

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2006 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Hazel Brown; Ari Lindsay

Project Number

J1904

Project Title

Does Music Affect Chickens' Laying Patterns?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

One day I was out in the chicken coop. I was listening to my ipod. All of a sudden, I thought that it would be interesting and fun to test if music affects chickens# laying patterns. I talked to my partner and we both agreed, and wondered if any body had ever tried the experiment before and thought it would be a unique project. We would like to discover if music really does effect chickens production levels.

Methods/Materials

We picked three songs, one of each genre. Rock- Heartbreaker by Led Zeppelin, Reggae- One Love by Bob Marley, Classical- a section of the Fifth Symphony by Mozart. We hooked up speakers in the chicken coop. We had 2 control weeks, one before and one after

We played each song for one week repetitively from 8:00 am- 4:00 pm. We controlled their food intake, feeding them two pints of Layena egg layer crumble and a half-pint scratch grains. We did not control their water because we do not believe in animal cruelty. Everyday we recorded the weather and how many eggs they layed.

Results

Music surprisingly has an effect on chickens# egg production. Rock increased their egg production most, with 33 eggs that week. Classical came in second with 30 eggs. Reggae was least with 20 eggs.

Conclusions/Discussion

we conclude that rock is more effective, but classical is what the chickens would prefer. Rock stressed the birds out by annoying them. (Led Zeppelin from 8-4 day in and day out would be annoying) the more common sound vibrations may have activated there egg system and made them lay more eggs. On the other hand classical soothed them and made it easier for the eggs to come out.

Summary Statement

We tested to see if music effects the number of eggs that chickens lay in a week.

Help Received

Dad helped us rig boom box; parents drove us to buy supplies