

Re: Egg Tract Problems

Source: <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.agriculture.poultry/2009-04/msg00028.html>

- *From:* " Jill" <news@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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A _L_ P wrote:

Prolapses are a weakness that can be a problem with the weak commercial hybrids that have become so popular over here.

Is it true that they have been bred to lay big eggs, too big for their young bodies and therefore liable to cause pain and damage? Normal pullets lay smallish eggs and the size increases as they get older. Since factory hens aren't normally kept for a second or third laying season when they lay larger but fewer eggs I suppose there is pressure to extract the maximum from the birds in their short lives.

There are beginning to be moves afoot to encourage folks to buy smaller eggs
http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/food_and_drink/article5884068.ece

There is also the problem that the exponential growth in poultry keeping has led to hordes of fashionista hybrids being created overnight from already weak stocks, but being put out in gardens and harsh environments, which cause even more stress. These birds have a lot more issues than well produced pure breeds or old first crosses.

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regards
Jill Bowis

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