

Shell

- Forms 10-12% of the whole egg content.
- Made of calcium and phosphorus.
- Protects the inner egg contents.

Shell membrane

- Made of inner and outer *membranes*.
- Lining of the egg shell.
- Constitutes 1 % of the total egg content.

Albumen (egg white)

- About 55-60% of the total egg content.
- It is divided into chalaza, thick and thin albumen.
- Chalaza holds the egg yolk in position.
- Albumen serves as food for the chick.

Yolk

- 30-33% of the total egg content.
- Supply embryo with nutrient

Germinal disc -The embryo which develops into a chick if fertilized.

Vitelline membrane - Gives the yolk its round shape.

Air sac

- Keeps the egg fresh by allowing gaseous exchange.
- Provides oxygen for the embryo

Egg Candling:

- This is the practice of determining the internal qualities of an egg by examining it against a light source.

Procedure

- The egg is placed on a hole made on a .cardboard box.
- This is called a candling box.
- A source of light is placed in the box directly under the egg.
- The observer then looks through the egg against the source of light below.
- Abnormalities on and within the egg can be seen through the translucent shell.

Incubation

- Involves the provision of fertile eggs with the proper condition for embryonic development.

Selection of Eggs for Incubation

- Should be fertile.
- Should be of medium size about 55- 60gms in weight.
- Should have smooth shell.