

Poultry Vocabulary

albumen—proteins consisting primarily of amino acids found in milk, blood, egg whites, muscle and vegetables

appendage—a projecting part of an animal or plant body; especially an arm, leg, or similar part

beak—a rigid mouth structure (as of a bird) that sticks out

bloom—the coating or covering on an egg shell that seals its pores, prevents bacteria from getting inside, and reduces moisture loss

broiler chicken—a tender young chicken suitable for broiling

calcium carbonate—a compound which gives strength and shape commonly found in eggshells and chalk

cell—one of the tiny units that are the basic building blocks of living things, that carry on the basic functions of life either alone or in groups, and that include a nucleus and are surrounded by a membrane

chicken—the common domestic fowl especially when young

comb—a fleshy crest on the head of the domestic chicken and some related birds

cue—something serving as a signal

cycle—a period of time taken up by a series of events or actions that repeat themselves regularly and in the same order

dome construction—construction built with a hemispherical roof or vault

egg—a hard-shelled reproductive body produced by a bird and especially by domestic poultry

embryo—an organism in its early stages of development, before it has reached a distinctively recognizable form

fowl—a bird, such as the duck, goose, turkey, or pheasant, that is used as food or hunted as game

roost—a perch on which domestic fowl or other birds rest or sleep.

hatch—to emerge from an egg, pupa, or chrysalis

hen—a female chicken especially over a year old

incubation—the development of a fertile poultry egg within a shell

lay—to produce and deposit eggs

meat—animal and especially mammal flesh used as food

pecking order—a basic pattern of social organization within a flock of poultry in which each bird pecks another lower in the scale without being pecked in return and allows pecking by one of higher rank

poultry—domesticated birds kept for eggs or meat

productive—having the power to produce plentifully

protein—any of a group of complex organic macromolecules that contain carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, and usually sulfur and are composed of one or more chains of amino acids. Proteins are fundamental components of all living cells and include many substances, such as enzymes, hormones, and antibodies, that are necessary for the proper functioning of an organism. They are essential in the diet of animals for the growth and repair of tissue and can be obtained from foods such as meat, fish, eggs, milk, and legumes.

pullet—an immature female chicken

rooster—an adult male domestic chicken

wattle—a fleshy flap of skin hanging usually from the neck (as of a bird)

yolk—the yellow part of a fowl's egg that has a germinal disk located on its outer edge from which the embryo develops.