

TIPS FOR THE BACKYARD CHICKEN FARMER.

EGG SAFETY.

Why do we wash eggs?

Canadians and Americans wash their eggs and refrigerate them, but in most other countries eggs are brought from the henhouse and kept at room temperature. ... People wash their eggs to avoid bacteria such as salmonella, but a phenomenon in nature is the protective "cuticle" eggs are covered with when they're laid by mother hens.

Do eggs need to be refrigerated in Canada?

Eggs should be refrigerated as soon as possible in the coldest section of the refrigerator (usually the body of the fridge). Keeping eggs in the carton will help protect them from damage. Eggs (whether raw or cooked) should not be kept at room temperature for more than two hours.

Do unwashed eggs need to be refrigerated?

In fact, many who raise chickens often leave them out until ready to use. As soon as eggs have been washed though, it is important they are refrigerated for safety reasons. Washed or not, eggs will stay fresh longer when kept cold. ... Eggs stored unrefrigerated, if they clean, should not be washed until they are used.

How To Keep Hens Laying Eggs Through The Winter

Keep hens laying in fall and winter. As the hours of daylight decrease in the fall, hens tend to stop laying eggs. However, if you keep the chickens comfy with light and warmth, they'll reward you with more eggs. Many hens stop or slow down egg production during the fall and winter. How many hours of light does a chicken need to lay an egg? Even during December's darkness a healthy flock of good layers rarely completely stops laying, but production is meager. Natural late December daylight in the Okanagan is around nine hours, but chickens need 15 or 16 hours of light for egg production.

How old are chickens when they stop laying?

Chickens usually don't simply "stop" laying eggs when they get to a certain age, but they will lay fewer as they get older. That said, most laying breeds will lay more or less productively in backyard terms for seven years to nine years, some even longer. Enjoy your backyard chickens and enjoy your daily fresh eggs