

Gender-specific broiler breeder watering system promotes healthier birds

Broiler breeders are large birds that strike the drinkers with much more force when compared to other types of poultry. This can lead to water spillage and drinkers that wear out too quickly.

Ziggity Systems has developed the only watering system designed to address this challenge that is presented by the difference in height of male and female broiler breeders.

by The Poultry Watering Team, Ziggity.
www.ziggity.com

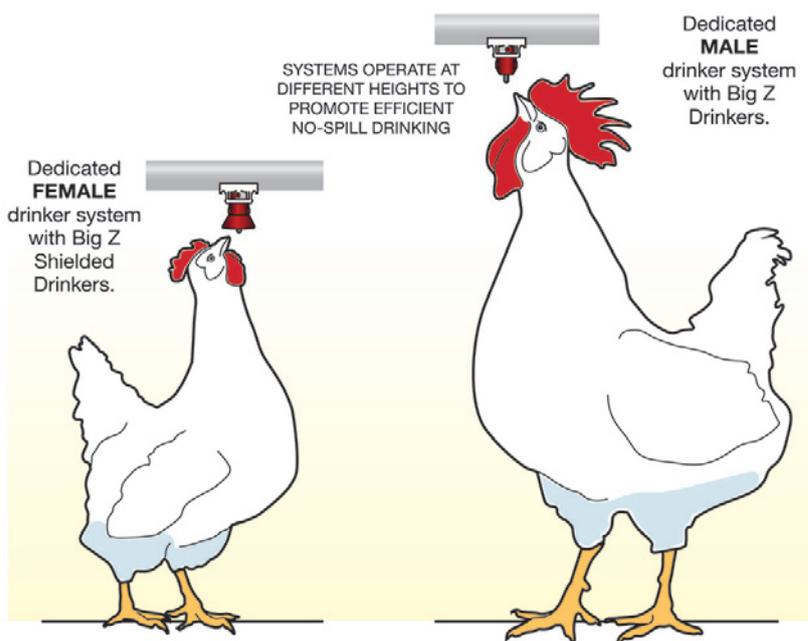
Efficient, spill-free water consumption only happens when birds drink with their heads up.

But female breeders are significantly shorter than male breeders, making it impossible for one drinker line to be at the correct height for both males and females to drink heads up.

Traditionally, drinker line height is set to a comfortable height for females, which forces taller males to peck downward to activate the drinkers.

This results in water spillage, wet litter and poor environmental conditions. Also, when males peck downwards they do not receive enough water, which leads to a lack of male uniformity.

To do well, producers must promote maximum male uniformity, along with a healthy, ammonia-free environment. Ziggity's Big Z is the only watering system designed to address both of these issues that arise from watering male and female breeder birds.



Ziggity's Big Z watering system is gender-specific with drinkers at the correct height for both the males and females, so every bird can employ Heads-Up Drinking, where they peck upward to activate the drinker and access the water.

Gravity pulls water from the bird's beak into its crop, minimising spillage.

The most important metrics regarding broiler breeders is the number of hatching eggs and hatchability of those eggs. So employing heads up drinking for all birds improves these metrics and helps to maximise hatchery yield.

How it works

Female lines are at the ideal height for females and feature a shielded drinker, preventing male birds from accessing the drinker and spilling water. The male line is positioned much higher where female birds cannot reach it. At this height, male birds drink with heads up, without spillage.

So male and female birds have ample access to water, in a way that avoids the spillage that is detrimental to breeder performance. By using dedicated male and female drinker lines and gender specific drinkers birds receive hygienic water without bacteria-laden catch cups.

Using this system, production benefits in real operations show dramatically improved male uniformity, better livability, reduced male spiking, plus dry slats/litter and virtually no ammonia release, resulting in improved bird welfare. ■

Standard drinker



Big-Z Drinker for males



Big-Z Shielded Drinker for females

