Brinsea

OCTAGON 10 INCUBATOR

USER INSTRUCTIONS

Location

1. Ensure a steady room temperature day and night around 68ºF. Use an electric heater with a thermostat if necessary.

2. Keep out of direct sunlight.

3. Check that available electrical supply matches the machine.

Temperature

Caution: Errors in temperature account for most failures. Adjust with care.

4. Fit the back end of the thermometer into the socket on the door. Temperature is factory set to approximately 101ºF -check against thermometer supplied. Allow 2 hours to stabilize the temperature before setting eggs. The red light indicates when the heater is on and will flash about every second when the incubator is up to temperature

5. Fine adjustments can be made with a small screwdriver by adjusting the screw on the top of the control cover - clockwise to increase temperature.

6. Recommended temperatures:

			Incubation period
Hens	38.5°C	101.3ºF	21 days
Pheasant	38.5°C	101.3ºF	24 days
Quail	38.5°C	101.3ºF	17-25 days
Ducks	38°C	100.4ºF	28 days
Geese	38°C	100.4ºF	28-32 days

7. Temperature variations (day to night for example) or constantly low temperature can cause malformations or partial development of the embryo. Constantly high temperature will tend to speed up development but risks early death from heat stress. Brief temperature reduction while checking water levels or inspection will not affect development of the embryos.

Humidity and Ventilation

Note: Short term variations in humidity are <u>not</u> important. The <u>average</u> over the incubation period needs to be near optimum for the ideal weight loss.

8. Recommended humidity:

During incubation:	Poultry	40-50% RH
	Waterfowl	50% RH
Hatching all species (after eggs pip)		70% RH or more

As a general guide for poultry, set the eggs with water in just one pan with one vent blocked and adjust humidity on the basis of weight loss or air space development.

9. Ventilation is controlled by the vent holes at the control end of the incubator. To increase humidity, reduce ventilation and vice-versa.

10. Further increase in humidity can be achieved by adding water to both pans in the egg tray. Add water to the small moulded pans at the opening end of the egg tray to within (1/2") from the top.

Humidity and Ventilation

11. **Caution: excessive humidity can cause problems!**

    The air pocket in the egg should occupy between a quarter and a third of the egg at time of hatching. If humidity is too high, chicks will be wet and sticky and the air pocket too small leading to death 24 to 48 hours before hatching

12. Measuring humidity accurately is particularly difficult in "still air" incubators. The relative humidity will be higher at the bottom where the temperature is lower. Be cautious of instrument readings. Preferably weigh eggs because humidity affects their weight loss. Aim for 12-13% loss over the incubation period. High humidity reduces weight loss and vice-versa.

Storage of eggs

13. Store eggs in a cool, damp place. Avoid storing longer than 14 days. Turn eggs daily during storage.

14. Discard soiled eggs if possible. Don't wash eggs unless under strict directions with proprietary solutions.

Egg turning

15. Set eggs in rows between dividers. Eggs may either lie on their side or stand on small end. Dividers prevent eggs rolling when incubator tips.
    Keep egg-load balanced to prevent accidental tipping!

16. Automatic turning: Position incubator in Auto-turn cradle (optional). The cradle moves the incubator through 45° either way - two turns per hour. Movement is slow but continuous.
    Caution: Forcing the incubator angle can cause damage .

17. Manual turning: Tip incubator from 45° one side to 45° the other side at each "turn". Turn three times each day starting on the second day.

Hatching

18. Stop egg turning 2 or 3 days before hatch is due. Return the incubator to its upright position. Remove the egg dividers.

19. When first egg pips, raise humidity to maximum - i.e. add water to both pans.

20. Keep the incubator closed and don't interfere! Humidity will rise rapidly when chicks emerge and condensation may form.

21. When most eggs have hatched (12 to 48 hours) remove hatchlings to a brooder to dry out. (Brinsea Cosy-Lamp for poultry and waterfowl, Brinsea Prestige Hospital Cage or Parrot rearing module for exotics).

Cleaning up

22. **Unplug from the electrical supply!**

23. Discard shells and unhatched eggs. Wash the egg tray with water at less than 120°F and dry thoroughly.

24. Remove dust from inside the incubator with a moist cloth.
Caution: Keep electrical parts dry!

Servicing

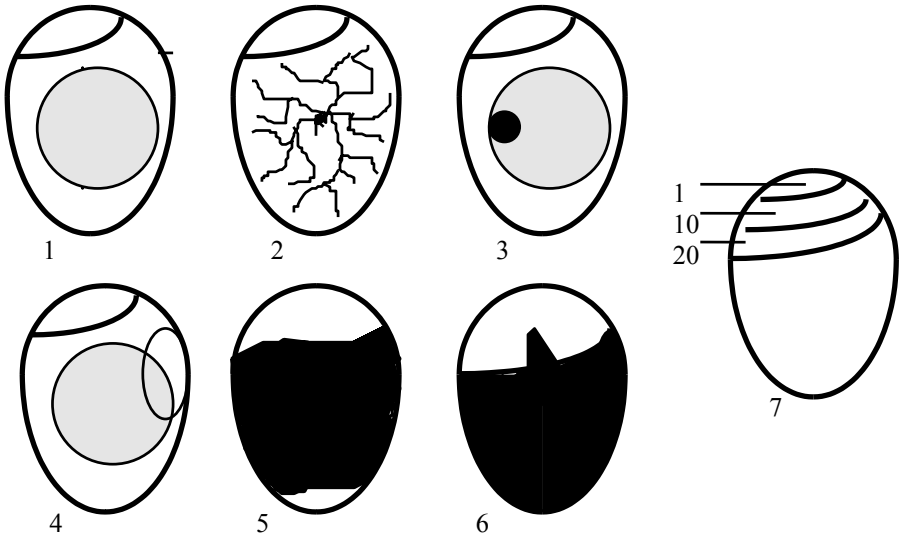
25. No routine servicing is necessary other than cleaning. In case of failure refer to your distributor or to Brinsea Service Department.

26. **To avoid possible electrical hazard do not drill, cut or puncture the clear plastic skin under any circumstances.**

27. Incubation advice is available from Brinsea Products and a range of books on the subject can also be supplied.

Troubleshooting

28. Candle eggs with a high intensity light source (such as the Brinsea Egglume) to gauge the extent of embryo development and air space increase during incubation.



1) Clear when candled - probably infertile (or very early death)
when candled at 8 days
2) Fertile with red blood vessels - after 8 days
3) Red or black staining - early death when candled at 8 days
4) Embryo with red blood 'ring' - early death when candled at 8 days
5) Dark outline with ill defined detail - late death (10-16 days)
6) Live embryo with bill in air sack - due to hatch in 24-48 hours
7) Normal development of the air pocket according to number of days

Brinsea Products Inc., 704 N Dixie Ave., Titusville, FL 32796-2017 USA.
Phone. (321) 267-7009 Toll Free 1-888-667-7009 Fax (321) 267-6090
e-mail BrinseaUSA@aol.com, website www.Brinsea.com