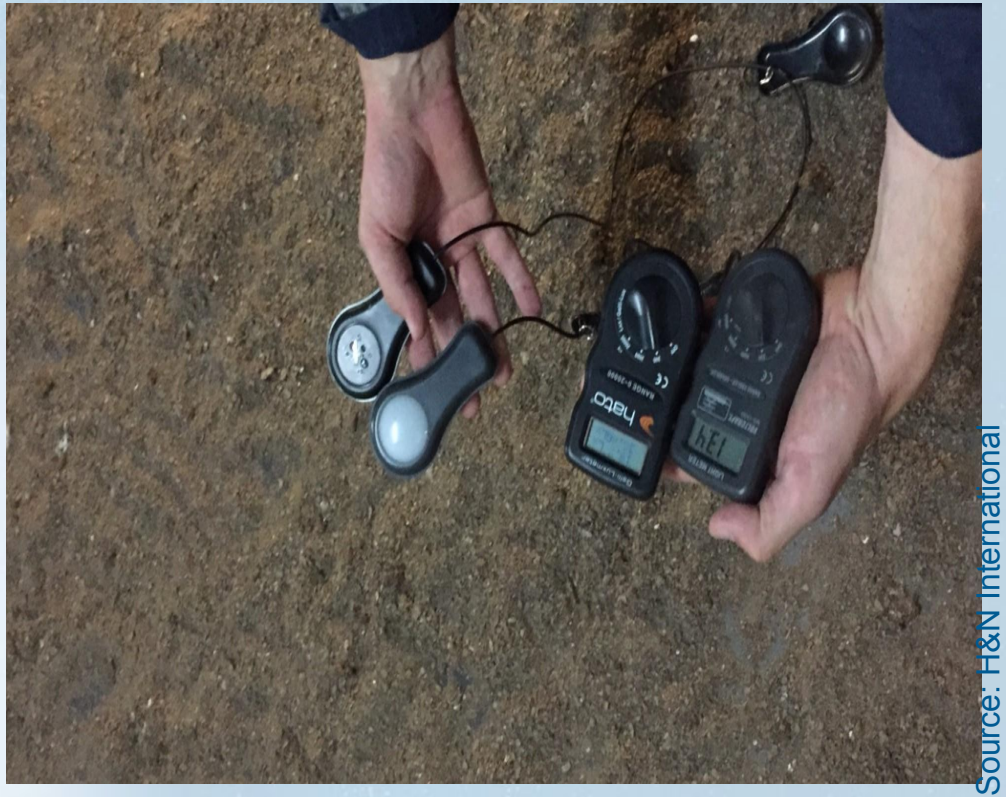
Source: H&N International

Being able to decide the intensity of the light indoors of the house

Controlling the intensity of light

STEP 2: Be able to measure light intensity

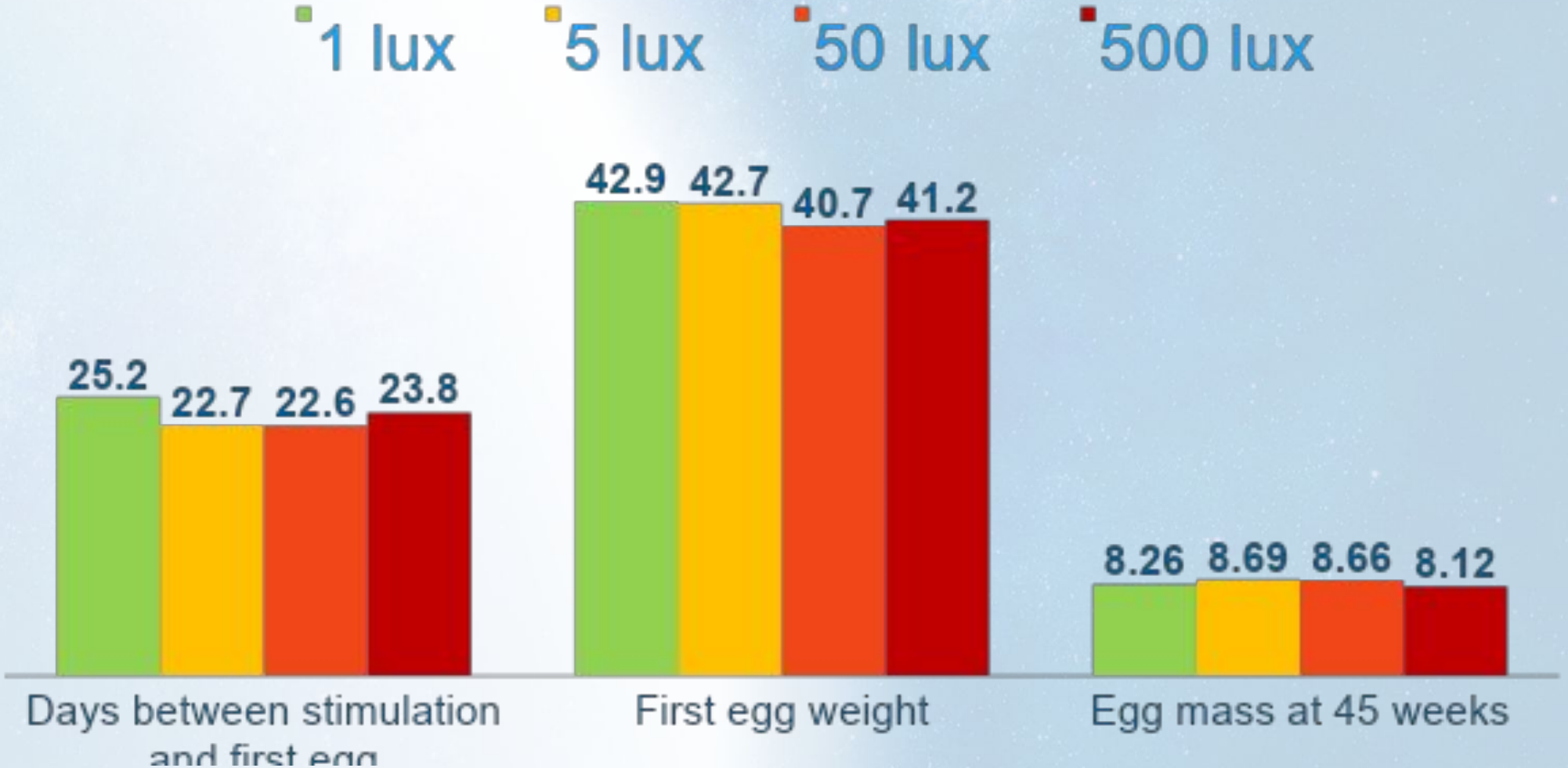
Source: H&N International



Source: H&N International

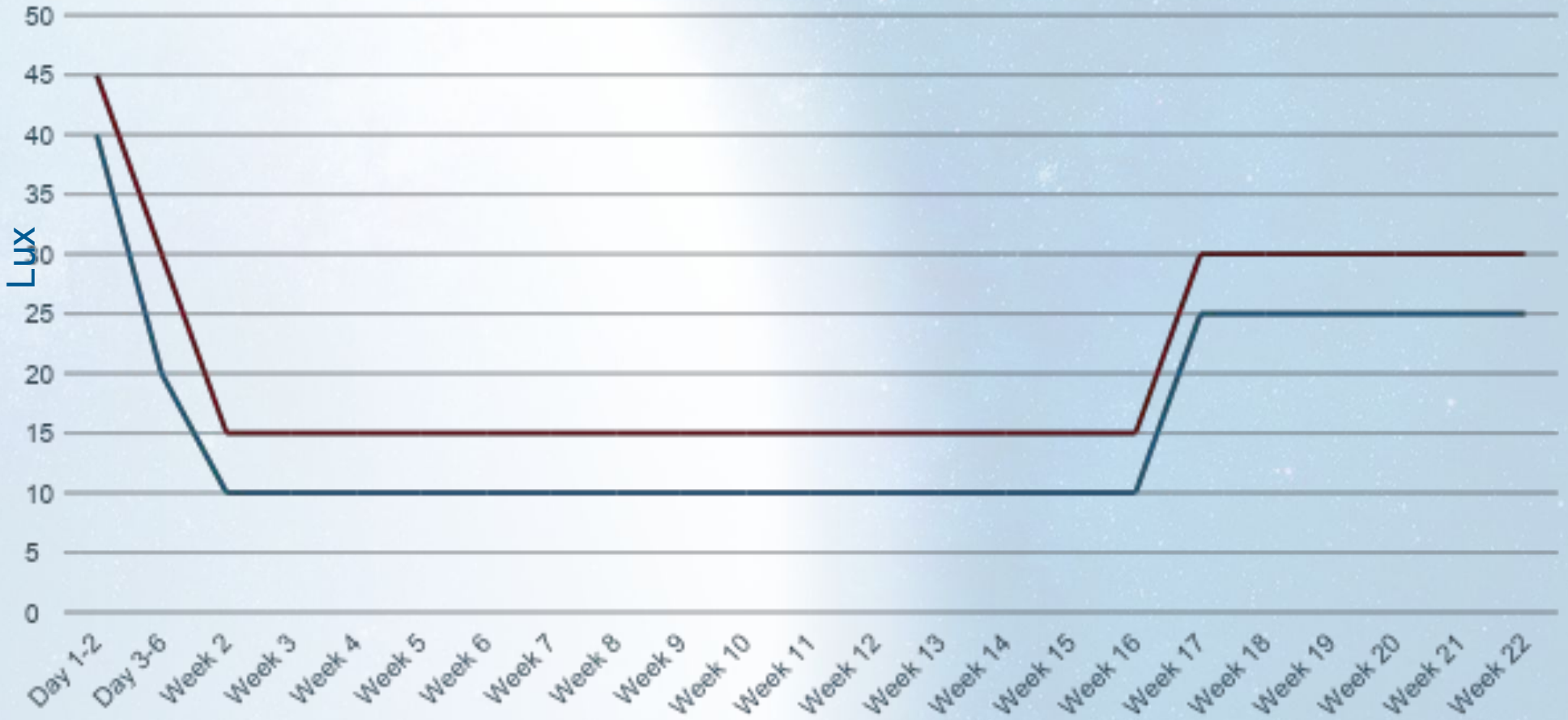
Measure intensity at slat levels or in the corridor without shadow interference

4 different layer breeds stimulated at different light intensity

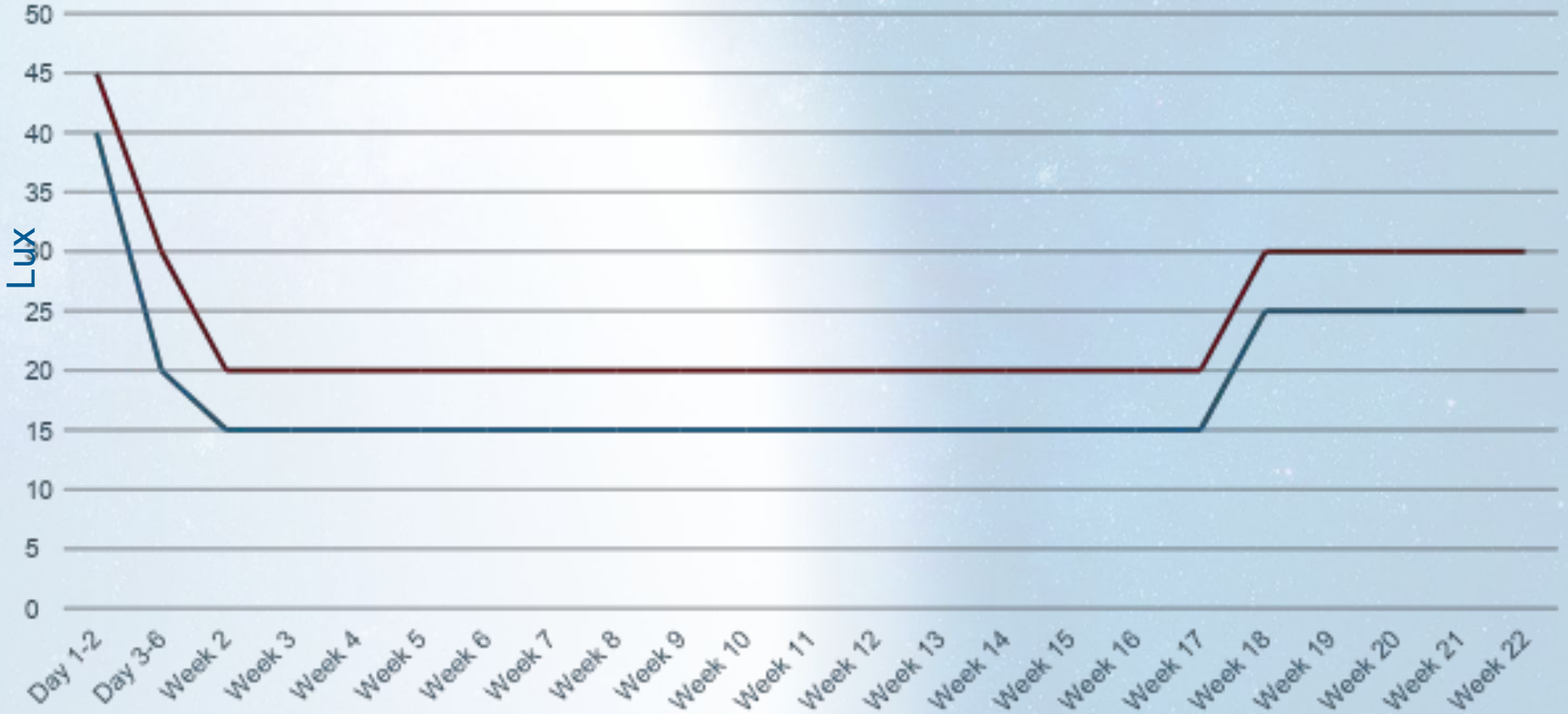


Source
Remena 2001

Minimum lighting intensity ideal for white layers

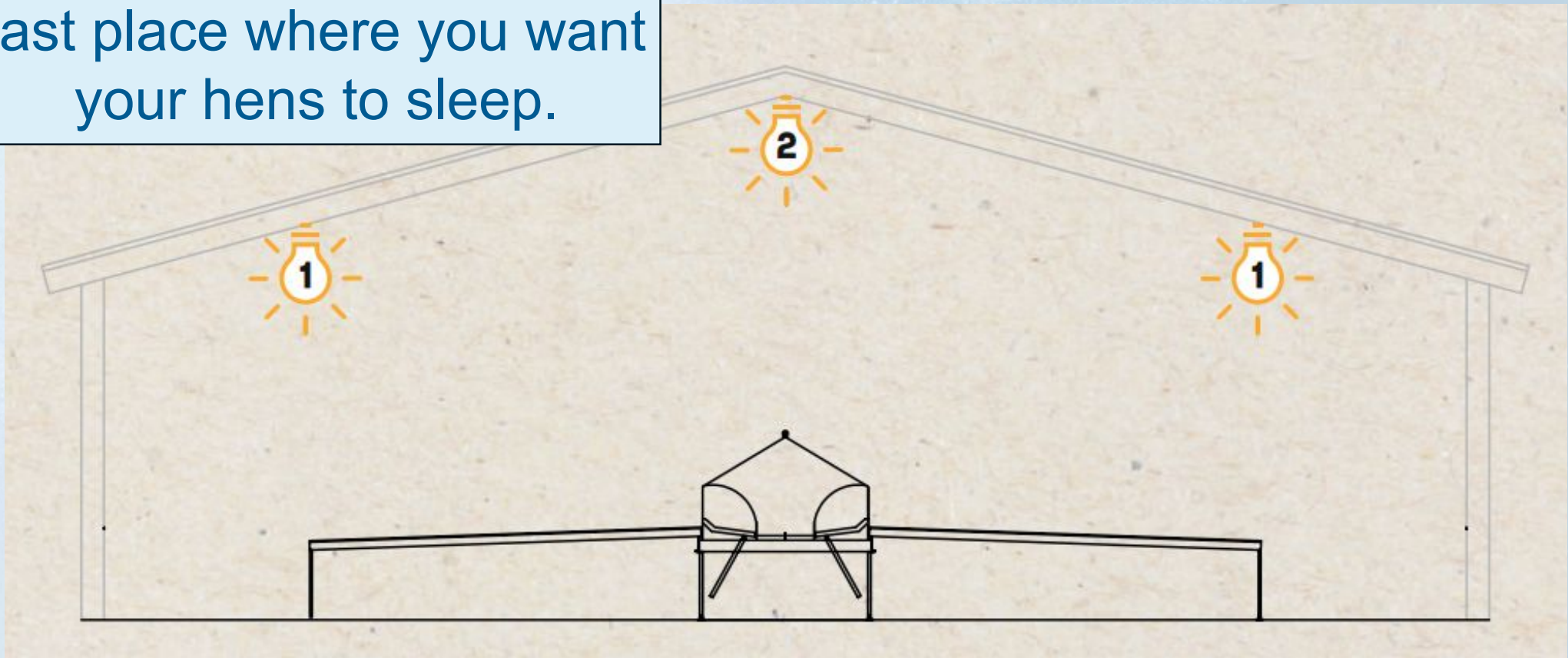


Minimum lighting intensity ideal for brown layers

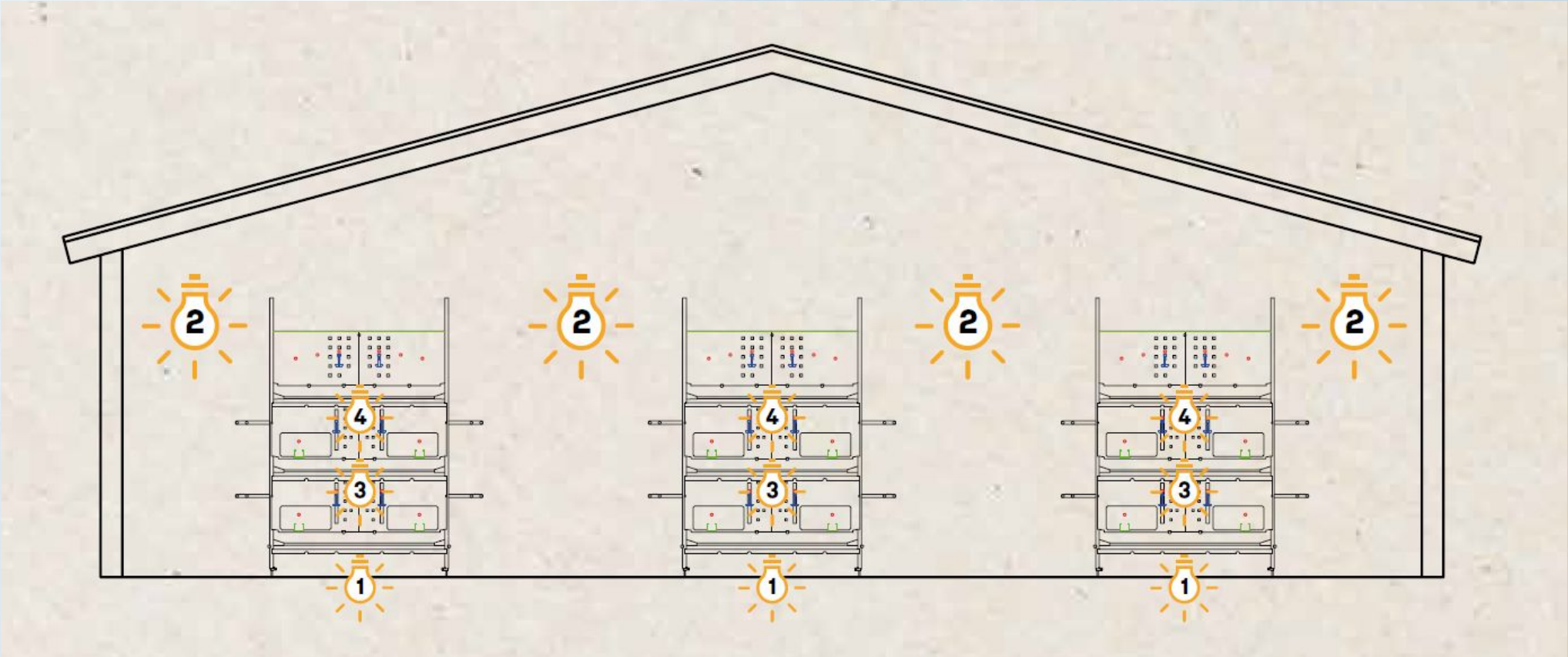


Progressive lighting off in floor systems

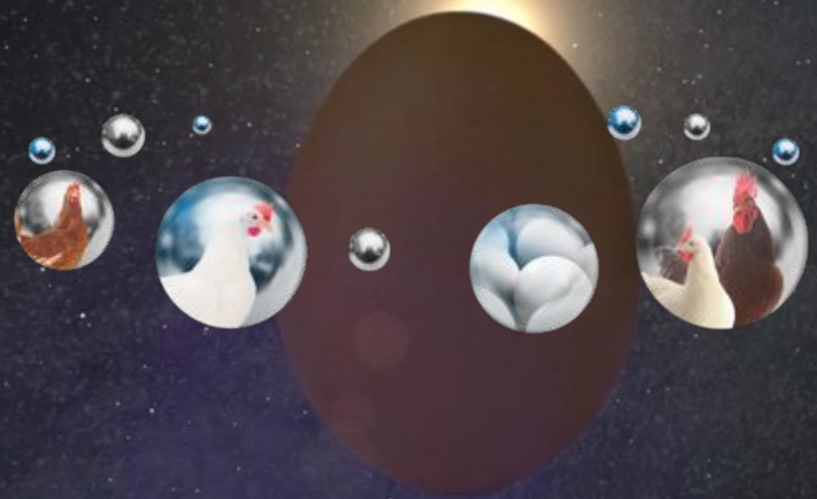
Lower the intensity in the last place where you want your hens to sleep.



Progressive lighting off in aviary systems



¡Gracias por su atención!



H&N International – Making your success the center of our universe

Follow us on LinkedIn
H&N International GmbH

KAI

Find out more about
KAI farming assistant