

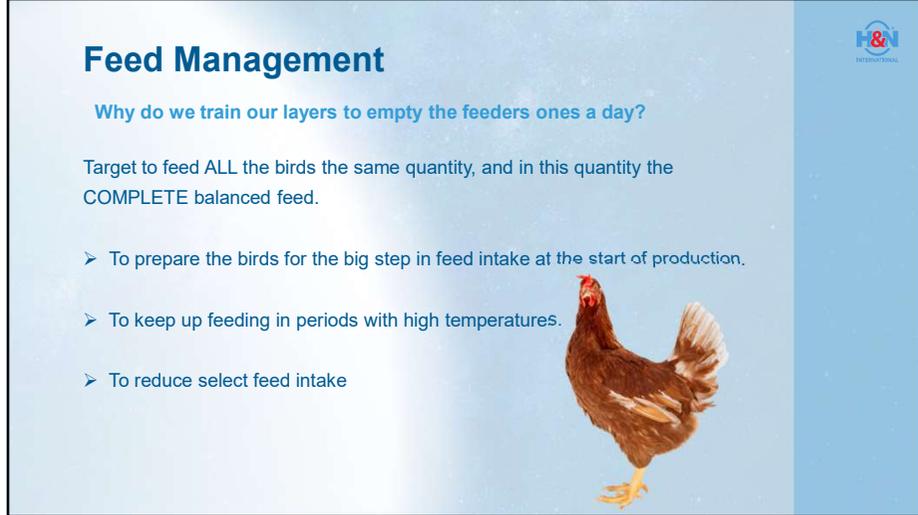


## Feed Management

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## Feed Management

### Why do we train our layers to empty the feeders ones a day?

Target to feed ALL the birds the same quantity, and in this quantity the COMPLETE balanced feed.

- To prepare the birds for the big step in feed intake at the start of production.
- To keep up feeding in periods with high temperatures.
- To reduce select feed intake

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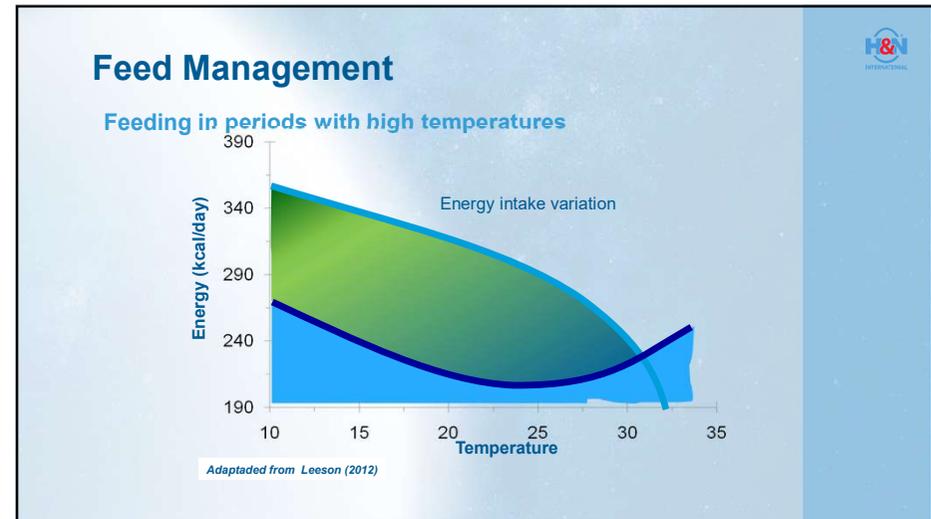


## Feed Management

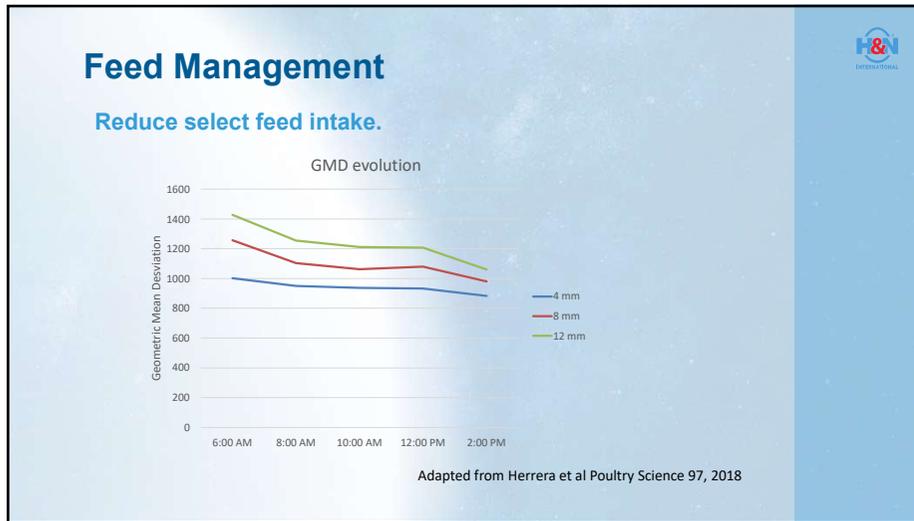
### Prepare the birds for higher feed intake

- We help our layers to increase their feed intake with a big step from the age of 16 weeks.
- That means from 60-70 grams at 16 weeks, to 115 grams in start of production.
- Change feed from rearing to production.  
(other feed, feed company, feed structure..)

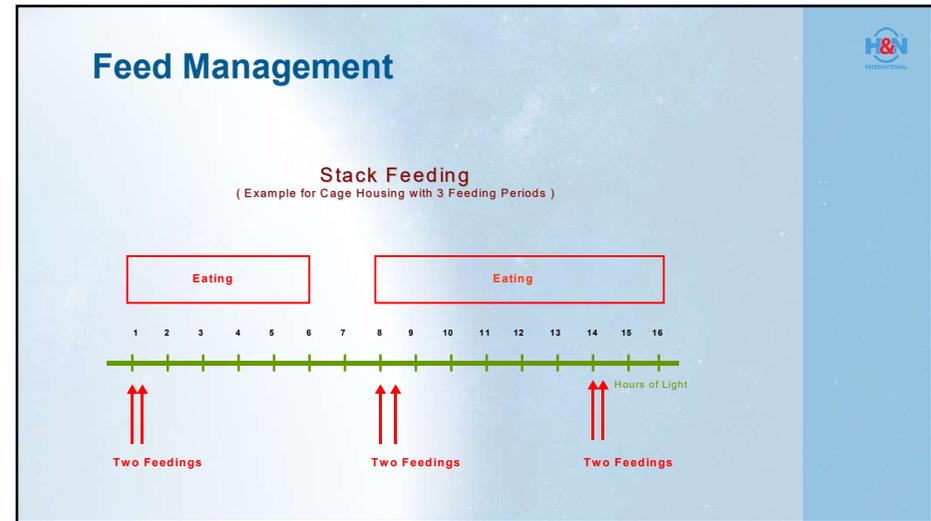
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### New challenges in cage-free

Does it work in commercial rearing & production farms

long feed chains

&

high numbers of free-housed pullets/layers

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**New challenges**

Ban on beaktreatments

IR-treatment      Untrimmed

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**New challenges**

Free-Range/Organic

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**New challenges**

Feather cover

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**Feed structure**

Judged by a hen

I do like  
courser  
homogeneous  
mashfeed

- ☹️ I don't like hard and scharp granulate
- ☹️ I don't like fine powder mashfeed
- ☹️ I don't like hard pallets ...

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### Feed Structure

Good



**Homogenous mash feed structure the basis for good & even feed and nutrient intake**



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### Feed structure

What are they going to eat?



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### Feed selection on farm level!

Easy testing on farm level



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### Feed selection on farm level!

Easy testing on farm level



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## Invest into the right feeding system

And take the profit!

- feed chain/bridomat (enough feeder space!!!)
- Fast running feed chain (>18 M/Min)
- Enough capacity for transport augers or feed hoppers

- ✓ Profit from less to no waste
- ✓ Better feeding behaviour



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## Feed Management

When feeders are FULL all day!



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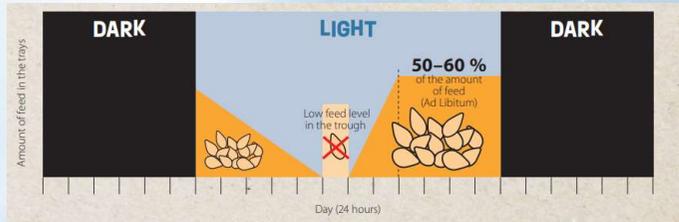
## Feed Management

### When to start feed management?

- From 4-5 weeks of age, we like them to empty the feeders **ones a day**.
- **Continue this during whole rearing period, and also after transfer to production!**

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## FEED MANAGEMENT



Amount of feed in the trays

Day (24 hours)

**DARK**      **LIGHT**      **DARK**

50-60% of the amount of feed (Ad Libitum)

Low feed level in the trough

**Rearing**

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## FEED MANAGEMENT

Amount of feed in the trays

DARK LIGHT DARK

Low feed level in the trough

50-60 % of the amount of feed (Ad Libitum)

Day (24 hours)

**Production**

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## Feed management

### Empty feeder?

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## Feed management

### Empty feeder?

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## How to check correct feed management?

### 5 step check

- Litter
- Plumage
- Section
- Behaviour
- Body weight

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### How to check Feed Management?

Litter

On the litter

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### How to check Feed Management?

Plumage

On the Bird

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### How to check Feed Management?

Section

Inside the Bird

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### How to check Feed Management?

Behaviour

Behavior

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## How to check Feed Management?

Body weight



Source: Big-Dutchman

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## Alfalfa (Luzerne)

Use the see if everything running smoothly!



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## Alfalfa (Luzerne)

Use to see if everything running smoothly!



- **Do we need** to use Alfalfa?
- **For what purpose** do we need to use Alfalfa?
- **When** do we need to use Alfalfa?

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## Alfalfa (Luzerne)

Use the see if everything running smoothly!

- We don't use alfalfa to feed our birds!
- We use alfalfa only to give some extra information to see if flock is in good balance!
- **When birds don't take alfalfa, they are in good balance.**
- Advisable to use it during most stressfull periods:
  - In rearing 3-10 weeks
  - In production 17-25 weeks

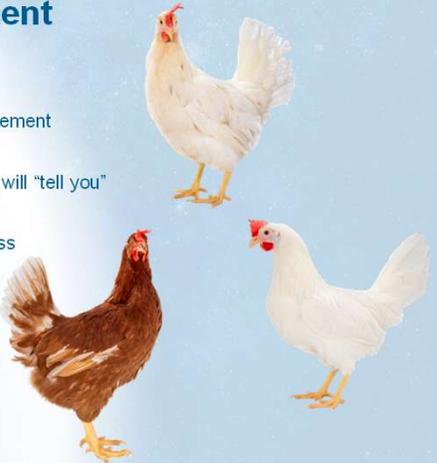


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## Feed Management

**Summarized**

- Good feed and feed management
- Observe the birds and they will "tell you"
- Rearing is the key to success




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## Please be excellent because ...

*... an excellent manager will still be able to perform with acceptable results even when circumstances are not perfect*

**But ...**

*A manager with poor skills will spoil the birds and the production results even in the best circumstances!*



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