

Re: incubator hatched chickens

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.agriculture.poultry/2005-09/msg00213.html>

- *From:* OmManiPadmeOmelet <Omelet@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 22 Sep 2005 21:29:58 -0500
-

In article <Xns96D9A2EDAD68Edanny@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, diddy <diddy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

> in thread <news:Omelet-FC208F.15010522092005@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>:
> OmManiPadmeOmelet <Omelet@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> whittled the following words:
>
>> In article <Xns96D99F5881BEFdanny@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>,
>> diddy <diddy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:
>>
>>> in thread <news:Omelet-5B1F8F.14275422092005@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>:
>>> OmManiPadmeOmelet <Omelet@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> whittled the following
>>> words:
>>>
>>>> In article <Xns96D988A12B11Fdanny@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>,
>>>> diddy <diddy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:
>>>>
>>>>> in thread <news:Omelet-0EE7BF.12192922092005@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>:
>>>>> OmManiPadmeOmelet <Omelet@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> whittled the following
>>>>> words:
>>>>>
>>>>>> In article <Xns96D95F45BFD57danny@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>,
>>>>>> diddy <diddy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Ok I have 4 eggs peeping and wobbling. One hatched this
>>>>>>> morning. It's been hatched for about an hour and a half, and
>>>>>>> it's not holding it's head up yet. It's motoring and flopping
>>>>>>> around the hatcher, peeing like mad, but not able to get
>>>>>>> it'self upright. Is this normal? The other eggs are wobbling
>>>>>>> and peeping, but no sign of the shell breaking yet. They were
>>>>>>> due to hatch yesterday. Is this a bad sign?
>>>>>>
>>>>>>> Patience... You can do more harm than good sometimes trying to
>>>>>>> "help" too much.
>>>>>>>
>>>>>>> The chick that is flopping around is normal.
>>>>>>> I leave them in the incubator for up to 24 hours, but I have a
>>>>>>> cabinet type and put a small cardboard box in there with paper
>>>>>>> toweling.
>>>>>>>

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> > > > Is yours the one with the screen bottom so the chick will have
> > > > good footing? If so, just leave it be. :-) It takes them a day
> > > > or two to recover their strength.
> > > >
> > > > Hatching is hard work!
> > > >
> > > > Cheers!
> > > >
> > > > How about feed and water in the incubator? (yes, it has wire
> > > > footing) It's now standing up peeping all over the place)
> > > >
> > > > A baby chick can live off of it's yolk sac for up to 3 days.
> > > > That is why they can be live shipped as newborns. ;-)
> > > >
> > > > If it seems to be up and moving about and not falling over anymore,
> > > > it's safe to move it to a brooder. You are using a shallow chick
> > > > waterer right? Baby chicks are OH so susceptible to drowning!
> > > >
> > > > It seems really strong and stout now, and hopping all over the place,
> > > > but mostly cheeping. My husband says to take it out and show it REAL
> > > > chickens. I said they'd KILL it, and besides, its not warm enough out
> > > > there for it. He says, think a minute. Birds have been hatching for
> > > > millions of years prior to our intervention.
> >
> > Yeah.
> >
> > And humans had a high infant mortality rate prior to medical
> > intervention. ;-) Unless they are hatched/protected by a mommy bird,
> > YOU are mommy bird and they need help and protection...
> >
> > >
> > > He thinks he knows everything about everything. I know I know nothing
> > > about anything. But my gut reaction is that he's wrong on this one.
> > > Chick is still in the hatcher for now. Another just hatched and is
> > > laying quietly on the mesh floor.
> >
> > Do you have a brooder ready?
> > I have the same brooder the parents were raised in. It's a horse feed tub
> > under a brooder light in the basement. When they outgrow that, they move to
> > a childs swimming pool in the basement. Then when they outgrow that, they
> > move to a horse stall (with brooder light) in the barn until they are big
> > enough to integrate with the other chickens. The dogs won't bother them, so
> > I didn't think I needed a dog crate (But i have them)

Sounds like you are good to go. :-)

With that setup, you won't need a crate.

I just use a crate intially as the chicks can get thru the wire
of the rabbit cage I use for further brooding on suspended wire.

Bedding gets messy, I prefer drop thru wire but it's not 100% necessary
if you are willing to clean water containers frequently.

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>
>> Chicks need a seriously protected environment for maximal
>> survivability. Did you see the picture I posted?
> yup, and enjoyed it.

:~)

>
>>
>> Please, do go to Barry's site and peruse his section on chick rearing.
>> It's the best site on the entire web:
>>
>> <http://www.feathersite.com/Poultry/BRKPoultryPage.html>
> will do
>>
>>>>
>>>> If it still seems a bit unstable or the least bit wet, leave it for
>>>> a few more hours. It won't hurt the other eggs.
>>> It's all dry!
>>>>
>>>> The thing is, this is a critical time. You really don't want to be
>>>> opening the incubator a lot and causing fluctuations in
>>>> temperature. If you've ever watched a hen hatch, as soon as eggs
>>>> start pipping, she sits TIGHT to the nest and won't even move off
>>>> for food or water for a couple of days.
>>>>
>>> I cleaned the egg and mess out of the incubator. There is no yolk sac
>>> left.
>>
>> Good. But, you do want stability.
>> Glad you have a second chick so far!
>> Chickens are social creatures so babies are generally happier in
>> groups.
>>
>> Cheers!
>
--
Om.

"My mother never saw the irony in calling me a son-of-a-bitch." --Jack Nicholson

• **References:**

- ◆ **Re: incubator hatched chickens**
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◇ *From:* OmManiPadmeOmelet

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