

Re: ammonia smell

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.agriculture.poultry/2008-12/msg00083.html>

- *From:* A_L_P <hey_hell_pee@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 15 Dec 2008 09:56:01 +1300
-

Christina Websell wrote:

"Jill" <news@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:6qd21dFbh9bhU1@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

dghealy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

There is a strong ammonia smell in my barn in the morning.
I have 3
bales of shavings on the ground. I have about 60 birds in a
12x 13
area with a high ceiling and staircases and ceiling roosts. I
notice
the bottom layer of shavings was damp. but I am still
surprised at
the smell. this cant be good!

It means that tomorrow you have a busy day cleaning the WHOLE lot out.
It will keep you warm ;)
Once you have an ammonia smell you have conditions that require a
complete clean.

Agreed. 60 birds in a 12x13 area seems a lot despite the ceiling height.
Imagine this. At this time of the year your birds will go to bed around 4 pm and get up around
8 am. They will poop all night, unlike humans.
No wonder there is an ammonia smell. Clean the huts out at least every week at this time of
the year.

My parents had a deep litter combined house-run, the "house" part being at the back and fully enclosed, the
front with a large netting window with a perch in front of it so the chooks could see what was going on, with
particular emphasis on greens and buckets of weeds arriving. At the back the perch was fairly high – the
house itself was quite high, my father had to stoop a little to get into it but it was easy to clean out.

Under the perch was a sheet of ? – hardboard or plywood – which caught the droppings and made the perch

Re: ammonia smell

area cosier by reducing cold air getting to the girls' undercarriages. They jumped up onto the platform then onto the perch so it wasn't a leg-jarring leap either way.

At the side of the house was a small hatch for pulling the droppings-catcher out and cleaning it. If I had built a new house or the existing one weren't such an ancient cobbled-together structure I'd certainly do that since it makes for much easier cleaning. Also the litter doesn't need changing for yonks, and another thing, the fresh chicken poo can either be used to heat up a sulky compost heap or put into a barrel of water to mature into foul-smelling but nutritious liquid plant food.

A L P

.