

Re: Lame chicken – advice please ?

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- *From:* fowls@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (nuele mersch)
 - *Date:* Sun, 22 Jan 2006 14:09:25 +0100
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Shiver <shiver@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

- > > oiling their legs.
- >
- > You know folks over the years that I have been following this group
- > I have noticed that this topic of leg mites is one that keeps coming
- > up on a regular basis.
- >
- > Considering that all of my chicken comes conveniently frozen and
- > wrapped in a freezer pac you might find it a little strange that
- > I would offer advice or a helpful hint on a subject that
- > I know nothing about.....
- >
- > But here goes anyways.
- >
- > I seems that you regulars keep taking about rubbing in, or covering the
- > legs, with oils or substances that are dissolved in a liquid.
- >
- > So do any of you use sprayers. Particularly those pressurized sprayers
- > you can buy for a few buckies at a garden centre.
- >
- > Put in the solution, pump the sprayer up, maybe shake it to make sure
- > everything is mixed, grab the chicken and give their legs a spray.
- >
- > I've never heard anyone in the group talk about using one, and I'm
- > under the impression that most of you are kinda rubbing the
- > medication into the legs by hand one way or another.
- >
- > I appreciate that vaseline wouldn't work in one of these sprayers, but
- > anything else that is in a liquid form would.
- >
- > Think of it as your helpful tidbit for the day.
- >
- > It would be very fast, and within a few seconds the chicken would be
- > back on the ground and on it's merry way.

Hi Shiver,

Re: Lame chicken – advice please ?

I don't think a sprayer would work so well, because a hen's legs are rather thin, and half of the liquid would be sprayed on my legs or whatever is underneath the chicken at that moment. Plus handling the chicken *and* the sprayer when no hand keeps the hen's legs from kicking might prove more difficult than you imagine ;-). BTW I use a glove if I apply vaseline, such a medical / disposable one, as I don't like to have greasy hands for hours afterwards.

If I had a really great number of birds, I would fill a small bowl with sunflower oil, hold the hen with both hands so as to fix her wings, and just dip her feet in quickly. That would be the fastest way IMO. No fiddling around with a sprayer while trying to hold the bird at the same time, just the cost of a little more oil than is actually needed.

But as I've only got between thirty and forty (well, a few more during summer...;-), I've used vaseline with good results, not only as a treatment for scaly leg mite, but also before taking them to shows (it makes the shanks shine beautifully).

Another good use of vaseline is to treat the combs and wattles when it's as cold as it is here now – gives a little protection against frostbites. So it's stuff that always comes in handy at a chicken place.

cheers

Nuele (D)

• **References:**

- ◆ **[Lame chicken – advice please ?](#)**
◇ From: Adrian Brentnall
- ◆ **[Re: Lame chicken – advice please ?](#)**
◇ From: OmManiPadmeOmelet
- ◆ **[Re: Lame chicken – advice please ?](#)**
◇ From: Adrian Brentnall
- ◆ **[Re: Lame chicken – advice please ?](#)**
◇ From: Shiver

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