



AB Vista

AgroLogic

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Coventry Chemicals

DACS

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Introduction

The diet of poultry needs to provide over 40 nutrients at the right concentration and in the correct balance. Diets are typical grain-soy based and supplemented with concentrated sources of amino acids, minerals and vitamins. Errors in diet formulation or manufacture can result in deficiencies or toxicities. When these deficiencies and toxicities are severe, one often sees characteristic, clinical signs accompanied by pathological and/or histopathological changes.

Marginal deficiencies or toxicities can result in depressed growth, immunosuppression, decreased egg production, depressed hatchability. However, clear deficiency signs are rarely encountered.

Impact of growth rate

Some metabolic diseases are made worse by high growth rates and can be reduced by limiting feed intake. This is the case with ascites, sudden death syndrome and skeletal disorders.

Water

Water is essential for life – in fact, birds live a lot longer without food than they do without water.

A shortage of water leads to depressed growth, egg production and resistance to heat stress. Specific signs include haemoconcentration, increased erythrocyte (red blood cell) fragility, visceral urates and renal disease.

Water intake in chicks is related to the amount of dietary salt and/or protein. Excess water excretion is often associated with wet litter problems.

Water deficiency

Water deficiency arises when birds can not imbibe enough water, which can be the consequence of certain diseases. A good example is staphylococcal arthritis which, because of the associated pain, greatly hinders access to drinkers.

Alternatively, not enough water may be getting to the birds to be drunk. In this context, issues such as blocked pipes, not enough drinkers, or drinkers set too high need to be considered.

Invesa

LUBING

Olmix