# Evaluating Brooding Temperature

## *During the brooding period, optimal chick body temperature is provided through the correct environmental conditions.*

**Correct placement conditions:** • Litter temp = 28-30 °C (82-86 °F) • Air temp at chick level = 30 °C (86 °F) • Ideal RH = 60-70%

| *Age (Days)* | *Dry Bulb Temperature at RH% - °C (°F)* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 40 (%RH) | 50 (%RH) | 60 (%RH) | 70 (%RH) |
| Day-old | 36.0 (96.8) | 33.2 (91.8) | 30.8 (84.4) | 29.2 (84.6) |
| 3 | 33.7 (92.7) | 31.2 (88.2) | 28.9 (84.0) | 27.3 (81.1) |
| 6 | 32.5 (90.5) | 29.9 (85.8) | 27.7 (81.9) | 26.0 (78.8) |
| 9 | 31.3 (88.3) | 28.6 (83.5) | 26.7 (80.1) | 25.0 (77.0) |

**Note:** Dry bulb temperatures, at the ideal RH are colored red.

**Interaction between Temperature and Relative Humidity (RH)**


*Action* Reduce Temperature


*Action* Increase Temperature

## *Ideal*


**Chicks:**
- huddle together
- become distressed and noisy

**Increase temperature and / or RH**
**Check ventilation | Check air flows**

**Chicks:**
- spread evenly across the brooding area

**No action required**


**Chicks:**
- move to the edges of the house / brooding area
- are quieter than normal
- spread their wings and begin to pant

**Decrease temperature and / or RH**
**Check ventilation**

## *Monitor Chicks*

**Measure vent temperature.**

**Vent Temp**
39.4 - 40.4°C
(103 - 105 °F)

**Crop fill**
2 hrs = 75%
8 hrs = 80%
12 hrs = 85%
24 hrs = 95%
48 hrs = 100%
**Percentage of birds with full crops.**



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Library photographs for teaching purposes.

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