

# Produce your own eggs (Part 3)

In the previous *Ubisi Mail*, we looked at building your own cage for your laying hens. In this article, we discuss how you should look after the eggs and feed your chickens.

## Eggs need light

If you want your chickens to lay as many eggs as possible, it is very important for them to have enough light. They need about 16 hours of light every day.

If you have electricity, light will not be a problem. Switch the lights on a few hours before sunrise and for a few hours after sunset. Remember to switch the lights off between sunrise and sunset, otherwise you will have a very big electricity bill.

Electricity gives chickens artificial light. Chickens lay more eggs in artificial light. If you do not have electricity, place your cages outside where your hens can get the most natural light. But do not put them in direct sunlight! They will get too hot and die. Put the cage under a tree or in some shade.

A hen that gets about 16 hours of light every day, will lay about 280 eggs in a year. A hen that does not get extra light, will lay about 200 eggs per year. That is a big difference!

## Feed your chickens well

Hens need plenty of calcium to lay eggs with strong, hard shells. The best feed is good commercial feed that you buy from the cooperative, shop or veterinarian. Laying mash and pellets are the best known feed for chickens. Laying mash is specially formulated and gives the chickens all the nutrients they need, in the right quantities.

One hen will eat approximately 120 to 150 grams of feed per day. Some feed is wasted, as it lands on the floor. One 50 kg bag of feed will last approximately one month. When you buy feed for your chickens, make sure that you buy at least two months' supply, especially when you will have new hens arriving.

The feed trough must have fresh feed at all times. But do not make the trough too full, because this will cause a waste of feed. Always have fresh cool water available.

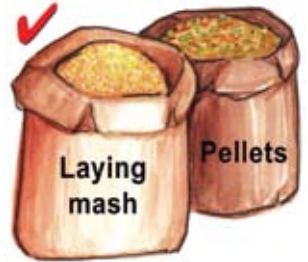
In the next edition of *Ubisi Mail*, we will look at poultry diseases and what you need to do to keep your chickens healthy. [UM](#)



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**Hens need 16 hours of light every day to lay more eggs.**

- **Electricity:** Switch on the lights before sunrise.
- **Sunlight:** Place the cages outside in the shade.



**Hens need good feed and cool fresh water.**

Buy good quality laying mash and pellets. Hens need plenty of calcium to lay eggs with strong, hard shells.

## Produceer eiers

**Henne het elke dag 16 ure se lig nodig om meer eiers te lê.**

- **Elektrisiteit:** Skakel die ligte voor sonsondergang aan.
- **Sonlig:** Sit die hokke buite in die koelte.

**Henne het goeie voer en koel, vars water nodig.**

Koop goeie gehalte lêmeel en lêpille. Henne het baie kalsium nodig sodat hulle eiers met sterk, harde doppe kan lê.



## Zikhiqizele amaqanda

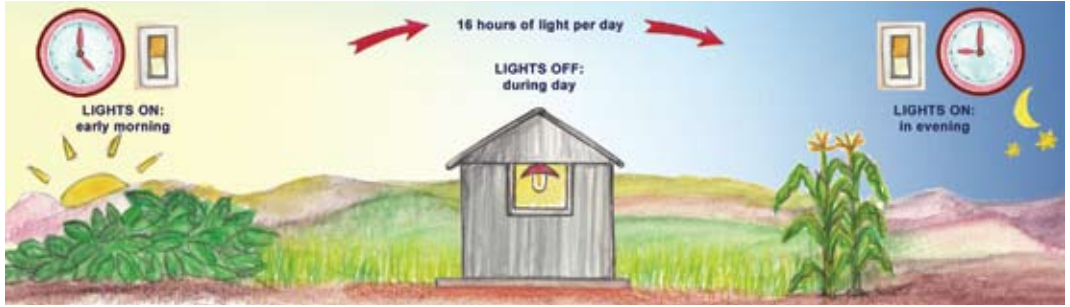
**Izikhukhukazi zidinga amahora angu-16 okukhanya nsuku zonke ukuze zizalele amaqanda amaningi**

- **Ugesi:** Khanyisa izibani lingakaphumi ilanga.
- **Ukukhanya kwelanga:** Beka amahhoko ngaphandle emthunzini.

**Izikhukhukazi zidinga ukudla kahle namanzi ahlanzekile aphilile**

Thenga imeshi yokuzalela esezingeni eliphezulu kanye nezimbulungana.

Izikhukhukazi zidinga i-calcium eningi ukuze zizalele amaqanda anamagobolondo aqinile.



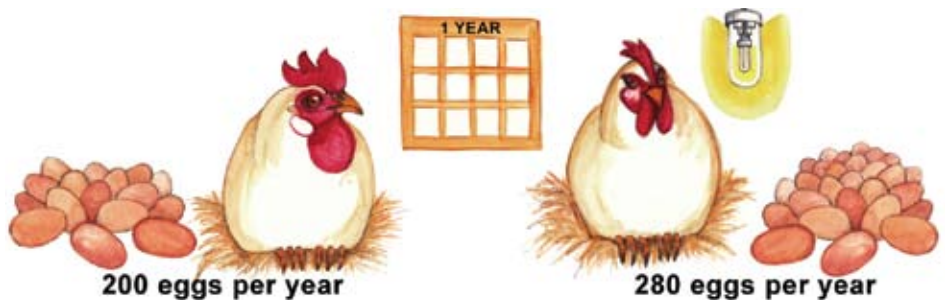
## Zivelisele amaqanda akho

Izikhukukazi zifuna iiyure ezili-16 zelanga yonke imihla ukuze zizalele amaqanda amaninzi

- **Umbane:** Cima izibane phambi kokuba kuphume ilanga.
- **Ukukhanya kwelanga:** Beka iikheyiji ngaphandle emthunzini.

Izikhukukazi zifuna ukuphiwa ukutya kunye namanzi aphilileyo asandulúkukhiwa.

Thenga imeshi yokuzalela amaqanda ekumgangatho olungileyo kunye neepelethi. Izikhukukazi zifuna ikhalsiyam eninzi ukuze zizalele amaqanda aqinileyo anamaqokobhe.



## Behedisa mahe ka bowena

Dikgoho di hloka dihora tse 16 tsa kganya kamehla bakeng sa ho behela mahe

- **Motlakase: Kgantsa** mabone pele letsatsi le tjhaba.
- **Kganya ya Letsatsi:** Bea dihoko kantle moriting. O se ke wa bea dikgoho kganyeng ya letsatsi ka ho otloloha hobane di tla tjhesa haholo mme di shwe.

Dikgoho di hloka diho tse nepahetseng le metsi a phodileng a hlwekileng

Reka diho tsa boleng bo botle tsa mofutswela le tsa dithollo. Dikgoho di hloka calcium e ngata bakeng sa ho behela mahe a tiileng a dikgaketlana di thata. [UM](#)