



FLYTE SO FANCY

THE HEART OF QUALITY



The Flyte so Fancy Helpful Health Chart

This simple reference guide to poultry health has been collated from customer's questions we regularly receive on our advice line here at Flyte so Fancy, and after many requests from our customers. We hope you find it useful.

Please note though, **we are not vets** and these notes should not replace the advice from a qualified person, but we are offering these guidelines from our own experiences as long-time poultry keepers.

Photo: Our Lemon Pyle Brahma, Sir Walter, in the wind!

Symptoms	Disease or Problem	Cause	Treatment	Bird Species
Listless, ruffled, head sunk in neck, white diarrhoea, maybe blood in faeces	Coccidiosis	Coccidia, an internal Parasite	Baycox, Coxi Plus (via Vet) or Coxoid* in water for five days. Keep litter dry with Stalosan F Disinfectant powder. Give poultry tonic after treatment.	All Birds from three weeks, usually younger birds
Listless, greenish diarrhoea, thirst, occasionally sudden death	Internal Parasitic worms	Round worm, tape worm, capillaria worm	Flubenvet from a Vet, mixed into feed for seven days. Ongoing herbal treatment with Verm-X or Easyverm. Apple Cider Vinegar in water as preventative. Ivermectin* topical treatment	All Poultry
Visible parasites around vent and egg cases on base of feathers, listless	Lice or Mites	Very common, Poultry Lice or Mites	Pyrethrum-based louse powder or Diatom (DE) Powder all over bird, spray house with Poultry Shield or Total Mite Kill spray or other proprietary product.	All Poultry except waterfowl
Sneezing, nasal discharge, foam in eye, lameness, rattly breathing, swollen sinus	Mycoplasma	Mycoplasma infectious bacteria	Quarantine. Antibiotics from Vet e.g. Baytril. Oreganico Herbal Tonic in water or Respite. Disinfect everything with Viratec-P or other poultry disinfectant.	Hens, Turkeys, Ducks
Raised, encrusted scales on legs, swelling, limping	Scaly Leg	Scaly Leg Mite, damp litter or wet ground	Scaly Leg Spray or Ointment. Diatom powder. Ensure house litter is not damp, dry it with Stalosan F.	Any Bird
Blood on skin	Wounds	Feather Pecking, heat stress, overcrowding	Remove injured bird, treat bloodied wounds with antiseptic e.g. gentian violet, wound spray, wound powder.	Any Bird
Brown Diarrhoea, slow growth, slow feathering	Enteritis	E. coli bacteria, stress, dirty litter, bad diet	Vet for Terramycin, Apralan or Chlorsol in water. Oreganico Tonic in water. Disinfect house with Virkon S. Keep litter dry with Stalosan F.	Young Stock from Five Days

* Denotes that the medication is NOT licenced for poultry

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Symptoms	Disease/ Problem	Cause	Treatment	Bird Species
Purple Comb, unwell	Heart Failure, sudden death	Age, Deformity, poisoning	Vet for diagnosis/post mortem.	Large older Hens
Swelling under foot, lameness, abscess on foot	Bumblefoot	Staphylococcus bacteria, injury to foot, perches too high	Vet may suggest Sulphur Powder. Antiseptic spray. Lower the perches. Better hygiene.	Old Heavy Birds
Top beak overgrown, long claws	Overgrowth	Deformity, soft ground	Trim to shape with clippers	All birds
Unusual behaviour, aggression	Stress	Disturbance or change to new environment. New birds introduced.	Vitamin powder or probiotics added to feed. Dried insect treats, pecking blocks. Reduce any overcrowding. Add poultry tonic to water.	All birds
Lameness	Injury, tumour, scaly leg	Kidney disease, tumour, arthritis, leg mite	Isolate. If tumour or suspected kidney problems consult Vet. Treat any injury with antiseptic e.g. Antiseptic Spray. Allow to recover quietly.	All birds
Paralysis, same side leg and wing, disorientation	Marek's disease	Herpes-type Virus	Vet diagnosis. Vaccinate new stock, cull affected birds, no cure. Any surviving birds would be carriers and infect others.	Hens up to point of lay, cockerels
Weight loss, stopped laying, swelling around head, wheezing	Bird 'flu (these symptoms are common to other diseases too, please don't panic)	Avian influenza virus	Vet diagnosis. No treatment, cull affected birds. Wild birds are carriers. DEFRA Notifiable Disease.	Birds over one year
Respiratory distress, discharge, deformed eggs	Infectious Bronchitis	Coronavirus	Vet for diagnosis and treatment. Vaccinate early. Respite Tonic.	Hens, pheasants, guinea fowl
Gasping, neck stretching	Gape Worms	Gape Worm in throat	Treat with Flubenvet from Vet immediately.	All birds
Pendulous (drooping) enlarged crop	Cropbound, impacted crop	Ranging in long grass, weak muscles	No food 48 hours. More Flint Grit, gently syringe warm olive oil into mouth and massage crop.	Old hens or birds on long grass
Enlarged crop, smelly discharge from crop, lethargic	Moniliasis, Sour Crop	Yeast infection (like thrush)	Vet for antifungal drug. Give live yoghurt or Oreganico Tonic. Turn bird upside down to gently massage crop and expel contents.	All birds
Cheesy substance in ear canal	Ear infection	Bacteria or Mites	Vet diagnosis and treatment.	All birds
Listless, straining to lay egg	Eggbound	Deformity, low available calcium, extra large egg	Keep warm. Apply olive oil to vent to help expel egg. Do not break egg! DO NOT hold bird over steaming water! May contract peritonitis which is hard to recover.	All female birds
Waterfowl - wing droops then sticks out	Angel wing	High protein diet	Reduce protein, tape wing in natural position for three days.	Young waterfowl
Waterfowl no longer waterproof	Wet feather	Shaft lice, excess preening	Keep off water until next moult, de-louse with Diatom, wash in mild detergent if necessary	Waterfowl
Feathers missing from back and wing tips	Overmating	Overmating by cockerel	Remove Cockerel or use poultry saddles	All Hens

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Symptoms	Disease/ Problem	Cause	Treatment	Bird Species
Runny Poo, usually yellow		Excess cabbage, sunflower seeds or sweet corn	Restrict treats, make sure they eat layers pellets primarily supplemented with mixed corn.	All birds
Waterfowl sitting down all the time, unable to walk, lame	"Off-its-legs"	Worms	Flubenvet from Vet	Waterfowl primarily
Panting	Heat Stress	Temperature over 30 deg, poor ventilation, no shade	Increase ventilation but no draughts. Give outdoor shade in summer. Birds can't sweat to release heat.	All birds
Floppy neck, paralysis	Botulism	Bad hygiene, eating rotting meat or veg, dirty drinking water, excess of flies.	Vet diagnosis, probably incurable. Clean and disinfect everything with Virkon S or Viratec-P, follow up with Stalosan F powder.	All birds
Diarrhoea, lethargy, droopy wing, ruffled	Salmonella	Unvaccinated birds. Bad hygiene in house and utensils.	Vet diagnosis. No treatment available, surviving birds remain carriers. Whole flock to be culled.	All birds
Unwell, convulsions, purple tinge to comb	Poisoning	Poisoning by plants or insecticides. Algae build up in drinkers.	Observe & cull if necessary. Birds will naturally avoid most harmful plants but beware: Laburnum, pea family foliage, potato & tomato (nightshade) foliage, Privet, Yew, Rapeseed, Foxgloves.	All birds
Convulsions, vomiting, sudden death	Poisoning	Poisoning by other agents	Observe & cull if necessary. Beware: <u>SALT</u> , Creosote, Herbicides, Lead paint, Nitrates, Fungicides on bought garden seeds, Ammonia, Slug Pellets	All birds
Intestines hanging out of birds vent	Prolapse	Damage to connective tissue inside (e.g. extra large egg)	Vet. Attempt to gently push back into bird lubricate with liquid paraffin. Recovery possible but unlikely.	All birds
Black marks on, or loss of comb & wattle	Frostbite	Out in temperatures well below zero	Protect these vulnerable areas with Vaseline or Comb & Wattle Protector	Adult Poultry
Not laying any eggs or laying rarely		Moult, unwell, obesity, old age, change of routine, travel, reached point-of-lay too late in year, too many treats & lack of exercise	Reduce treats, make sure they eat layers pellets. Enlarge run area. Are they laying somewhere you don't know about? Is the comb bright red? Plenty of daylight? Are they suffering from another problem e.g. worms or other disease?	Adult Poultry
Broken eggs in nestbox, egg eating		Broken egg in nestbox	Hard habit to break. Collect eggs several times a day. Put rubber or china eggs in nesting boxes.	All Hens
Soft shelled eggs. deformed eggs. small eggs no yolk		Calcium deficiency. Young hens.	Natural when birds first come into lay or return to lay after moult. Give oystershell grit or calcium supplement e.g. Cal-Boost.	All Hens
Shell-less eggs		Finding just the inner egg sack without a shell	Young birds first starting to lay. Their body simply hasn't got into the routine of adding a shell to the egg.	Young hens

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Symptoms	Disease/ Problem	Cause	Treatment	Bird Species
Depressed, pale comb & wattles, itchy head, brown mites around eyes	Northern Fowl Mite	Northern Fowl Mite	Dust bird with Diatom (DE) powder or a Pyrethrum-based louse powder. Apply Ivermectin*. Try and reduce contact with wild birds.	All birds
Reluctant to enter house at night, pale comb, lethargic	Anaemia/Red Mite infestation	Red Mite	Treat house immediately with Poultry Shield/Smite/Total Mite Kill and follow with Diatom (DE) powder in house/on birds. Repeat every 6 days. Or spray once with Ardap spray to last 6 weeks. Read FSF website page about Red Mite.	All hen housing
Cannibalism, drawing blood	Heat stress, other stress	Too light in house, overcrowding, boredom, hunger/thirst, parasites, bad housing	Make house dark at night, increase ventilation in house, add boredom busters to run, have ad-lib access to layers pellets all day, larger drinker, diatom powder on hens and in house to reduce parasites.	All birds
Aggressive feather pecking	Feather pecking	Boredom, cramped house, no cockerel, new birds introduced	Give more room, hang boredom busters in run area, remove aggressor completely or remove victim for one week.	All hens
Feathers falling out	Moulting	Annual moult	Natural annual process, could last up to 2 months. No action needed or, give high protein feed or tonic to speed up recovery.	All birds
Feathers pulled out and eaten	Feather eating	Lack of protein in diet, eating feathers as they are high in protein.	Change type of layers pellet to higher protein content. Give high protein treats, Net-tex Vit-Boost or Poultry Zest pellets	All poultry
Not perching, sleeping in nest box or on floor		New birds, point-of-lay birds, new house, rescue hens, red mite. Perches too high, unstable or wrong size.	Teach them to perch by putting them on the perch every night until they learn. Perch size should be 2" wide with rounded off edges, lowest perch no higher than 12"-18", lower for large birds/ bantams. Always check perch ends for red mite.	All poultry
Green diarrhoea, respiratory problems, soft-shelled eggs, twisting of neck, sudden death	Newcastle Disease	Paramyxovirus, fowl pest	No cure, infected birds culled. DEFRA Notifiable Disease.	All poultry
Bird reaches point-of-lay, goes light, suddenly dies	E. Coli infection	E. Coli infection during hatching and brooding	No cure. Prevention: Disinfect incubator, brooder and hatching eggs thoroughly before incubating. Older birds can carry e. coli so use Oreganico type tonic to control.	All poultry

This simple reference guide to poultry health has been put together and collated from calls we regularly receive on our advice line here at Flyte so Fancy, and after many requests from our customers. We hope you find it useful.

Please note though, we are not vets and these notes should not replace the advice from a qualified person, but we are offering these guidelines from our own experiences as long-time poultry keepers.

We would like to add that most poultry keepers would rarely come across most of these diseases or problems in a lifetime of keeping so, please don't panic, we are not trying to scare you. If you still have queries or worries just call or e-mail.



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